

# NEWSLETTER

ISSUE №1, 2021

## Global Interview Project

DIANE  
FRANCIS

MICK  
ANTONIW

PATRICK  
WEILER

PAUL  
GROD

ANDRY  
MONCHAK

DANYLO  
SZTUL

YULIYA  
ZABYELINA

## Talented Legislators

ROY  
ROMANOW

ERNIE  
EVES

ED  
STELMACH

GARY  
FILMON

MICHAEL  
STARR

STEFAN  
TERLEZKI

ANTHONY  
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SHEVCHENKO

Global Leaders 2021



CANADA-UKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY PROGRAM  
ПАРЛЯМЕНТАРНА ПРОГРАМА КАНАДА-УКРАЇНА  
PROGRAMME PARLIAMENTAIRE CANADA-UKRAINE







## Prayer for Peace in Ukraine and Throughout the World

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### 1991 CANADA-UKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY PROGRAM 2020

On July 16, 1990, the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR adopted the Declaration of Sovereignty, which declared that Parliament recognized the need to build the Ukrainian state based on the Rule of Law.

On August 24, 1991, the Ukrainian Parliament adopted the Declaration of Independence, which the citizens of Ukraine endorsed in the referendum of December 1, 1991. Also, in 1991, Canadians celebrated the Centennial of Ukrainian group immigration to Canada. To mark the Centennial, Canadian organizations planned programs and projects to celebrate this milestone in Canada's history.

The Chair of Ukrainian Studies Foundation of Toronto marked the Centennial by establishing in the Canadian Parliament, the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program (CUPP) for university students from Ukraine. CUPP gives Ukrainian students an opportunity to observe parliamentary democracy and government and gain experience from which generations of Canadian, American and West European students have benefited.

Since 1991 over 1,000 university students have participated in the CUPP internship programs and the Model Ukraine Conferences at universities in Ottawa, Toronto, Washington USA, Oxford UK, Lviv and Kyiv.

In its first year of operation in 1991, Chris Axworthy of the New Democratic Party welcomed Ivan Tkachenko as his Intern. Jesse Flis of the Liberal Party welcomed Maryana Drach as his Intern. Alan Redway of the Progressive Conservative Party welcomed Solomia Khmara as his Intern.

The 2020 CUPP program Canada's MPs will welcome Ukrainian students from universities in Ukraine, France, Germany, Slovakia, Norway, Turkey and Poland.

In 2020 CUPP will celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of operation in Canada's Parliament.

*We are always open for cooperation with all CUPP interns!*

#### Chair of Ukrainian Studies Foundation

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 CUPPCANADA  
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#### Front Cover: Shevchenko Museum in Toronto, Canada

Taras Shevchenko is the Bard of Ukraine. The Shevchenko Museum is located at 1604 Bloor Street West, Toronto, Canada. It is the only Shevchenko Museum in the Americas.

The entire front mural of the museum features this stunning portrait of Shevchenko. The museum is operated by the Taras H. Shevchenko Museum & Memorial Park Foundation. With this 2021 Newsletter,

the front covers of future CUPP Newsletters, will feature other famous Ukrainians, depicting their art or photographs.

The mission of the Shevchenko Museum is to popularize the life and work of the Bard of Ukraine, Ukrainian culture and the contribution of Canadians of Ukrainian descent to the social, economic and cultural life of Canada.



written by  
**Diane Francis**



# Ukraine

## the line in the sand in the new Cold War

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Tensions have eased for the moment,  
but the country is not out of the woods yet.

Ukraine has struggled since 1991 to get away from its Soviet past, and this year — as many of its anti-corruption efforts have yielded first results — Russia threatened its existence once more. Earlier this week, Moscow has concentrated more troops along Ukraine's borders than it had done before invading the country in 2014. It also stopped diesel fuel shipments and restricted flights over Crimea and the Black Sea.

These aggressive moves put the world on edge, but U.S. President Joe Biden vowed to support Ukraine, and Britain dispatched two warships to the region. On 21st of April, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy warned his people that war might be imminent and requested a meeting with Russian President Vladimir Putin to avert violence.

The next day, Putin agreed to meet Zelenskyy on an unacceptable condition of holding their meeting in the Russian capital. Afterwards, Moscow announced a pullback of some troops, but much of its force actually remained along the border. Tensions have eased for the moment, but the country is not out of the woods yet. Was Putin testing Biden or Zelenskyy, or was he simply trying to rattle Ukraine's cage? We will never know, but Ukraine, like the imprisoned and dying Alexei

Navalny, is Putin's favourite punching bag because both represent existential threats to his regime.

I have been deeply involved with Ukraine since 1991. I have visited dozens of times as a journalist, helped found the Canadian-Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and have supported anti-corruption efforts there as a writer and senior fellow with the Atlantic Council in Washington, D.C.

This is a reflection of the fact that Canada, and its Ukrainian Diaspora, has played a key role in Ukraine's rebirth. Canada was the first Western country to recognise Ukrainian independence, thanks to the leadership of Ukrainian-Canadian Governor General Ray Hnatyshyn and Prime Minister Brian Mulroney.

Ukraine's departure singularly pulled the rug out from under the Soviet Union — an event that Putin described as the "greatest geopolitical disaster in history." Ever since, he has sought to recapture Ukraine, because of its strategic importance.

Ukraine was the breadbasket of the Soviet Union and is now one of the most important agricultural exporters in the world. It was also the Soviet Union's equivalent of Silicon Valley — the Soviet space program, aerospace industry, tech world, bio-sciences capability and weapons expertise





*Russian naval forces take part in a military drill along the Opuk training ground not far from the town of Kerch, on the Kerch Peninsula in the east of the Crimea, on April 22.*

© Photo by Vadim Savitsky/AFP

were centred in Ukraine.

This is why the country remains technologically advanced, and its IT sector — with hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian technology experts, software architects and engineers — is a huge economic engine that serves clients around the world.

My first visit to Ukraine was in February 1992, just as the Soviet Union was dismantled. Kyiv was grim, grey and cold, but the people were warm. I interviewed its genteel president, Leonid Kravchuk, as well as other politicians, military leaders and ordinary citizens. They were unsure of where the country should go next, and members of the Canadian Diaspora came forward to help.

In 1995, for example, I helped launch a newspaper in Kyiv with a friend, Toronto lawyer Bob Onyschuk, and some Ukrainian partners, which became profitable and was stolen months later by a Ukrainian oligarch. The country then entered a notably dark period under President Leonid

Kuchma, when journalists were murdered or went missing, and the Russian model of giving away the country's wealth to family and chosen oligarchs who bought and sold politicians was adopted.

Ukraine's post-Soviet years were not guided and financed by the European Union, unlike Poland or the Czech Republic, where governments, police and courts were cleaned up. Fortunately, Ukraine had one characteristic that the rest of the former Soviet bloc countries did not have: a large, cohesive and motivated civil society, mostly borne out of churches and social clubs. This unique strength in numbers resulted in massive street protests that overthrew two crooked regimes.

I covered the first mass protest, called the Orange Revolution, for the National Post in 2004 and watched as one million Ukrainians gathered nightly in frigid temperatures holding candles in the centre of Kyiv to overturn a rigged election.

Tents and portable soup kitchens were set up





by volunteers, the atmosphere was joyous and buskers entertained the enormous crowds. A stage had been erected where the beautiful, braided Yulia Tymoshenko and her political partner, Viktor Yushchenko, rallied spirits nightly. He had been badly disfigured after being poisoned by Russian agents.

The two formed a government but corruption overwhelmed any reform efforts. In 2010, a Putin puppet named Viktor Yanukovych became president, thanks to Paul Manafort (yes, Donald Trump's campaign chair in 2016) who cleaned up the crook's image and ran a slick campaign.

But in 2014, Yanukovych reversed a policy aimed at joining the European Union and replaced it with one aimed at rejoining Russia and the streets exploded. This became known as the Revolution of Dignity, and lasted months. But it came to an abrupt end, as did Yanukovych's presidency, after Russian snipers shot 100 peaceful protesters. Fearing for his life, Yanukovych fled to Moscow, with an estimated \$100 billion worth of stolen funds.

An interim government staged rapid elections, but Russia took advantage and invaded. During his four years in office, Yanukovych had pruned the Ukrainian military and sold off its newest equipment to other countries for personal profit, in order to pave the way for a Russian takeover. Putin's plan was to invade and annex the eastern half of Ukraine, to the Dnieper River and Kyiv, an area the size of Germany.

Ukraine's people united to repel Russia. The Diaspora sent money and supplies. Farmers went to the front, militias formed to help troops, veterans left their jobs to join the cause, volunteers provided food and ambulances and tech-savvy Ukrainians created a website to crowd-source funds to repair tanks and buy medicine, tents and other supplies. This was Ukraine's finest hour, a nation-saving rescue equivalent to the Dunkirk evacuation in 1940, when a flotilla of small boats saved Allied forces from being slaughtered by the Nazis.

The invasion was stopped, but the damage was considerable. Crimea was annexed. Ukraine's industrial heartland, known as Donbas, remained occupied and \$30 billion worth of infrastructure was removed or destroyed. Roughly 14,000 people died, and two million Ukrainians fled the occupied territories, which are still run by Russian thugs and militias, and resettled with relatives and friends in the rest of the country. Russia now occupies an area of Ukraine the size of Latvia.

Ukrainians have struggled for 30 years. Besides battling their own rotten oligarchy and corrupt governments, they have continued to be victimised by the Kremlin and its criminal schemes. Ukrainian oligarchs have looted the place and corrupted the country's politicians, judiciary and governments. However, Ukraine now has a relatively free press, a quasi-democratic system and, most importantly, a desire to become European and free itself of corruption.

And that has made all the difference. Unlike those in Kazakhstan or Belarus or the others, Ukrainians were never totally colonised. And since the 2014 war, Ukraine has gradually eliminated electoral fraud and established a national police force, an anti-corruption court and an independent central bank.

Between 2014 and 2019, the country secured backing and advice from the International Monetary Fund, the European Union, Canada and the United States, to keep the lights on and create the largest army in Europe. These efforts culminated in truly free elections in 2019, which delivered a landslide vote for an anti-corruption president and parliament.

This heroic journey is important to the world. Ukraine is the line in the sand, in the Cold War 2.0, against the most dangerous man in the world and his nuclear arsenal. So "Slava Ukraini," or "Glory to Ukraine." Everyone should give thanks to the world's 44 million Ukrainians and their steadfast Diaspora. **CUPP**



# GLOBAL DIASPORA INTERVIEW PROJECT

The Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program (CUPP) is an internship program in the Canadian House of Commons for university students from Ukraine. Each year during the Spring or Fall Sitting of Parliament, Ukraine's students come to Parliament Hill, enter the offices of individual Members of Parliament and work with the MPs staff, attend sittings of Parliament and its standing committees and from an insider's vantage point observe how Canadians govern themselves.

More than 1,000 Ukrainian students have taken part in the parliamentary internship, participated in Model Ukraine Conferences in Canada, Great Britain, Ukraine and the USA. Participation in this practical hands on program, has made an impact on Ukraine's youngest leaders.

From CUPP's ranks have come 3 Cabinet Ministers 3 Deputy Ministers, 6 Members of Parliament, a Head of L'viv Oblast Administration and government officials for the office of the speaker of parliament, office of the president's administration and several assistants to Members of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

In 2020 CUPP celebrates 30 years of operation in Canada's Parliament. The expanded program includes the GLOBAL DIASPORA INTERVIEW PROJECT. The following interview is one of 180 conducted with Diaspora leaders, thinkers and opinion-makers.





— interview with —

# Diane Francis

Diane Francis is an award-winning columnist and investigation journalist. She has written for many publications - Wall Street Journal, Washington Post, Politico and the New York Post. She is Editor-at-Large at Canada's National Post and a regular contributor to Al Jazeera America and CCTV-America (China TV). Her Twitter is followed by almost 250,000 people.

**M**s Francis, you are a prominent journalist and prolific writer. You write a lot about Ukraine. In fact, we are impressed with your interest in Ukraine, in particular, the way you are supporting Ukraine in times, when Russia has assembled its troops on Ukraine's border. However, I would like to start with rather personal questions. We know that you have a lot of friends of Ukrainian descent. Once you said that you had a housekeeper of Ukrainian origin. Does it mean that your interest in Ukraine is not attributable only to your professional interest, but

**also to some special link to Ukraine in your heart?**

Well, it appears that – and I did not realise that until the last couple of years – my great-grandfather was a Ukrainian. This makes me 1/16 Ukrainian. I did not know that. My ancestry is Irish and Luxembourg. And I am American going back quite a few generations. But I have a bit of Eastern European ancestry.

However, the point is that it is a confrontation between Putin and the rest of the world. In my opinion, Putin is the richest and the most dangerous man in the world.



And he thinks Ukraine is not a state. And it is very important that people support Ukrainians, because they are very heroic in trying to build their national state. And it has been very difficult because Russians did not let leave them alone and even today do not leave them alone.

When I first became involved with the Canadian Diaspora and their interest in Ukraine, I learned that Canada was the first Western developed country to recognise Ukraine's independence in 1991. It is because we had a our head of state of a Ukrainian Canadian origin, because of the large number of Ukrainian people, and because about 15 per cent of Canadian population is Slavic, that means the Czechs, the Poles, the Ukrainians, the Russians. There is a great deal of interest in the region for Canada. Probably, it is the largest Slavic country outside Europe. So, there is a lot of interest there, and people know languages, history, and culture, so that is how I got more familiar with it.

Ukrainians that went to Canada have done exceptionally well. Some of them came after the First World War or after the Second World War. Some of them immigrated pretty recently. And I think Ukrainians are very hard-working and they value education. For instance, five out of 75 Canadian billionaires are Ukrainians, which is very disproportionate. And many of our governors and premiers have been of Ukrainian background. In particular, the Deputy Prime Minister right now is Chrystia Freeland. Ukrainians do stand out!

I did not realise it until travelling to Ukraine and writing about Ukraine that you have a great IT sector in your country. Your people are among most educated in Europe. What people do not realise is that Ukraine was the Silicon Valley of the Soviet Union. That is where all the brains were. That is where the space program was devised, where a lot of military leaders came from, where engineers came from. And that is the reason why Ukrainians have built this world-class IT sector, which is soon going to overtake agriculture in terms of export income.

**You finished your recent post on Ukraine by stating that in view of the imminent Russian threat to Ukraine we are all Ukrainians. How do you associate yourself with Ukraine?**

How do I associate myself with Ukraine? Well, I am a Senior Fellow at the Eurasian Centre of the Atlantic

Council in Washington DC. And I have been writing for them extensively about Ukraine, about politics, anticorruption, business matters, demographic trends. I have probably written 150 articles for them since 2015. And then also, I visited Ukraine roughly 30 times as a professional journalist. I first visited Ukraine in 1992 then helped to organise the Canadian-Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce, the first chamber of commerce in Ukraine to teach Ukrainians how to do business, how to export and so on.

The problem was that Ukraine did not have the benefit of Europe, which Poland and the Czech Republic, and others had. They were taught how to clean up their courts and their police systems. So, Ukraine fell into the same mould as Russia, which became a kleptocracy run by oligarchs. It was Kuchma's fault. Kuchma was the one, who did this. I do not know whether you are aware, but Kuchma's wife was Russian and her brother was a very important man at the top of Russia's government. He took all of his advice and his modelling from Russia and turned Ukraine into a small rotten corrupt Russia. Ukrainians are not Russians. That is another thing that I have observed. I know some very nice Russian people, but they are very different. In my opinion, it is very insulting to say that Ukrainians are like Russians. They are different. It is a different culture. One of the reasons for that is that the Russians unlike the Ukrainians have been damaged for generations. They had tsars, the dreadful communist rule and Stalin, who was a monster. Nobody trusted anybody. So, people have been psychologically damaged. Russians are psychologically damaged people. Ukrainians are mostly not.

Unlike Russia and other Soviet republics, Ukraine has kept a huge civil society. And that is what made the difference. That is why Ukraine is not Belarus or Kazakhstan. Ukraine had a gigantic civil society, which resisted the Russians. The civil society, which Ukraine had and which others did not develop, led to the Orange Revolution and the Revolution of Dignity and has led to development and progress of Ukraine so far.

**In 2013, you published the book "Merger Of The Century: Why Canada and America Should Become One Country." This is a very interesting idea. Do you believe that Canadians will be able to preserve their unique identity in a single American state? Will it be**





## Merger Of The Century by Diane Francis book release party

Author Diane Francis appears at the Merger Of The Century By Diane Francis Book Release Party on November 12, 2013 in New York City.

© Photo by Brian Ach/Getty Images

**possible for a Canadian voice to be heard in such a grand federation?**

Well, it is quite a serious book. My thesis was that the Canadians and the Americans had been “cross pollinating” each other for generations. You will find that people in the Northern parts of the United States share much with Canadians, i.e. they value healthcare, they do not support capital punishment, and they want gun control. They are much more progressive, liberal, supportive of homosexual marriage, etc. It is the Southern part of the United States, which is very different and, I would say, backward. It is causing all the trouble in the United States.

Canada has also changed. And Canada has gone from being a very sleepy agricultural country. Until the Second World War, Canada was a colony of the United Kingdom full of the British people, which become more of a melting pot with lots of immigrants. Canada and the United States are growing similarly toward being like each other, in terms of values and so on. My thesis was that the United States and Canada will be either one country politically or definitely one economy by the end of the century, if processes of social and economic integration continue.

**Many contemporary democratic societies are facing polarisation. In your opinion, is it advisable for democracies to introduce some restrictions to prevent disruptive populist politicians from rising to power? To what extent should democracies take such actions?**

First of all, the divisions are subordinate to the universal belief by Americans that they have a great country. They think it is probably the greatest country in the world and they all believe in free enterprise; they all believe in democracy. It is beneath those shared values that all the fighting and squabbling goes on. There is a small contingent of Americans in the Republican Party, who are not democratic.

Ukraine is a homogeneous country. I know you have Russian people, you have Russian-speaking people, but I think that the values that unify Ukrainians is a desire to join the European Union instead of Russia. That is certainly universal. Ukrainians also support anti-corruption policies. They are in favour of the rule of law. And that is a very important building block.

You saw what happened in 2014, when the nation rose up against the invader. That was unbelievable. What Ukrainians did to stop the invasion from going all the way to the Dniro River is a major historical event which I think is comparable to the rescue of the British Allied troops from Dunkirk during the Second World War. We had amateurs with little boats helping to save the army from the Nazis and you had volunteers from all across Ukraine going to the frontier, buying bandages, raising money, and nursing. It was a spectacular effort. That was your nation.

However, what you are missing is a free press, and that is crucial. The oligarchs control your press and TV. The United States has some terrible press too. But there is only Fox TV, which is a terrible station. I would say it is



a fascist television network used by the Republicans. At the same time, all of your television networks are owned by fascist oligarchs. And so, this has got to be changed because the average person is not going to read newspapers, is not going to get involved in politics. You, young men, are interested in politics, but the average person is not, neither in the United States nor in Ukraine. They get their news via TV.

On the other hand, you also have to oversee your press. For instance, Fox News may do what it wants, but it cannot go so far as to promote hate speech. You have to control hate speech. You cannot let TV say bad things about someone damaging their business or their reputation. You have to introduce laws to control such things. You do have a free media. And one thing I hope is that Zelenskyy is taking the media away from oligarchs, such as Kolomoyskyi. And you need your press to be run by different people or some public companies.

The United States, Europe and Canada first of all introduced the rule that no foreign person can own more than 25 per cent of a newspaper. TV is regulated by the government. Regulators are appointed by the government.

**In Ukraine, we have a division based on linguistic differences. At the same time, Canada has two official languages. Do you think that constitutes an advantage or rather disadvantage for unity of the nation and can this situation be compared to Ukraine?**

The history behind our bilingual policy is very different from your situation. There are a lot of people, who speak Russian, who are Russians ethnically. I do not know what the percentage is, but that was a language of conquest. Everybody had to speak Russian. It was not a language of choice and Ukrainians kept Ukrainian alive. That makes it very different.

In Canada, we have about 17-18 per cent of the country in Quebec, which is French Canadian. They have retained their language despite the fact that it was a British colony. The British discriminated against them, but they did not make them speak English. It constituted

grounds for an official policy of two languages. In every court case one may have a trial either in English or in French. One may demand all government publications in French or English. One may address government officials in French or English. That was necessary to keep Quebec from leaving Canada. Their argument was, and probably true, since it is happening anyway: unless French was required by Canada, it would disappear. Apart from Haiti, it is the only country in the Western Hemisphere that speaks French. Everybody else speaks French or English. And everybody in Quebec speaks English and the actual fact is that it is a dying language in the Western Hemisphere.

Thus, I would say it is a tricky question for Ukraine. You should require Ukrainian state servants to understand Ukrainian, but you also need Ukrainian people to speak English. It is the language of business, the international language. I think it is important to not say bad things about Russian in schools, but to offer children the option of English or Russian, while everything is taught in Ukrainian.

One of the reasons why the Chinese have done so well so quickly is because China is the largest English-speaking country in the world. It has the largest



Diane Francis receiving an award  
as a Friend of Ukraine

Toronto, 2019





number of people, who speak English, than any country in the world. They have about 600 million people who speak, read and write English. Why did they do that? Two generations ago they started to require English proficiency: reading, writing and speaking to get into any post-secondary educational institution. Therefore, one is not permitted to go to university, medical school or any post-secondary institution in China without passing the English proficiency test.

Why did they do that? Because they know that English is the language of commerce, politics and diplomacy. It seems to me that Ukraine should be doing that. And every country should be doing that. Look at Europe. I believe there are 23 official languages. But everybody's second language is English, so people are able to communicate.

**I would like to get back to the topic of healthcare. You mentioned that Americans envy Canadian healthcare system. Could you outline the crucial factors, which make the Canadian healthcare system so appealing? If it is efficient, why then Canada has difficulties with the COVID-19 pandemic?**

We have difficulties because we have an incompetent prime minister. Justin Trudeau is very pretty. He has the last name of his father, who was a prominent prime minister. But he is incompetent. He is a terrible leader. Before he became the Prime Minister, he was a snowboard instructor. The man has never held a job. He lived off his father's money. He is there, and he does not know what he is doing. He has a very weak cabinet around him, and he is there only on the minority basis. In other words, he only got 33 per cent of votes to become the Prime Minister. Two out of three Canadians did not vote for him. But he is aligning himself with another party, which is also run by an incompetent leader. That is our system. It is not a good system. Thus, no country is perfect. Democracy is messy. It is messy everywhere, as you are finding out in Ukraine.

Healthcare is very tricky. I believe the healthcare system, like education, should not belong to the private sector. It is a mess in the United States. If you are rich, you get what you want. If you are poor, you do not. Healthcare is an essential service similarly to education. What if we did not have public education? That means all rich kids would go to school. Parents of poor kids would not be able to afford it. And it is the

same with healthcare. There is a big lobby in the United States in this regard.

Canada, Europe, Japan, Australia and New Zealand have systems run by regional health authorities. There are people who are selected from communities. Each hospital is run as a business, whereas it is owned by the government. Then, there is an input from the public. Our healthcare system by any measure is far superior to that in the United States. We live longer. We have low infant mortality rate. Our healthcare costs half price per capita compared to the US system. Hospitals are run for customers. Customers are taxpayers. In the United States, hospitals are run by corporations to maximise profits. They are not run on behalf of customers but rather on behalf of shareholders. And that is the problem.

**You rightly stated about the influence of oligarchs on media in Ukraine. Recently, Zelenskyy announced introduction of the law to set a legal background for status of oligarchs in Ukraine. Is it appropriate and is it possible to introduce such laws in the democratic society?**

It sounds like a good idea. I feel sorry for him. I think it is one of the hardest jobs in the world to be a Ukrainian president. Ukraine must do what the United States did in the early 1900s with its "robber barons" – bring in anti-trust laws so they cannot own everything and drive others out of business, then end up "owning the government". Then, I will go back to something very simple:

- 1) You need free press. You should get rid of influence of the oligarchy over the media.
- 2) You have to fire every judge in the country. Your judges are the problem. Your judges are preserving the corruption.
- 3) Clean up the police.

If you do those three things, plus anti-trust to break up oligarch empires, you will have the living standard of Poland in half a generation. Perhaps, it may be achieved even faster.

What the European Union did for the former Soviet satellite states is that they said they were getting rid of all judges and all police chiefs. And additionally, you have to privatise all your state-owned enterprises. They have to be privatised as quickly as possible, because



that is where the corruption is. Poland has 37 state owned enterprises, whereas Ukraine has 8-9 thousand such enterprises run by corrupt commissioners and controlled by oligarchs. Thus, you need privatisation as fast as possible.

You need all the judges to be replaced. How do you replace judges? In Europe, international advisors were invited. The same should be done in Ukraine. There are a lot of lawyers and judges in the Diaspora, who speak Ukrainian and are of the Ukrainian background. Many would volunteer and go back to Ukraine to train young lawyers how to be good judges. Judges, privatisation, press!

**We shift our discussion to Ukraine-NATO relations and international politics. During the recent escalation, Russian troops have been moved to our Ukrainian borders, evidently, so that Putin could gain some benefits from the West. After troops have been moved to the Ukrainian border, Biden has called to Mr Putin to discuss a possible meeting. Many commentators believe this was a wrong move comparing it to negotiations with the devil. Do you believe this call was necessary to ease the growing tension between Russia and the West?**

Who calls whom and who says what varies from leader to leader. One thing that is very good for Ukraine is that Biden understands Putin. He knows he is a killer. He knows he is dangerous. So, whatever Biden is doing, he understands Ukraine needs to be defended. These are very important things you did not have with Trump. Obama did not like Putin, but he did not know how to handle him. He was not tough. He let Crimea be taken over. I think Biden is a different man. That is a good thing.

I think Zelenskyy should never meet with the separatists' leaders. If he can meet with Putin, that is fine. Secondly, I said this, and I have written this, and I agree with it completely: France and Germany are in Putin's pocket. And they should not be in charge of peace talks. They should not be running the Minsk talk. The United States and the United Kingdom should be there.

Putin has got the pipeline deal with the Germans, which makes me upset over Germany. They do not realise what they are doing. But what they do realise is that they

are going to make a lot of money. And the French have been bought and paid for. Since 2014, Putin has tripled imports from France. He has got them in his pocket. He has got Germany in his pocket. Therefore, they have a conflict of interests and they should not be at the Minsk table.

**What do you think should have been done by Obama in 2014 to prevent annexation of Crimea?**

He should have had warships go into the Black Sea and threaten violence. Ukraine had 100,000 sailors and soldiers in Crimea when they took it over, but there was nobody running the country because the Revolution of Dignity had taken place. So they were waiting orders on what to do with the little green men. And Putin took advantage of that. That could have been stopped very quickly. The United States could have sent thousands of troops to stop the green men.

If you look at what happened in Georgia, when George W. Bush was US president and Russia invaded Georgia. The idea was to take the whole country. Everybody knew that. Bush moved war ships within the firing range to Georgia. And he stopped Russia. Obama, however, was too academic. I do not think he was the same kind of character. Biden is much tougher and much smarter than Obama. But we are also dealing with a much more dangerous Putin. He is much more dangerous now. He has created a huge amount of disruption in the European Union. He helped the United Kingdom to leave the European Union. He has created trouble in Syria. He has created trouble for Turkey. He is creating trouble in Libya. Biden has to know this and has to be a little more careful.

**Ms Francis, thank you for your replies. As a final point, what would be your advice for CUPP interns, young Ukrainians, who will be attending the Parliament of Canada?**

Promote, what I believe are principal reforms, which will turn Ukraine around completely. You should be fighting for anti-monopoly policies to fight the oligarchs. You should be fighting judicial corruption and demanding selection of judges to be done in independent and proper way.

You should promote a whole other level of political pressure and market pressure to realise right things for the country. That is what the emphasis should be on.





## — interview with — **Mick Antoniwi**

Mr Antoniwi has been a Member of the Senedd since 2011. He is a Welsh Labour politician, a founding member of the Bevan Foundation, Vice President of the Brynsadler Community Trust in Poltyclun. In his work, Mr Antoniwi focuses on ensuring fairness and social justice for working people, improving infrastructure and volunteerism. Mr Antoniwi supports improvements within local areas.

Currently, Mick is a backbench AM and Chair of the Assembly's Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee. Mr Antoniwi has also been appointed as the Counsel General to the Welsh Government in June 2016. Mr Antoniwi comes from a Ukrainian family with a Danish mother and a Ukrainian father. He is a fluent Ukrainian speaker and has used his knowledge of the language when meeting with Ukrainian officials. Mr Antoniwi is a strong supporter of Ukrainian integration into the European Union as well as NATO and stands against federalisation of Ukraine.



**Mr Mick Antoniw, thank you a lot for agreeing to the interview. You have numerously stated that you are a staunch supporter of Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration. As a lawyer, you have also condemned Russia's aggression against Ukraine and other countries. Is your position influenced by the sense of identity? How would you characterise your identity and what place does Ukraine occupy in it?**

Being brought up in a Ukrainian community, I have always had a strong sense of identity. Not being English, but I suppose British Ukrainian or now in fact as Welsh Ukrainian as I live in Wales. Being Ukrainian has also influenced my political development and thinking. I regard Ukraine really as a spiritual home. I am here because of circumstances in Ukraine during the war. I have the same ethnic status as the Irish, the Italians, the Indians and any other ethnic group that has made its home in the UK and sees the importance of retaining a sense of identity and valuing what we contribute through our culture to enhance the British or Welsh culture.

**Is it easy for you to maintain your sense of identity in Wales? Have you ever been in Ukraine?**

There is not a large Ukrainian community in Wales. There were two Ukrainian clubs mainly centred around mining areas where Ukrainians worked. Those no longer exist. I do share an affinity with Welsh issues, Wales has its own language, which was suppressed and is now re-establishing itself. Wales has a connection with Donetsk (Hughesovka), which was established by a Welsh man John Hughes. There are long-standing links between Ukrainian and Welsh miners, which exist to this day.

**How did you make a decision to study law? Is this choice related to your worldview?**

I sort of fell into law. It sounded good. At the time, I went to university in 1973. Not many kids from working class backgrounds went to university. My parents insisted I had to go if I wanted to have a chance. I did not know much about the law, but I have increasingly recognised the political importance of the law in so many areas. In many ways, it is pure politics.

**In 2016, you were appointed as the Counsel General for Wales. Was it an interesting period of your life? What challenges did you encounter when occupying this position?**

It was very interesting. I was thrown into the deep end having to represent the Welsh Government in the "Article 50" case before the Supreme Court regarding the mechanism for the UK leaving the EU. I was also able to influence legislation in a number of key areas. It was also important because Wales has increasingly been developing its own legal jurisdiction and playing a part in this ongoing development has been important to me.

**In 2011, you were elected to be a Member of the Welsh Parliament (Senedd). Why did you decide to become a politician?**

Very late in the day. I was always involved in political activism either in respect of Ukrainian issues or social and human rights issues. My work as a lawyer was for a progressive trade union firm with historic links with the trade union movement. This enabled me to work closely with trade unions and the development of labour laws, which I also worked on for trade unions in Westminster. When I was elected to the Senedd, it had just secured legislative powers and being a lawyer with experience in this field was a significant political asset. I never really decided to become a politician because I was always involved in politics, I just chose after 33 years as a practising lawyer to direct my energies into development of the Welsh Parliament.

**Is there a similar movement for independence in Wales to the movement in Scotland?**

In Wales, our political and cultural history is different. Wales was incorporated into England and Wales 600 years ago. Scotland was incorporated some 300 years ago and retained many of its own institutions such as the Scottish legal system and the education system. Wales, however, retained a strong linguistic base up until the First World War and after that for various reasons the language declined; but it is now on the rise, as we establish more and more Welsh medium schools. There is an independence movement, but the major political party is the Welsh Labour Party,





Mick Antoniw in Kiev on the Maidan with members of the Committee of the Regions during the revolution.

2014

which is pressing for a radical federalism, a form of home rule, or confederalism. Support for a separatist independence has grown but is still a minority political position. The recent Senedd elections voted 40 per cent Welsh Labour, 22 per cent Conservative and 20 per cent nationalist.

#### **Has Brexit brought the UK closer in its support of Ukraine's Independence?**

No. In fact, it probably weakens support for Ukraine. There are actions in support, military training and so on, but the main support has been from the EU and the US. Since Brexit, the country has become more inward-looking and divided.

#### **What in your opinion can the Ukrainian community in the UK do to buttress the UK's support for Ukraine?**

The Ukrainian community needs to engage with more mainstream politics. It has tended to engage with the conservative and right wing of politics ignoring the liberal and labour movement and representatives and the trade unions. Culturally the community promotes Ukrainian culture but has been very poor at engaging in productive politics.

#### **What qualities and skills do you think are important for a politician?**

Honesty, integrity, passion for what you believe in and hard work. A public service ethos.

#### **Do you believe these qualities are innate or can be acquired through experience?**

They can be both. It depends though on why people choose to go into politics. I prefer the traditional route which is that you believe in something strongly and want to contribute to improving society through your beliefs, increasingly there are those who see it as a career. I do not agree with that. If you want a career, become a civil servant. If you want to change the world, become a politician.

#### **You were a Welsh representative to the EU's Committee of Regions. Now when the UK has left the European Union, what is your stance towards the Brexit? Do you think it was a right decision or a mistake?**

It is a historic, economic and social disaster. Consequences on the economy and society are insipid and increase year-on-year. It has destabilised the UK, which may well fragment over the coming years. We have limited our ability to engage in major social and economic programmes and become a more divided and introverted country.

#### **What is the public opinion in the country 5 years after the referendum?**

COVID-19 has distracted us from consequences the referendum. Public opinion is mixed and confused. I think people became so sick of the whole thing that they just wanted to get it done and be done with it. Many, however, were angry that having had



a referendum it was so difficult to implement. It remains difficult and will continue to be so for many years. Many expected that the benefits of being in the EU would just continue. However, they have not, free movement has ended. In some ways the Brexiteers are a bit like the Russians are to Ukraine; they believe they are superior and that they have a right above everyone else. This is a product of the growth of the right wing, English (British) nationalism, with roots going back to the British Empire.

**Do you believe that membership in the EU is beneficial for its members? Why do you believe Ukraine will benefit from European integration?**

Ukraine is benefiting massively from increased engagement with the European Union. The trade arrangements are beneficial. But also, it is vitally important to Ukraine to be in the EU umbrella of the rule of law and the principles of good governance. Ukraine has struggled with this and continues to do so. Also support for the development of local government and civic engagement. Economically Ukraine has so much more to benefit from by closer integration with the EU.

**Russia has recently rejected Ukraine's proposal for armistice starting from 1st of April, 2021. What is, in your opinion, might have been the cause for impeding of the proposal? How do you think the situation will develop?**

I do not believe Russia has any interest in a stable and prosperous Ukraine. Putin is a Russian nationalist and sees collapse of Soviet Union as a mistake, not for any socialist or ideological reason, but because he is interested in power and empire. On the basis of subverting fledgling Russian democracy, he has achieved what

Yanukovych tried to achieve, and in fact nearly did, namely a faux democracy. He represents what I see as a form of oligarchic capitalism. Not massively dissimilar to the politics of Trump and the right wing in America or in a lesser way but in many ways similar to the UK Conservative government. Corruption is tolerated and incorporated into the government policy, democracy and the rule of law is minimised, and constitutional protections are gradually restricted.

**In what ways are Ukrainian and Welsh societies different? Might these differences be a reason for problems Ukraine is currently experiencing?**

There are many similarities. Wales is increasingly bilingual. It struggles as Ukraine does with usage of language in parts of the country. The language is under threat. The identity and history of the country has been subsumed in the same way as with Ukraine. In Wales, it is only now with our new curriculum that we will increasingly be promoting Welsh history, rather than British/English history. We are increasingly recognising Welsh achievements and identity and promoting progressive laws. We have a similar industrial history with Ukraine. As with Ukraine, there are similarities around music and culture, choirs and poetry. We also experience the problem of a large and often antagonistic neighbour.

**What does modern Ukraine lack to be a peaceful and prosperous country?**



Pontypridd AM  
Mick Antoniwn in Kyiv

2017





The most important necessity is to have a non-corrupt, democratic government in which the principles of the rule of law are fundamental and implemented, and independent judiciary and a clampdown on corruption.

**Do you see positive changes in the recent history of Ukraine? Do they make Ukraine closer to its goal of becoming an EU and NATO member?**

I see progress each year. A considerable amount has been achieved since the Maidan. But it is a long, slow progress and there is still much to do, and of course an expensive war on the border. I see prosperity increasing, but it is important that it is not at the expense of greater inequality. Reforms, which are gradually taking place, including the decentralisation of power to the local councils, are improving Ukrainian society. The society is modernising. I see this most with the younger generation. In due course, Ukraine is going to join the EU. NATO is a more complex issue.

**What steps are the most important for Ukraine to join the EU and NATO?**

Stability, prosperity, improved international relations with the West and the US, government reforms and judicial integrity. NATO is a different question and they need to be addressed differently because of geopolitical issues.

**In your opinion, what is the main obstacle for Ukraine to join NATO? Do you think that an ongoing Russian aggression and occupation of territories can prevent Ukraine from becoming a NATO member?**

It makes it more difficult. Countries can only join NATO by unanimous vote. There are vested interests which make this difficult. The ongoing war makes NATO membership unlikely in a foreseeable future. US military support is therefore vital being the most important asset to Ukraine. The election of Biden is a significant development that occurred in Ukraine's interest.

**Thank you. We also know that you support a number of charity and community initiatives. Just**

**to name a few illustrations – you are a founder of Bevan Foundation, Vice President of Brynsadler Community Trust. Why is it so important for you to help others? Are you an altruistic person?**

We all have a duty to help others, to share wealth and to build equality. That is my underlying political philosophy. To leave the world a bit better than the world you inherited.

**Do you enjoy reading? Do you think it is important? Does it still have value in the modern world? What about the fiction literature?**

I do not read as much as I would like to. I am increasingly reading Ukrainian poetry, Shevchenko, Lesya Ukrainka, Vasyl Symonenko. I love Ukrainian cultural and political history.

**You also were the President of the National Student Union of Wales from 1977 to 1979. Do you believe that students and, more broadly, young people play an important role in bringing about positive changes? What, in your opinion, is this role?**

Yes, it is their future and we have to allow them to seize it. I support the increased activity over climate change. My generation's legacy is a planet at a knife-edge, so it is vitally important that young people become politically active. In Wales, we have extended voting to 16-year-olds.

**Last but not least, Ukrainian university students are actively engaged in the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program allowing them to do the internship at the Parliament of Canada and gain new skills they will be able to bring back to their homeland. What would be your advice to Ukrainian interns engaged in this unique Canadian program?**

I fully support this. Canada has a unique link with Ukraine and it is important that Canada uses these links and its influence to nurture new generations of Ukrainian politicians, civic activists, and others to achieve many of the objectives, which I have identified above. [CUPP](#)

Many thanks for inviting me to participate. I hope these answers make a contribution to your work

Mychajlo Antoniw



— interview with —

# Patrick Weiler

Patrick Weiler is a member of the Parliament of Canada, who assumed the office in 2019. He is an environmental and natural resource management lawyer. Mr Weiler is a member of the Liberal Party of Canada educated at the McGill University and the University of British Columbia.

**M** **Mr Weiler, you are the representative of the young generation of Canadian politicians. During your political career, what areas do you want to focus on to make changes for better?**

It's nice to meet both of you, and I appreciate having this interview today. Yes, I am currently one of the youngest members of the Parliament of Canada. The reason why I got into politics is my background, which is environmental law. My work is to improve Canada's relationships with Indigenous people and achieve Canada's sustainable development goals. I represent the region that I was born in, which is an honour for me.

Canada is a top ten polluter. Also, Canada is among top ten in greenhouse gas country producers worldwide. Our country is second per capita in a matter of emissions. I see this as a massive challenge for a country that we have to address. This is the challenge that got me involved in politics. Canada is a country built on the natural resources sector that contributed to Canada's economy throughout its history. However, we need to produce natural resources in a way, which is not harmful to the environment. We changed our environmental assessment process a couple of years ago, and recently we prepared the new legislation to deal with chemicals.

I see two approaches to continue work on environmental protection: efficient investments and regulations. We have to invest in solutions that reduce emissions, i.e. more efficient buildings, more efficient

transport, natural-based solutions into climate change, and other industry solutions. Regulations are also necessary. We have the carbon tax in Canada, which is probably the most powerful tool to reduce emissions. Simultaneously, Canada announced a new target last week to reduce our emissions from 40-45 per cent to 20-30 per cent by 2030. We are going to meet these targets.

**Your work in the sustainable development domain is impressive. COVID-19 pandemic has changed everything and also made an impact on the green policies. How could the global community achieve sustainable development goals during a crisis such as COVID-19? Does Canada efficiently address the COVID-19 outbreak?**

We have a lower percentage of people infected by the virus than the vast majority of G20 countries. Our vaccination rate is second within the G20 right now. That has been very good to see. Recently, 100 000 people were able to get a vaccine in one day, and we are increasing this rate day by day. Still, whenever we have people dying from the virus, I could not say that we have been effective. I think we still have a lot of work to do.

One of the reasons that the pandemic has occurred is encroachment into nature. We always have to keep that in mind to prevent the risk of future pandemics. The pandemic has also highlighted where people in our society are vulnerable. Canada's government





focused on how we can deal with it.

**Cooperation within the NGO-government-business triangle is crucial to bring changes into the society. You are an environmental and natural resource management lawyer. You were an NGO activist and worked at the UNDP. How does this experience help your political career?**

I see now how every part of my career was essential to where I am today. All connections that I made over time directly affect my job now. I had a chance to work for governments and NGOs to understand how different pieces fit in and create change. Working as a lawyer is a part of my background. Combating unfair legislation got me entrusted to draft better laws. Being able to listen to people is something that I learned from my work at NGOs. Things that I learned enriched me with the skills and knowledge that I apply as an MP.

**You ran for office for the first time two years ago. Could you give some recommendations for young professionals who would become MPs one day?**

I think there is a list of skills that I would recommend

to gain for young professionals: public speaking, community work, and being a good listener. All of these are important skills. Public speaking is about being able to talk confidently on a topic that came from nowhere. The other thing is volunteering in your community, helping people who are helpless. The third one is you have to be an attentive listener to do the job very well.

We typically have many lawyers in the Parliament of Canada, which I think is good. But, we probably need more politicians with diverse backgrounds. We need more women to get involved in politics.

**Contemporary democracy in Canada and worldwide is facing a new type of crisis. Is Canada able to withstand this crisis and become a new global superpower after the global pandemic?**

I do not think Canada would be a global superpower. We are a big country in terms of landmass, but we have only 37 million people. Canadians like to think that we influence the world by standing up for human rights, supporting developing countries, taking a leadership role in environmental initiatives, and supporting the



international trades' rules-based orders. However, we do not have the hard power.

Canada is often involved as an intermediary to solve complicated international disputes. In that sense, Canada plays a huge role. We have appropriate peacekeeping to step in to conflict zones and play a key role in preventing loss and escalation. Canada is also a founding member of NATO that supports our allies in Europe and around the world. That is a short overview of Canada's place in the world. But the dynamic changes constantly since the Cold War.

**Canada is making an impressive move to increase the number of vaccinated people per day. Is it possible for Canada to develop the herd immunity by the end of this year?**

It is our goal. Canada is supposed to have around 49 million doses of the vaccines overall by the end of June. I believe 31 million Canadian's will have a vaccine by the summer. By the end of summer, there should be enough for Canadians to have their second dose. But

we have also ordered more vaccines. There are 60 000 doses that we are going to send internationally to help countries deal with the pandemic. We also have a deal with three vaccine producers, which are currently under the evaluation to manufacture vaccines locally. We are going to manufacture more vaccines and provide them to other countries and within Canada.

**World is experiencing the third lockdown. Access to vaccination is poor, and here is an example of an enormous gap between developed and developing countries. How could the international community cooperate to deliver the vaccine to every person across the globe?**

Until the virus is eliminated everywhere, the fight is not over. The scenarios could be different, and you can see that as the symptoms become more serious, it becomes more contagious. So, even if a vaccine is already developed, it could be inefficient in terms of health protection.

The question lies not only within the framework of domestic security. When virus impacts can be seen in other countries, it harms our domestic economy as well. There is also a moral argument. If people are born in less developed countries, it does not mean that they should not have access to a safe and happy life. I think that developing countries should have support from developed ones. Probably, the most successful programme that I am aware of is the COVAX programme. Canada contributes significantly for COVAX, but one of the key contributors is India that is undergoing a horrendous challenge right now with the virus.

As you know, some countries are expected to have no access to vaccines until 2023. That is completely unacceptable, and one of the biggest challenges now is the capacity to produce the necessary amount of vaccines. I think that the capacity to manufacture more vaccines will be key to ensure supply to countries that need vaccines the most. Then, a global recovery is possible, and we will be able to return to things that were once normal.

**Nowadays there are many challenges to democracy worldwide. In Ukraine, we feel it more than in other countries, and, perhaps, more than anyone in Europe. Ukraine has some issues related to**





**polarisation of the society. In Ukraine, we were divided between those who speak Ukrainian and those who speak Russian; and this division has been fuelled by powers from the Russian Federation and by whatever other country. Whether this problem is on the rise in Canada? What do you think should be done to mitigate such polarisation? What steps should be taken?**

Polarisation is an issue in Canada as well. Notably, we see that in some of our provinces, which feel disenfranchised. They do not feel that their interests are properly taken into account at the federal level. Also, the big issue that we have in Canada is dealing with the fact that the oil and gas industry is undergoing emissions reductions. People previously engaged in these industries feel high insecurity in this shift to a more clean economy. Steps the federal government takes to reduce emissions are often taken as a personal issue causing a lot of friction in Canada. Another point is that Canada has a distinct society within itself, which is Quebec. There are different historical roots, connections with France, another language and culture.

I think these tensions are also about by income inequality, as some people see a lack of opportunities for themselves. It is something that generates mistrust in society. The United States widely faced this challenge, when many jobs of manufacturers were moved to China. That is an issue for Canada as well as for every other developed country. What makes me frustrated is when some politicians try to take advantage of those sentiments saying untrue or misleading things. I think this has a very toxic impact on society and does nothing to improve quality of citizens' life.

**What should be the incentives to stimulate the green economy in Canada? Does the green tariff is an appropriate tool for such stimulation, as some European countries have defaulted on their obligations before investors to pay for produced 'green' energy?**

Canada is in a unique situation. Most of our energy production comes from renewable sources. I think that 93 per cent of our energy is clean, so we do not have a long way to cover the need for electricity. The country is widely electrified, which is a path to reduce emissions. We are entirely different now compared

to 50 years ago, when Germany first introduced the feed-in tariff. At that point, solar and wind energy was not competitive with coal or natural gas. Now it is different. In fact, building a giant wind farm or solar energy farm is cheaper than a coal mine. We do not need to subsidise these areas, but instead, we have to not subsidise dirtier sources of energy production. One does not necessarily need these subsidies to develop the renewable energy sector. Instead, we need to remove subsidies from the oil and gas industry, because it is distorting the market. We need to set our targets to reduce emissions from the electricity production.

Another step that we should take to move forward is energy storage to keep the already produced energy. In many cases, these are engineering challenges that can be addressed by technological development.

**Are wealth taxes appropriate for diminishing the impact of the super-rich?**

It is important to decrease the impact of the ultra-





rich on governments. A key way to do this is to limit the amount of donations to parties or campaigns. In Canada, we have a maximum amount that individuals can contribute to a political party, which is around CAD 650. It limits the impact on individuals, corporations and non-profit organisations. The United States does not have the same restriction, and we can observe the consequences of it.

I think it is an attractive idea, but to introduce this, you should have the ability to limit the mobility of the ultra-rich to leave their country. The wealth taxes are popular. However, they proved to be inefficient in countries that introduced it before. For instance, France tried to introduce it thirty years ago, and what has happened? Many wealthy people in France just moved to the United Kingdom. Interestingly, the wealth taxes did not raise revenue, but caused capital outflow for France. So, we need to address this issue, but I do not see a simple solution as wealthy people have access to resources, better lawyers, etc., it has to be done in a very thoughtful way.

The same is happening when you are dealing with web-giants, such as Facebook and Google. You have to introduce the same corporate taxes in all countries because these companies could move and work from everywhere. So you have to be sure that a company is not doing to move to another country with a lower tax rate. This is something that governments have to do together because it seems like a desirable policy.

**Canada is an important international partner of Ukraine, and Justin Trudeau has promised to support Ukraine in the wake of Russian aggression. On 30 March, Canada has imposed sanctions against contractors of the Kerch Bridge construction. Do you consider sanctions as an effective tool against Russia aggression?**

The sanctions are an important way to say that a country's behaviour is not acceptable, especially when a coalition of countries has introduced sanctions. Canada is not a big country. We are not a financial hub for the business. We cannot introduce sanctions in a

way the United States or the United Kingdom can. It is critical for countries to work together on these matters to make sure that it has an impact.

If you limit the money inflow to big state-owned energy companies, it can have a massive effect. Russia is in a very challenging situation because of the sanctions imposed on oil and gas companies. If you cannot raise capital by doing projects, it is going to have a tremendous destabilising effect on a country.

Similar to Russia, it is a big challenge for Canada to deal with China as well. China is taking aggressive steps. Every country that introduced sanctions against China seems to have a disproportionate response from China. As in Russia's case, countries should effectively cooperate to send strong signals about what is appropriate and what is not.

#### **Do you link yourself to Ukraine?**

I have Ukrainian roots, because my grandfather was Ukrainian and moved here a long time ago. Actually, I have a multinational family. My grandmother, who is still alive and has turned 99 years old two weeks ago, is from Gdansk. She and my grandfather moved here about sixty years ago, and it was far from my time. I have been watching very closely what is happening in Ukraine and Russia, and I am delighted that we have some time to do this interview today.

#### **American and Ukrainian university students serve similar internships in the Parliament of Canada. What would be your advice to young interns of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program?**

I am encouraging you to be open to new opportunities. Have the courage to present yourself because you never know where that will lead you. That is how I worked in Bratislava for two years, which I would call one of the best experiences in my life. I have been fortunate to live in many different countries, and I am exposing myself to every new culture. I would encourage you to take this opportunity of the international experience. It provides you with more opportunities to make new connections and develop new interests. [CUPP](#)





— interview with —

# Paul Grod

Paul Grod is President of the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC). He is a lawyer and a business leader. He is President & CEO of Rodan Energy Solutions, a leading North American energy management company. Prior to founding Rodan Energy Solutions, Paul was a corporate and investment banker with CIBC World Markets and a lawyer with Gowling WLG, a leading global law firm where he practiced corporate finance and M&A law. Paul Grod is the ex-President of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, which coordinates and represents interests of one of Canada's largest ethnocultural communities (1.4 million).



**M**ister Grod, thank you very much for accepting our invitation to the interview for the CUPP Newsletter. The Canada Ukraine Parliamentary Program celebrates its 30th anniversary this year and it is a true honour for us to conduct the interview with you. Please, tell us, what challenges have you been facing since you have been elected as the President of the Ukrainian World Congress?

The UWC's vision is to be the authoritative voice of a powerful and united global Ukrainian community. Our mission is to unite those communities and to represent their interests to global leaders and to the Government of Ukraine.

The biggest challenges that the UWC faces are captured in our key priorities:

1. ending Russia's aggression against Ukraine;
2. building a prosperous and democratic European Ukraine;
3. developing strong global Ukrainian communities.

In order to be effective, the UWC must be relevant to its communities around the world by:

1. connecting these communities to one another and give them a voice that will be heard by decision makers in Ukraine and around the world;
2. supporting the needs, such as materials, programming and funding for Ukrainian schools;
3. building institutions in their countries that develops conscientious and influential Ukrainians.

Another major challenge the global Ukrainian community faces is rapid assimilation, especially on the part of new immigrants from Ukraine. Ukraine needs a patriotic Ukrainian diaspora for many generations to come, especially as Russia's aggression continues. We will decelerate the rapid assimilation of Ukrainians in the Diaspora by encouraging pride in being Ukrainian. Integration, but not assimilation. Hence, the UWC's call to action is "Let us be proud Ukrainians, no matter where we live".

Today, the Ukrainian Diaspora has an incredible opportunity to influence how the international community supports Ukraine. To do so we must be politically influential by working with elected officials, policy influencers, media and civil society.

This is the era where Ukrainians around the world will achieve great successes. It will happen through

ambition, cooperation and support of one another. I am confident we will see proud Ukrainians become Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Members of Parliament, Senators, Supreme Court Justices, business leaders and great innovators, famous artists, renowned academics and global thought leaders in the countries, where they live. I am also confident we will see Ukrainians with various citizenships returning to Ukraine and participating in all aspects of Ukrainian society, politics, business, education, arts. It is happening today, but we need to create a framework to accelerate this engagement.

**The Ukrainian Diaspora in Canada is unique. How should Ukrainians in other countries develop their communities?**

The Ukrainian community in Canada is unique with a long 130-year history of community building. They were successful in a Canadian society never forgetting their heritage. In fact, they celebrated it and built institutions that fostered and educated many generations of Ukrainian Canadians to be proud Ukrainians and proud Canadians.

There is no guidebook for developing a community since every community is different and its development is guided by local circumstances. But new communities can learn a great deal from the







Paul Grod, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, leads a protest outside the World Junior Hockey Championship in Toronto Monday night against Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

© Photo by Nicholas Keung/Toronto Star

experiences of the older communities and we, as UWC, ensure that experiences are shared and built upon.

The key is to establish Ukrainian institutions that will develop and support the Ukrainian community from cradle to grave: you are baptised in a Ukrainian church, attend a Ukrainian day care and a Ukrainian school, participate in Ukrainian youth and student organisations, join Ukrainian sports clubs, participate in various Ukrainian professional and business associations, political groups, religious organisations, retire in Ukrainian retirement residences and receive your last rites by a Ukrainian priest and are buried in a Ukrainian cemetery. During this life cycle, you continue to engage with Ukraine and its people.

Ukraine is developing extremely fast. What are the fields that you consider very promising for Ukrainian economy? Many industries of today's Ukraine are world-renowned. This was particularly obvious at the most recent Ukraine House during Ukraine reform conference here in Toronto in July. It showcased many things – from Ukraine's creative industries and IT to agriculture, but most importantly, it showcased a whole generation of highly competent Ukraine's business leaders, many of them young leaders, ready for the challenges of the future.

### **What do you know about the CUPP and what can you wish to future CUPP interns?**

I have been supportive to the program throughout its history as I participated in a parliamentary internship in 1994-1995 at the Parliament of Ukraine. It was a tremendous learning experience and certainly helped me become passionate about public service and supporting Ukraine.

I very much hope that future CUPP interns will use this time to build meaningful relationships, develop true leadership skills, get to know their host country and – most importantly – put these experiences to good use for their future work in Ukraine by getting involved in politics, public service and helping to build a better Ukraine.

### **What do the words “engagement” and “leadership” mean to you?**

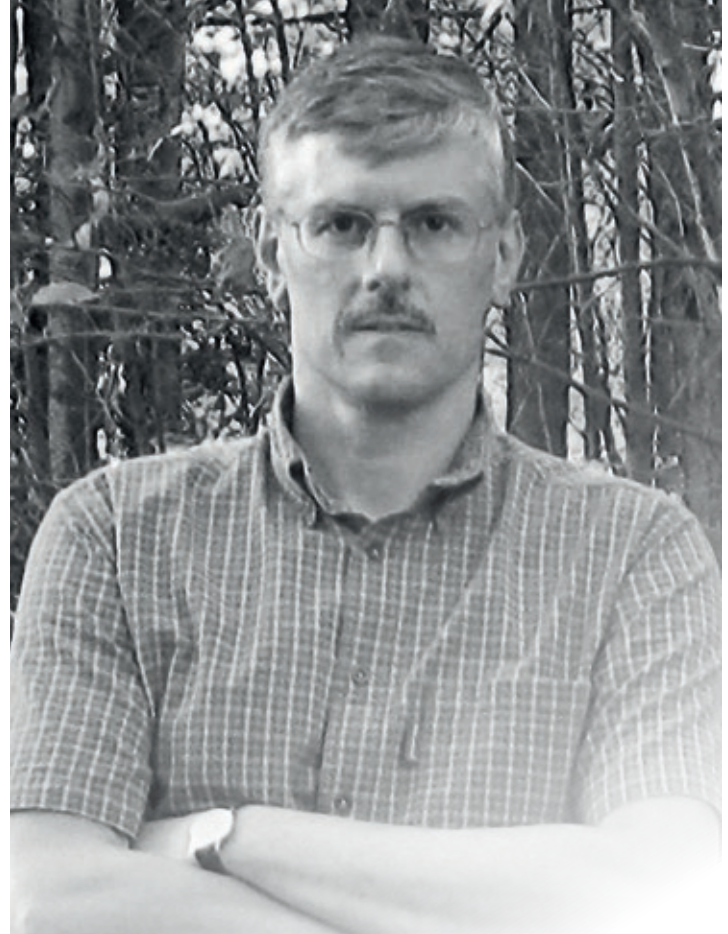
Leadership is engagement. In the context of the UWC, leadership involves engaging Ukraine, the Ukrainian people, the Ukrainian Diaspora, world leaders, civil society and friends of Ukraine in discussion, consensus building, and action in the development of a common vision and the achievement of common goals.

A true leader is someone, who can engage people in a way that makes them want to get behind a cause and follow that leader. [CUPP](#)

— interview with —

# Andry Monchak

My grandparents came to Canada, as refugees, after the Second World War and settled in Montreal, where I was born. Throughout my childhood, my parents sent me to the Ukrainian Plast. We have scaled a number of the highest mountain peaks on various continents of the world.



After completing my engineering degree at McGill University, I married and we moved to Edmonton, Alberta, in Western Canada, where I worked for a telecommunications company. I was involved in planning one of the first mobile communication networks in Canada. As we waited for arrival of our first child, we moved to Ottawa to be closer to our families. In Ottawa, I worked for the Air Force in the Department of National Defence, where I was responsible for fighter aircraft electronics and communication systems. Apart from my daily work, I have always enjoyed working with young people and was very active in Plast. For years, I was a scout counsellor, planned and participated in numerous scouting camps, hikes and excursions. For many years, I organised and led “Zolota Bulava”, an international Ukrainian scouting youth leadership programme. In addition to the above-mentioned, I have many other personal interests. I like to sail, rebuild and work on cars, model small scale trains, do carpentry and dabble in electronics. I love to be out in nature, especially hiking. Over the years, with a small group of my Plast friends, we have scaled a number of the highest mountain peaks on various continents of the world.

**A**ndry, please tell us about the different waves of the Diaspora. How do they differ from each other and what impact they have made in the development of the Ukrainian society?

In Canada, we have a large Ukrainian Diaspora. I lived in Western Canada for a while, which gave me the opportunity to meet descendants of the first wave of emigrants that came here in the late 1800s. Most of first Ukrainians, who came to Canada, were

peasants motivated by the promise of free land. They came with very little money or possessions, but with a lot of hard work and sacrifice, they made a great contribution to the development of the spiritual and social life in Canada. In Western Canada, many descendants of first emigrants still consider themselves Ukrainians, they have Ukrainian names and preserve the Ukrainian culture, despite the fact that (with few exceptions)





they do not speak Ukrainian. These people are already the 6th or 7th generation of Ukrainians, who still preserve their heritage. Therefore, I can say that the first emigrants of the Diaspora established the foundation that enabled us to remain Ukrainian. The second wave of emigrants of the Diaspora, the often-called “inter-war emigrants”, is similar to the first wave, though it included a political element in addition to an economic motivation to emigrate.

In the third wave of emigrants were my grandparents, who came to Canada after the Second World War. The difference between the previous and the third waves is that this emigration was predominantly political, and people had a better education. These Ukrainians were forced to leave their homeland. They emigrated not because of their own will, but because of political circumstances to protect their families and lives. These refugees left all their life's possessions behind – houses, books, etc. – they packed a few suitcases and went into the unknown. They were professors, engineers, doctors, who came to Canada and took simple jobs, such as cleaning other people's homes, hanging advertisements in buses or washing dishes in restaurants.

Obviously, this had a very big psychological impact on people with an education and high qualifications. Because of this, and due to hard work that was required to improve the material lives of their children, many of these people were unable to pass on to their children the Ukrainian identity.

However, the number of emigrants was so large that even the small percentage of people, who remained active, made a significant impact. Today, grandchildren of these emigrants are returning to our community. Something is pulling them back and they start looking for their roots. They feel more self-confident now, because the feeling of inferiority has disappeared. These people are already self-assured and have good positions in society. They are at comparable economic and education levels as anyone else in the country. It is worth mentioning that many of those, who came after the Second World War – due to their higher education level – looked down on the first emigrants. I believe that this to some extent divided the community. Each wave created its own organisations. There was a division into the so-called “old-Canadians” and

“newcomers”.

This situation can be compared to the current state after the arrival of the fourth wave of emigrants, which began after Ukraine's independence. The integration of the fourth wave into the existing Ukrainian community is problematic. When comparing to the previous emigrations, people of the fourth wave are not refugees – they are mostly economically motivated, emigrating to earn money for a living. They are mostly young people who know a free Ukraine; they do not remember Soviet times. Today they come to start a new life in Canada. Many of them are very quickly integrating into Canadian society and forget about their Ukrainian identity. It seems that it is more important for newly arrived Ukrainians to have their children learn English or French, get a good job and assimilate into Canadian society. Soon, children of new emigrants tend to lose their command of the Ukrainian language. After several years in Canada, these children barely speak their native language. In their homes, English becomes the language of communication. Obviously, there are exceptions, but for most families, this is the case. This surprises me so much and I am sad as so many newcomers assimilate so quickly and lose their mother tongue.

### **What do you think is the reason that Ukrainians, so to speak, abandon their roots?**

I do not think this applies to the majority, but mostly to those who now emigrate from Ukraine in search of financial prosperity. These people do not think how quickly you can get used to the circumstances and assimilate. In order not to lose your Ukrainian identity and language, you need to actively and constantly work on it. Often, parents think that their children will preserve their mother tongue by attending “Ridna Shkola”. But a couple of hours once a week on Saturday is not enough, you need to speak the language at home. Our people have not yet overcome this inferiority complex caused by hundreds of years of oppression. We subconsciously think that other nations are better. A good example is to look at any magazine in Ukraine or listen to the TV or radio programmes and you will find numerous English words, which have made their way into our language! It is terrifying. Oppression for centuries



and Communism caused this, and it affected people's psyche and their sense of self-confidence.

### **How can the Diaspora change the situation?**

I notice that with every generation, the number of active Diaspora participants decreases. That is why it is very important to establish good communications with newcomers so that our communities do not disappear but continue to flourish. I notice that the fourth wave of emigrants is not inclined to integrate with what has been built by previous emigrants – they would rather create something new. We must therefore try to do our best to make them feel needed and to develop what has already been achieved through the efforts of previous generations.

### **What are the greatest achievements of different waves of emigrations of our Diaspora?**

The first and second waves gave a solid foundation for developing the Ukrainian culture. People were deeply religious, they were united and they built churches, schools, founded organisations, published newspapers, magazines and printed books. The post-war emigration made a great contribution from an intellectual point of view. Many of the emigrants' children became politicians, which gave Ukrainians a greater influence in the country. All three waves of emigration had their ideological representatives, who led very active social lives. Everything that was achieved by these people over the last century here in Canada allows us today to speak internationally and defend Ukraine. They succeeded in spreading the knowledge that there are other countries to the east of Germany besides Russia, and the West began to know and think about Ukraine. The fourth wave must continue what has been achieved so far. Otherwise, we will lose everything.

### **Did the Diaspora always have good communication with Kyiv?**

After independence, in the early 1990s, there was a feeling among members of the Diaspora that Ukraine no longer needed us. The message was that Ukraine is now independent and it can handle everything alone. Many Diaspora Ukrainians were frustrated, when only money was needed from us. Fortunately, this changed in the 2000s. Ukraine

realised that the international Diaspora support is needed because the threat continues to exist. Since then, various exchange programs and many other joint projects have begun.

### **We talk a lot about what the Diaspora does for Ukraine, but what does Ukraine eventually have to do for the Diaspora?**

In my opinion, now Ukraine must do everything for Ukraine because it is experiencing difficult times and defending its independence. Ukraine must accept from the Diaspora all that we can contribute. Independence is a great common achievement. We have the opportunity to send our children for educational exchanges in Ukraine; we have access to a large number of Ukrainian cultural venues, print editions, films, television programs, music. Ukraine is developing very well in this area and that is helping us. It is important for us that life remains active in Ukraine and people remain proud of their country. We should remember that many generations had worked to ensure that Ukraine declared its independence.

### **For Ukraine, emigration is a problem. What can be an incentive for Ukrainians to return home?**

This is a terrible tragedy for many families: the fact that parents go to work abroad and do not see their children for months will have a negative impact on several generations. Firstly, Ukraine must provide adequate living conditions and create circumstances for better jobs. Ukraine must strive to retain its talented people at home. Obviously, combating corruption must be a priority, because it is very difficult to improve the economy when there is corruption in the country. When laws are obeyed and enforced, everyone benefits. I think it is only a matter of time. The new generation will grow up and will no longer want to live according to the old Soviet principles. Moses led his people for 40 years through the desert, so that the old corrupted generation would die and the new generation would be able to build a new life. I have no doubt that young people will make Ukraine better.

### **You have dedicated many years to Plast. Could you describe the role and importance of this**





### **organisation?**

I belonged to Plast since my early childhood. In the 1990s, Plast developed a leadership programme for youth aged 13 to 17 years old. This leadership programme was named “Zolota Bulava”. Throughout my life, I have worked with youth and for many years was involved in organizing and running this programme. In my opinion, it is a very useful experience for teenagers, because based on Plast principles, such as leadership, character building and self-improvement, they are learning how to develop these skills and how to serve other people and their community. The Plast philosophy itself is very noble. If it is possible to keep Plast in Ukraine at such high spiritual and moral levels as the founders of this organisation conceived in 1912, then it will be of great benefit to the society.

**Russia has been using the advanced form of hybrid warfare in Ukraine since the beginning of 2014, i.e. it relies on the information warfare. How strong is this socio-cultural phenomenon in Canada, the USA and Europe?**

In general, society is quite naive and there are a lot of efforts that must be taken to make people aware of what Russia is doing. In the West, many people are blinded and think that Russia is a friend. These people do not see that Russia is a global threat, just as people did not see that Hitler’s Germany was a threat before the Second World War. Nobody seems to want to learn from history. We see that Moscow slowly infiltrates everywhere, yet no one is paying attention to it. It was hard for people to believe how the information warfare could be so successful, until the election-related scandals happened in the United States. Only after that, people did realise that the information warfare and so-called fake news exist. The government of Ukraine must work hard to counter the information war. Russia is investing a lot in disseminating information here in the West, where they only promote their views, vilify Ukraine and our people. At the same time, we hear almost

no response from Ukraine. In general, people do not receive alternative opinions and, therefore, perceive Russian propaganda as truth.

### **What is the image of Ukraine in Canada?**

For most Canadians, Ukraine is not a priority. It is somewhere far away from them. At the political level, certainly there is support and cooperation between our countries. The same applies to international businesses and economic cooperation. Today we often hear statistics and “news” (mostly based on original Russian sources) spreading the idea that Ukraine is the most corrupt country in the world. This leads to fear of investing in Ukraine by foreign companies. As Ukraine became independent, many investments were made there, but due to absence of appropriate laws and desire to maintain and protect them, many companies left Ukraine. I personally know people, who found themselves in a very unpleasant situation because of the lack of courage among legislators and politicians to punish injustice. This needs to change and the one way to achieve this is to build a legitimate state with the rule of law.

### **What would you advise to future CUPP interns?**

I would advise young people not to take everything for granted, but always use their own common sense. Our politicians are not much better than yours. Our main advantage is the rule of law. The problem in Canada, as in most democracies, is that our governments live “from election to election” without any long-term vision. We plan and work for short-term gains. We sail the riverway created by leaders, who built our country. For many years, we have relied on what has been done in the past rather than creating a long-term vision for the future. We do not focus our efforts on the vision of well-being of future generations. Therefore, my advice is to critically evaluate reality and think not about ourselves, but plan and fulfil our commitments, so that future generations can be proud of us. [CUPP](#)



— interview with —

# Danylo Sztul

Danylo Sztul is an activist of the Ukrainian Diaspora in France. He is a son of Oleh Shtul-Zhdanovych, an outstanding fighter for the independence of Ukraine, the Chairman of OUN and “Ukrainian Word” newsletter published in Paris. His father was one of the founders of the Ukrainian World Congress. Danylo has finished his school in Paris and studied Business Administration at the Higher school of business. He invests a lot in the popularisation of the Ukrainian culture in France and the activity of the Ukrainian community in France.





**M** Mr Sztul, I would like to thank you for dedicating time to our conversation. Mr Sztul, you are a real patriot and a significant representative of the Ukrainian Diaspora in France. People often talk about the Ukrainian Diaspora in the United States, in Italy and in Canada, but many people do not know much about history of the Ukrainian Diaspora in France. How many Ukrainians do live in France?

Today, the Ukrainian Diaspora in France includes about 150 000 people.

**Is this number enough to have an impact on political decisions?**

I am not sure about the possibility of a direct impact. There are more than 20 million Ukrainians living in the world, and they are represented by the Ukrainian World Congress that has a “door” to the political world. The Ukrainian Diaspora in France is very rich in its associative life, and it carries out many cultural activities across France.

**Can you please tell readers about the history of the Ukrainian presence in France? We all know that Anne de Kyiv, a daughter of Yaroslav the Wise, was married to the French King Henry I Capet and gave birth to the French King Philip I. What was the presence of Ukrainians in France in the XXth century?**

The very first Ukrainian organisation in France emerged during the second wave of emigration in 1908 and was named the “Circle of Ukrainians in Paris”. It comprised few hundred people, and it was created after the Russian Revolution of 1905.

**At that time, were there famous figures moving to France?**

Ukrainian intellectuals chose to study or work in Paris. Indeed, many famous cultural figures were very well integrated into the society. The most prominent ones are Maria Bashkirtseva, Marko Vovchok, Mykola Dragomanov, Mykhailo Hrushevskyi, Lesia Ukraïнка and Yaroslav Fedorchuk.

**What happened after the Second World War?**

In 1949, Ukrainians released from concentration camps and forced labourers from Germany and Austria created the community “Ukraïnskyy Natsionalnyy Soyuz”. Another Community “Union of Ukrainians in France” created the newspaper “Ukraïnske Slovo” (“La Parole Ukrainienne”). The goal was to preserve Ukrainian culture, develop solidarity, and spread education. Today, their activities include fighting with Kremlin disinformation, making cultural, artistic and university events. After the war, the divided OUN created in 1949 two social organisations of comparable size and impact in terms of members and branches all over France:

OUN(m) created “Ukraïnska Natsionalna Yednist u Frantsii (UNYE)” (“Alliance Nationale Ukrainienne en France”) with the youth organisation “Organizatsiya Ukraïnskoyi Molodi u Frantsii” (“Association des Jeunes Amis de l’Ukraine”) and revived the newspaper “Ukraïnske Slovo” (“La Parole Ukrainienne”).

OUN(b) created “Organizatsiya Ukraïntsiv u Frantsii (OUF)” (“Union des Ukrainiennes de France (UDUF)) with the youth organisation “Spilka Ukraïnskoï Molodi (SUM)” (“Association de la Jeunesse Ukrainienne en France”).

**The fourth wave of immigration comprised few people, but a lot of projects were developed. What are they?**

The population went from an estimated 20,000 to an estimated 150,000 Ukrainians in France.

In 1951, a small town of Sarsel near Paris welcomed the European division of the Shevchenko Scientific Society. The Shevchenko Scientific Society was working at publication of the Encyclopedia of Ukrainian Studies. It has a large archive and a library of 25,000 volumes. The head of the Shevchenko Scientific Society today is lawyer Stefan Dunikovskyy.

There is also a Ukrainian Library of Simon Petliura that exists in Paris since 1929. The Germans confiscated this library in 1941. Tens of thousands of its books and archives have been taken to East Germany. They fell into hands of the Soviet army and found themselves in the library stocks of Moscow,



Minsk, and Kyiv. It contains books, documents and archives of the twentieth century, in particular, those relating to the Ukrainian State of 1917-1921. Currently, the director of the library is Yaroslav Yosypyshyn.

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Jaroslava Josypyszyn.

**Can you tell us about interesting Diaspora personalities? For example, your father, Oleh Sztul, was the editor in 1948 of the first Ukrainian paper “Ukrainske Slovo” created in 1933, that exists until now.**

Indeed, my father was the editor of “Ukrainske Slovo” and the chairman of the Organisation of Ukrainian Nationalists (Провід українських націоналістів (ПУН)). In 1940, he published “Centuries are speaking” (Віка говорять), a short book about the history of Ukraine that was printed in France and Kyiv. In 1943, he was put in prison by Germans. At that moment, Stepan Bandera, Yaroslav Stetsko, Andriy Melnyk, Oleh Kandyba and other civil-political figures were imprisoned. Later, he was making a lot of efforts to support the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church and was promoting Ukraine through his works in foreign publications (“Bulletin Franco-Ukrainien”, “Échanges”, “La nouvelle vague littéraire en Ukraine”, “Le Nationalisme en Ukraine”).





**Ukrainians should know about their heroes. You are a real patriot, Mr Sztul. What areas should Ukraine develop during the next decade?**

There are a lot of changes that have been already initiated. We all understand that 73 per cent of people who voted for Zelenskyy had only two main ideas and motivations: to fight corruption and to re-establish peace at the occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk Regions.

**So, what is the way to counter corruption?**

Poroshenko has created proper institutions for criminal investigation and prosecution of corrupted officials and raiders, while being under pressure of international institutions. This activity should be expanded.

**Is it possible to stop the war at the occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk Regions? What is your opinion about Zelenskyy statements?**

I think that Zelenskyy did a good job in Paris and defended Ukrainian interests correctly. However, beyond the ultra-marginal aspects of capturing and returning ships and people, the situation has not really changed. Any derogation is very dangerous. For example, if a neighbour stole a part of the land from me and I pardoned him and left it to him, I can only expect that this would only drive him to steal more. USSR was over because of the bankruptcy. Currently, maintenance of terrorists at the occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk Regions costs Russia USD 1 billion per year.

I have the same opinion about the Crimean situation. There is no war there, but it is also valuable for Russia and it is necessary to count on a long-term exposure to the international legal protest and sanctions.

**What is the way to strengthen the economy?**

Concentrating on fighting corruption and economic

crimes should provide favourable conditions for domestic and international investment that would lead to economic growth. Free third-party investments should reduce impact of the oligarchy after the initial period of capital accumulation.

**What are your ideas about the land issue?**

The proper law is currently being developed. One should avoid harmful speculation. Sale of agricultural land in France is open, but at the same time it is strictly regulated by specific institutions.

**What are your thoughts about health care and pensions?**

The Constitution guarantees free medical treatment, but we know that there is a lot of work to be done. Working on fighting the corruption should bring some results.

**And regarding the issue of insurances?**

The situation needs to be enhanced, insurance companies should be divided into obligatory and compulsory ones, and a good risk coverage of transportation and housing issues is required.

**What about the police service?**

Continue to work on the complete “DE-corruption” of state institutions, cleaning and preventing infiltration of Russian agents.

**Should Ukraine join NATO? How should we work on the EU integration?**

In accordance with the legislative measures, one should drive for participation accompanied by appropriate monitoring of the situation as far as both institutions are experiencing and will continue to experience different internal and external pressures.

**Thank you very much for our discussion and your time! . CUPP**



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interview with

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# Yuliya Zabyelina

Yuliya Zabyelina was a CUPP 2003 Intern to **Janko Peric**, MP for Cambridge, Ontario, and **Michael Luchkovich** Scholarship recipient. She was chosen Coordinator of the 2004 CUPP and served her internship with **Borys Wrzesnewskyj**, MP for Etobicoke Centre, Ontario. She was the 2004 **Michael & Anna Bardyn** Scholarship recipient.

Today, **Yuliya Zabyelina is Associate Professor of International Criminal Justice at John Jay College of Criminal Justice at the City University of New York (CUNY)**. She holds a PhD degree in International Studies from the **University of Trento, Italy**, where she studied the role of failed states in furthering opportunities for transnational organised crime. Her research covers various forms of transnational organised crime and corruption and existing domestic, regional, and global mechanisms for their prevention and control.

Yuliya Zabyelina is author of numerous peer-reviewed academic journal articles and books, including **“Illegal Mining: Organized Crime, Corruption and Ecocide in a Resource-Scarce World”**. She is currently working on several book projects, including **“The Research Handbook on the Private Sector”** and **“Organized Crime and Transnational Crime and the Immunities of State Officials”**.

Before moving to the United States, Yuliya held a postdoctoral position at the **University of Edinburgh School of Law** and lectured on topics of European security at **Masaryk University** in the Czech Republic.

She has partnered with various US and foreign criminal justice agencies and the private sector organisations, as well as regional and international organisations, to examine issues relating to transnational crime and corruption. She has presented nationally and internationally on these issues (e.g., Sweden, Qatar, Germany, Ukraine, Estonia, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Turkey). Since 2017, she has served as a subject matter expert on transnational organised crime and corruption at the **United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)** and has taught at the **George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies**.

Yuliya Zabyelina has been recognised with several professional awards, including the **Royal Society’s Newton International Fellowship (2013)**, **SAGE Junior Faculty Teaching Award (2015)** and the University of Helsinki’s **Aleksanteri Institute Visiting Scholar Fellowship (2015)**. She is a recipient of the **2016 John Jay College Donald MacNamara Award** for junior faculty, the **2018 Faculty Scholarly Excellence Award**, and the **2020 CUNY-wide Henry Wasser Award**.





**M**ore than 10 years have passed since the moment when you participated in CUPP. What is CUPP's importance from your perspective?

To an outsider it may seem that CUPP is a mere internship in Canada. In reality, CUPP experience is much broader. CUPP is a life-changing programme. It educates future leaders of Ukraine, some of whom stay in the homeland, while others promote Ukraine's national interests from abroad, after becoming successful in their professions.

**Does Ukraine still need the CUPP Program? Give 3 arguments for CUPP to continue its existence.**

Yes, I do believe that CUPP is a great program that should be continued. First, it educates Ukrainian students about democratic values and good governance, while they work in the Canadian Parliament and visit Canadian and international organisations located in Ottawa and other cities they visit during their stay in Canada.

Second, CUPP provides an opportunity to learn



about the Canadian society, which is known for its respect for human rights, diversity, and justice. It is a welcoming society that encourages community service and equal opportunity.

It would be wonderful to transplant these values to Ukraine. Third, during my visit to Canada, I sometimes felt that the Canadian Ukrainian diaspora tended to express greater devotion to and vigorous support for Ukraine than average Ukrainians living in Ukraine. Providing Ukrainian youth with an opportunity to interact with the Ukrainian community (Hromada) in Canada could motivate them to bring about positive changes replicating Canadian experience in Ukraine.

**What would you change in the framework of Ukraine's current politics?**

I was born and raised in Luhansk. The outbreak of the conflict in Donbas broke my heart. The conflict has become protracted, and no one really knows, when it is going to end. I hope that the conflicting parties will soon hold out olive branches finding a solution that will help Ukraine reunite and move forward towards democratic virtues, prosperity, social justice, and respect for human rights. I know that this path will not be easy as the war-caused trauma and colossal atrocities will hinder post-conflict reconstruction. Before this happens, I would like to see Ukraine's close partners in Europe and North America continue providing political and humanitarian support.

**Everyone has their own personal memories that will last forever. What was the brightest and most memorable moment of your CUPP experience?**

During my first CUPP internship in 2003, I met CUPP intern, Roman Ivashkiv. He broke his leg while playing basketball with fellow CUPP interns. I helped him move around in a wheelchair for the entire internship. The

unfortunate accident made us spend a lot of time together and eventually fall in love. We married in May of 2016 in Manhattan, New York, and have a baby boy, Marko Ivashkiv, born in August of 2019.

I am very fortunate to have met Roman. He is a wonderful person – husband and friend – who inspires me to be a better person and who is always there to support me. He is also a patriot of Ukraine and helps me build a family that cherishes the Ukrainian language and culture. Although we do not live in Ukraine anymore, we hope to educate our son to respect his cultural heritage and maintain strong ties with Ukraine.

**What advice would you give to CUPP applicants and future CUPP interns?**

I suggest that CUPP applicants do their best to meet CUPP's high standards. The CUPP experience opens many doors. Upon completion, CUPP interns become part of a global network of alumni, who maintain a strong bond with Ukraine promoting Ukraine's national interest and preserving its national identity within their families, communities, and professions. This network has already played a massive role in Ukraine's affairs, exemplifying a unique formula for success. I anticipate an even more meaningful impact in the years to come. [CUPP](#)

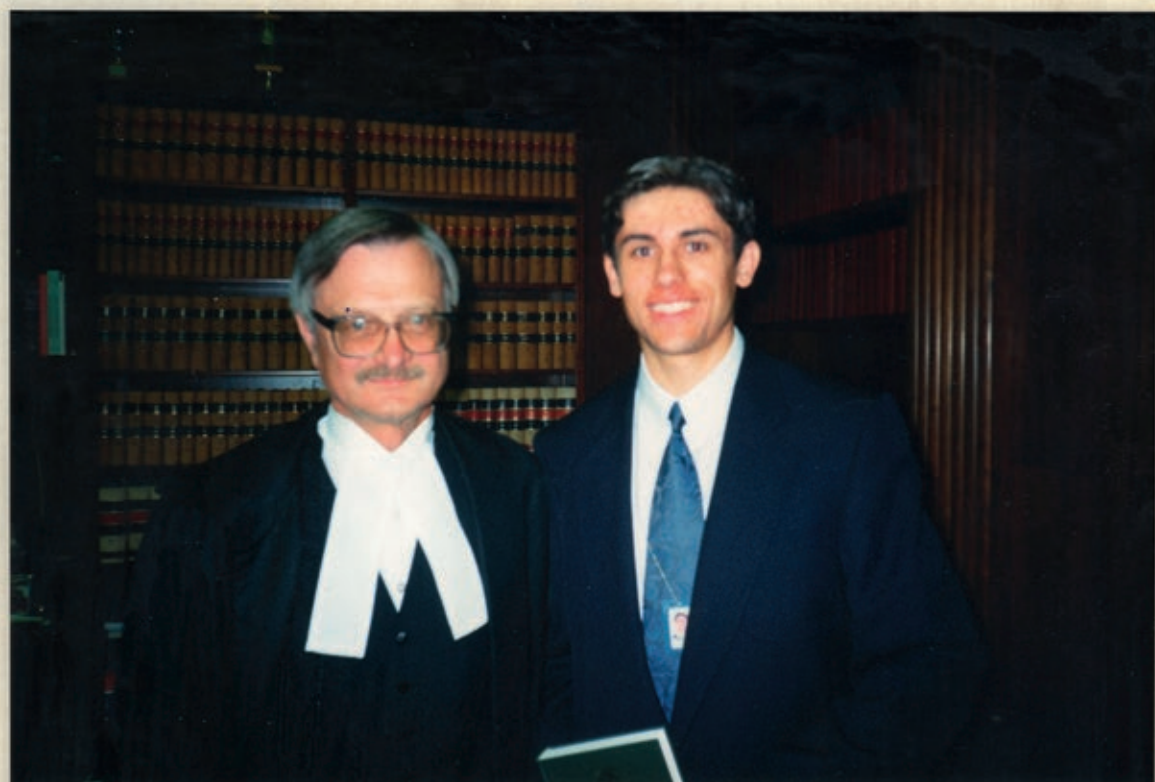




# FROM ARCHIVE













# Talented Ukrainians



## Norman Cafik

Member of the Canadian Parliament 1968-1979

Norman Augustine Cafik, PC (December 29, 1928 – September 30, 2016) was a Canadian politician.

Born in Toronto, Ontario of a Ukrainian-Polish father and a Scottish-Irish mother. Cafik was unsuccessful in his attempts to win a seat in the House of Commons of Canada in the 1962 and 1963 elections, but was elected as

the Liberal Member of Parliament (MP) for the riding of Ontario in the 1968 election.

Cafik's 1972 re-election, defeating former Diefenbaker era minister Frank Charles McGee was particularly notable. He was initially reported to have lost his riding, yielding a 108-seat tie between the

Stanfield Progressive Conservatives and the Trudeau Liberals. Subsequent re-count confirmed Cafik's victory over McGee by 4 votes, giving the Liberals a two-seat lead in the minority parliament.

He attempted to move to provincial politics, running in 1973 for the leadership of the Ontario Liberal Party. He lost on the third ballot of the leadership convention to Robert Nixon.

In 1977, he was the second person of Ukrainian descent to be appointed to the Canadian Cabinet when Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau made him Minister of State for Multiculturalism. (Michael Starr was appointed by John George Diefenbaker as the first Ukrainian in Cabinet.) He lost his seat in the House in the 1979 election that defeated the Trudeau government and returned to private life. He died on September 30, 2016.



# Anthony Hlynka

Member of the Canadian Parliament 1940-1949

Anthony Hlynka (May 28, 1907 – April 25, 1957). Hlynka was born in the Western Ukrainian village of Denysiv, in Ternopil Oblast of Halychyna, then a province of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Hlynka was a Canadian journalist, publisher, immigration activist and politician. He represented Vegreville in the House of Commons of Canada from 1940 to 1949 as a member of the Social Credit Party of Canada. He is best remembered for his attempts to reform Canada's immigration laws after World War II to permit the immigration of Ukrainian displaced persons. He moved to Canada with his family in 1910, when he was three, and was raised in a homesteader community in Alberta's Delph district, about 18 miles northeast of Lamont.

Antony Hlynka was educated in both Ukrainian and English. Hlynka moved to Edmonton in 1922 and graduated from Alberta College the following year, but was unable to attend university. He taught English to other Ukrainian immigrants, and worked at an insurance firm from 1929 to 1931. He also wrote for the paper *Novyi shliakh* (New Pathway), and was elected to its executive in November 1931. He was responsible for soliciting advertisements for the paper until it was moved to Saskatoon in 1933.

Antony Hlynka was a founding member of the conservative Ukrainian National Federation of Canada (UNF) in 1932 and served for a time as its acting General Secretary. He started a periodical called *Klych* (The Call) in 1935. This paper had a strongly anti-communist editorial line. Hlynka joined the Alberta Social Credit League in 1937, and launched the party's Ukrainian language paper, *Suspilnyi Kredyt* (Social Credit), in February of that year. He later worked for the publicity department of the provincial Social



Credit Board, and for the Department of Municipal Affairs. He delivered several speeches, and became a prominent figure in the Ukrainian community. He considered running for a seat in the Legislative Assembly of Alberta in the 1940 provincial election, but ultimately declined..

In the general election, Hlynka defeated four other candidates in a closely contested race to win his first term in office. His election win made him the second person of Ukrainian descent elected to federal parliament, after Michael Luchkovich. Hlynka was the only person of Ukrainian background in parliament from 1940 to 1945, and received extensive coverage from the national press as a community representative.

Antony Hlynka was a strong supporter of Canada's involvement in World War II, and worked with the Ukrainian Canadian Committee to campaign for a "yes" vote in Canada's 1942 plebiscite on conscription. Despite their efforts, many ridings with large Ukrainian populations supported the "no" side.

Antony Hlynka was re-elected in the 1945 federal election, but was defeated in the 1949 federal election by Liberal candidate John Decore. Hlynka ran against Decore again in the 1953 federal election but was again defeated.

*The Memoirs and diary of*  
**ANTHONY HLYNKA, MP**

EDITED BY Oleh W. Gerus and Denis Hlynka





MICHAEL STARR BUILDING  
OFFICE MICHAEL STARR

# Michael Starr

Member of the Canadian Parliament 1952-1968

Michael Starr, PC (born Michael Starchewsky; November 14, 1910 – March 16, 2000) was a Canadian politician and the first Canadian cabinet minister of Ukrainian descent, his parents having emigrated from Halychyna (Galicia),

then a part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire and is now Western Ukraine. Born in Copper Cliff, Ontario, he was an alderman for the Oshawa City Council from 1944 to 1949. From 1949 to 1952, he was the mayor of Oshawa. In 1951, he ran unsuccessfully as a candidate for the Legislative Assembly of Ontario.

First elected to the House of Commons in 1952 as a Progressive Conservative, Starr was re-elected six times until he was narrowly defeated in the 1968 election by future New Democratic Party (NDP) leader Ed Broadbent. Starr served as Minister of Labour in the government of John George Diefenbaker from 1957 to 1963, and served as Opposition House Leader from 1965 to 1968.

In 1967, Starr stood as a candidate at the PC leadership convention, but was eliminated on the second ballot. When Robert Stanfield became leader of the Progressive Conservative Party in 1967, Starr became Leader of the Opposition for two months until Stanfield won a seat in the House through a by-election. He lost his seat by fifteen votes in 1968 to Ed Broadbent, failing to retake it in 1972.

From 1968 to 1972, he was a citizenship court judge in Toronto. Starr was appointed chairman of the Workers' Compensation Board of Ontario in 1973, and served in that position until 1980.

In 1979, Starr was appointed Honorary Colonel of The Ontario Regiment (RCAC), a reserve armoured regiment based in Oshawa, Ontario. He held this appointment until 1983.

He was invested into The Most Venerable Order of the Hospital of Saint John of Jerusalem, (Order of St. John to use its short title) as an Officer and subsequently promoted to the grade of Commander. He was awarded the Queen Elizabeth II Coronation Medal, Canadian Centennial Medal, and the Queen Elizabeth II Silver Jubilee Medal.

In 1983, an Ontario government building was named in Starr's honour. The Michael J. Starr building at 33 King St W in Oshawa is seven floors, each floor with an acre of working space.

Starr is remembered for his work in furthering the cause of ethnic groups and minorities. He helped to build the policy of old age pensions for the Progressive Conservatives. He worked to make the national employment service more humane in its approach to the unemployed and, in his tenure as minister, extended unemployment insurance benefits to women and seasonal workers, and extended federal financial assistance to the provinces under the vocational training coordination act.



# Stefan Terlezki

Member of the British Parliament 1983-1987

Stefan Terlezki 29 October 1927 – 21 February 2006 was a British Conservative politician who served as Member of Parliament for Cardiff West from 1983 to 1987. Stefan Terlezki was born in Antonivka, a village near the town of Tlumach in what is now western Ukraine but was then part of Poland. Stefan Terlezki experienced life in both Nazi Germany, and the Soviet Union, which made him a powerful voice against totalitarian governments. Stefan Terlezki was brought up in the nearby farming community of Antonivka, where his first teacher at the village school was the Ukrainian poet Mariyka Pidhiryanka.

In 1948, Stefan Terlezki was allowed to emigrate to Britain, landing at Harwich, and was sent to work as a coalminer in Wales. His catering experience allowed him to find alternative work in the canteen of a miners' hostel. He eventually went into hotel management in the Welsh towns of Porthcawl and Swansea before running his own hotels in Aberystwyth and Cardiff.

His political career began in 1968, when he became a Conservative member of Cardiff City Council for the South ward. He stood for Parliament in the two General Elections of 1974, unsuccessfully challenging James Callaghan in Cardiff South East. Stefan Terlezki gained greater public prominence by serving as Chairman of his local football club, Cardiff City F.C., between 1975 and 1977.

Stefan Terlezki became MP for Cardiff West in the Conservative landslide of 1983. As in other constituencies, his Labour Party opponent suffered a loss of votes to the breakaway Social Democratic Party. In Parliament, Stefan

Terlezki remained true to his right-wing reputation, introducing a bill to replace the May Day holiday with a day of celebration

for Winston Churchill. However, he mostly concentrated on constituency work and secured an increase in his vote at the 1987 election (although a lower percentage). However, through the collapse in support for the Social Democrats, he lost his seat to Labour's Rhodri Morgan.

In 1989, Stefan Terlezki was appointed as the British Government's representative on the Council of Europe's Human Rights Committee. This was condemned by some Labour opposition MPs because of his previous advocacy of flogging, a view he later renounced. The Conservatives argued that his wartime experiences made him well suited to the role, which involved inspecting prison conditions in different countries, later including former Communist states.

In 2003, Stefan Terlezki visited the European Parliament to press the case for eventual Ukrainian membership of the European Union. In 2002, Stefan Terlezki took part in a television documentary about his life story and returned to Voitsberg, where he was reunited with Hansel Böhmer's niece. He published his memoirs, *From War to Westminster* in 2005.





# Roy Romanow

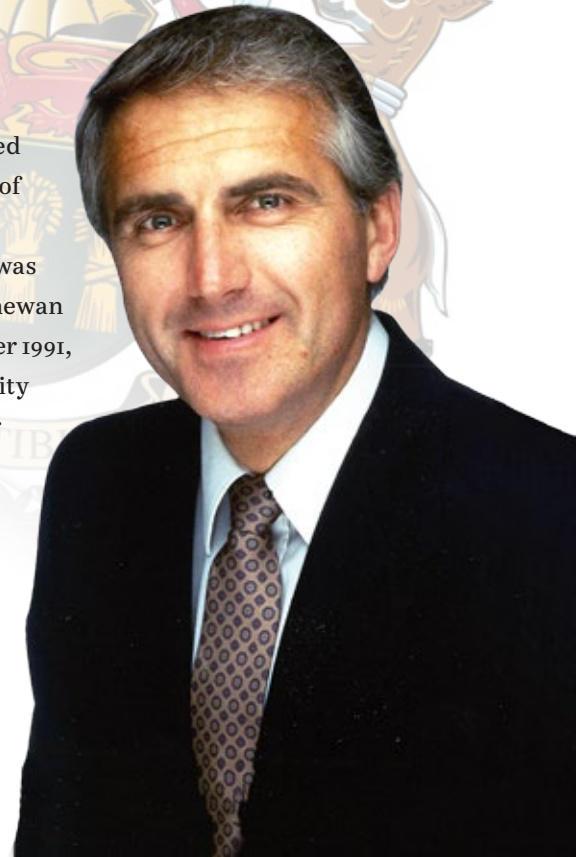
Premier of Saskatchewan 1991-2001

Born on 12<sup>th</sup> of August 1939 in Saskatoon to a family of Ukrainian immigrants. As a child, his first language was Ukrainian. He participated in extra curriculum activities in the Ukrainian National Federation's community centre built and supported by Roy's father, Michael Romanov. Roy Romanov graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with the Bachelor of Arts Degree and later the Law Degree. During his student life, Roy Romanov was actively involved in student politics. He considered becoming a lawyer as plan B, in case his hopes to become a professional radio broadcaster failed. In 1971, he headed the Royal Commission of the Future of Health Care in Canada. From 1971 until 1982, he served as Deputy Premier of Saskatchewan.

In 1979, he was appointed Saskatchewan's first Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs.

On 7 November 1987, Mr Romanov was elected as a leader of the Saskatchewan New Democratic Party. On 21 October 1991, Roy Romanov won a 55-seat majority government. He served as Premier of Saskatchewan from 1991 to 2001.

On 13 November 2003 he was sworn as a member of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada. In 2003, he was made Officer of the Order of Canada and was awarded the Saskatchewan Order of Merit. Currently, Roy Romanov is Chancellor of the University of Saskatchewan.



# Ernie Eves

Premier of Ontario 2002-2003

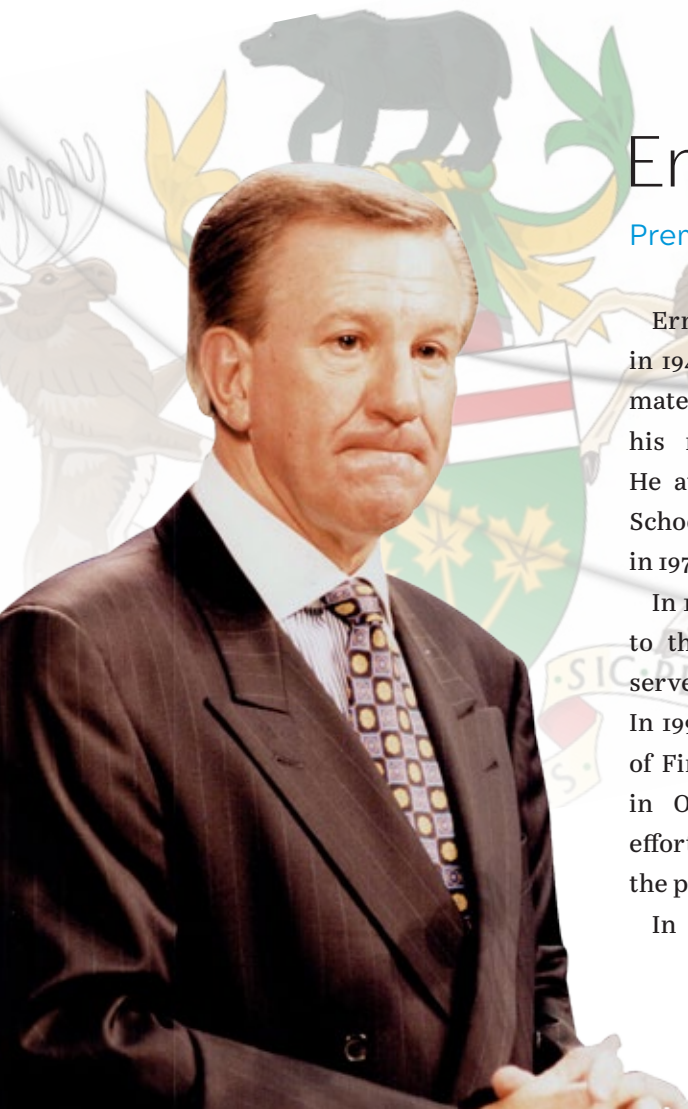
Ernest Larry Eves was born in 1946 in Windsor, Ontario. His maternal grandparents and his mother were Ukrainians. He attended Osgoode Hall Law School and was called to the bar in 1972.

In 1981, Ernie Eves was elected to the Ontario Legislature. He served in several cabinet posts. In 1995, he became the Minister of Finance and Deputy Premier in Ontario's government. His efforts were directed to balance the province's budget.

In 2002, Eves became the

Premier of Ontario. In 2003, he hosted a meeting with Ukrainian opposition leader Victor Yushchenko. During his term, Eves had to face a number of crises, such as SARS global outbreak and the Northeast blackout of 2003.

At the end of 2003, after the defeat of the Progressive Conservatives, he became the Leader of the Opposition. After his resignation in 2004, he has held a number of high positions in the private sector.





# Ed Stelmach

Premier of Alberta 2006-2011

Edward “Ed” Stelmach is a grandson of Ukrainian immigrants. He was born in 1951 on a farm near Lamont, Alberta. In 1973, after his oldest brother Victor died, Stelmach dropped out of the University of Alberta without finishing his law degree, returned home, and bought his parent’s farm.

In 1993 Stelmach ran for the Legislative Assembly of Alberta as a Progressive Conservative and was elected in the riding of Vegreville-Viking. During his first term, Stelmach served as Deputy Whip and, later, Chief Government Whip for the P.C. Caucus. After the 1997 Provincial Elections, Ralph Klein appointed Stelmach as the Minister of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Development.

Stelmach was re-elected in 2001 and retained the post until 2004, when he was reassigned

to the position of the Minister of Intergovernmental Relations. He ran for the P.C. leadership and finished third on the first ballot, and on the second ballot he finished first, thus becoming a leader of the Progressive Conservatives.

Stelmach was sworn as the Premier of Alberta on 14 December 2006. Much of Stelmach’s term as the Premier was dominated by questions related to the Athabasca Oil Sands. On 25 January 2011, Stelmach announced that he would not seek re-election, and he resigned as premier on 7 October 2011.



# Gary Filmon

Premier of Manitoba 1988-1999

Gary Albert Filmon (born on 24 August 1942) was leader of the Progressive Conservative Party of Manitoba from 1983 to 2000 and served as the 19th premier of Manitoba from 1988 to 1999.

Filmon was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, to parents, who were of Romanian and Ukrainian heritage. He attended the University of Manitoba, earned a B.Sc. Degree and Master’s Degree in engineering. Mr Filmon governed during two major constitutional rounds – Meech Lake and Charlottetown, the second worst

recession of the XX century in Canada, and the “Flood of the Century” on the Red River in 1997. His steady hand on the affairs of government saw the province of Manitoba achieve record levels of GDP, employment, exports and manufacturing production by the end of his tenure in government. Mr Filmon was named Officer of the Order of Canada in 2009, was inducted to the Order of Manitoba in July 2001, was sworn in as a Member of the Queen’s Privy Council in October 2001. Mr Filmon is married to Hon. Janice C. Filmon, who served as Manitoba’s Lieutenant Governor. Together they have raised four children, Allison, David, Gregg, and Susanna.





## Anna Novosad

Intern to [Mike Wallace](#), Burlington, Ontario  
[Zvenislava Opeyda Scholarship](#) recipient

Anna Novosad, CUPP 2013, served as Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine from August 2019 till March 2020. In her cabinet position, she managed to roll out systemic reform of higher education funding and governance, and successfully lobbied for endorsement of the new Law on general secondary education, which allowed for the continuation of general school reform. Prior to the Ministerial post Anna held different positions at the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. At various times she served as a counsellor to the Minister, head of international

relations and head of strategic planning and European integration, where she expanded the EU-Ukraine cooperation in science and education and accomplished Ukraine's association to the Horizon 2020 program. Anna joined the public service in 2014, after the Ukrainian Revolution of Dignity. In 2019 she was elected as a member of the Ukrainian Parliament.

She holds MA degree in Analyzing Europe from the Maastricht University, Netherlands, and a BA degree in Political Science from Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Ukraine.

### CUPP EXPERIENCE

"I am adamant that CUPP's biggest value is in its incredible ability to create communities - communities of people based on trust, integrity, real friendship and commitment. Each programme year forges a pool of people who remain connected through the years. This connection is both professional and private. My CUPP year provided me with an opportunity to meet people, with whom I connect with very often professionally. I became a public servant after CUPP, and many of my fellow friends became experts in different fields working also for the government, parliament or NGOs. Being on the same value page with CUPP colleagues is a powerful instrument for cooperation.

I recollect that my CUPP graduation happened exactly one week before Maidan started. Not surprisingly, our CUPP 2013 group joined the demand for change in the forefront of the volunteers for Ukraine. It was a very telling moment that proved our unity and our values. CUPP also opened to us a chance to get an insider look at how the Canadian democracy works, what are the procedures and how transparency of processes plays a key role in the Canadian governing system. If I had an opportunity to be on CUPP again, I'd definitely delve deeper into all the rules and procedures that ensure Canadian governance efficiency. But not less importantly, CUPP also enriched greatly my life by giving a best friend. A girl I was sharing a room with is now one of my closest friends, whom I'd not met if not for CUPP. I am endlessly grateful for that".





CUPP 1998

## Yuri Kushnir

Intern to [Ian McClelland](#), MP, Edmonton, Alberta, British Columbia & the [Hon. Alvin Curling](#), MP, Toronto, Ontario.

[Michael Luchkovych Scholarship](#) recipient

Yuri Kushnir was born in Lviv. He was a CUPP '98 Intern with Ian McClelland, MP from Edmonton, Alberta & the Hon. Alvin Curling, MPP from Toronto, Ontario and Speaker of the Ontario Legislature. Mr Kushnir also completed an internship in the Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) as a legislative assistant to Roman Zvarych.

He received an undergraduate degree from Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Faculty of Law in 1999. Yuri also succeeded in pursuing his studies at the British Centre for English & European Legal Studies at Warsaw University. As well, he received

the Certificate in Legal Studies from Cambridge University. In 2002, he completed the program of Private International Law at Hague Academy of International Law. Mr Kushnir was awarded Edmund Muskie Fellowship to study at the University of Virginia Law School, where he earned his MA in Law in 2003. In 2005, he became a head coordinator of CUPP. After completing his education, Mr Kushnir lectured at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy. Since 2003, he is one of the managing partners of Kushnir, Yakymyak & Partners law firm.



CUPP 2013/16

## Oleh Shemetov

Intern to [Nathan Cullen](#), MP for Skeena-Bulkley Valley (2013)

[James & Louise Temerty Scholarship](#) recipient

Oleh earned his Bachelor's degree in History from Vasyl Karazin National University of Kharkiv in 2012 and completed a joint Master's program in Global Studies at University of Wroclaw and University of Vienna in 2015, where he studied international relations, finance and economics, produced his master's thesis on the language rights in Canada and Ukraine, followed by a monograph based on that thesis. Since the adoption of the controversial Yanukovich-era law "On the principles of the state language policy" in 2012, he has been involved in civic initiatives to protect the language rights of Ukrainian speakers in Ukraine.

Intern to the [Hon. Chrystia Freeland](#), MP for University-Rosedale, Ontario (2016)

[East-West Foundation Scholarship](#) recipient

Professionally, Oleh currently works as an IT Manager at Lufthansa Group Business Services, responsible for the IT infrastructure service management and associated projects for the Lufthansa Group's finance and procurement systems. Oleh holds a Project Management Professional (PMP) certification from the Project Management Institute (PMI), the most globally recognized credential in project management. He is also an aspiring glider and private pilot. Besides his native Ukrainian, Oleh speaks English, Polish and German.

### CUPP EXPERIENCE

When I first applied for and then joined the CUPP program back in 2010–2011, the general perceptions of the government in Canada and Ukraine were nearly opposite. For historical reasons – because of the trauma caused by the virtual extermination of the middle class and the national intellectual elite in the 1930s, the fear of those in public offices deeply enrooted through the long years of Muscovite colonial rule, the horrendous compound of the oligarch-controlled economy and the state that emerged in the 1990s – Ukrainians were made to see the government, both local and national, as possessing some supernatural unquestionable power, as something rightfully serving only its own needs, as non-influenceable as the weather that we had no choice other than to accept.

That was the peak of the Yanukovich era. The Kharkiv Accords had been signed some months before my CUPP application. Yulia Tymoshenko went to jail just in the middle of my internship. The Ukrainian language would effectively lose its official status less than a year thereafter...

You would look around and start to believe that Ukraine was a lost cause. However, the truth is that the cause is not lost as long as there is at least one person fighting for it. This is one of the most important lessons the CUPP and personally Pan Ihor Bardyn taught me. There is still a long way to go, but one has to be blind to not see the changes, both in the cities and in the minds of Ukrainians. I hope now we clearly see that Ukraine is the cause worth fighting for. It will never be easy, but, as the English idiom predicts, "great oaks from little acorns grow".



CUPP 1999

## Andriy Pivovarsky

Intern to [Brenda Chamberlain](#), Guelph-Wellington, Ontario  
[John Sopinka Scholarship](#) recipient

Andriy Pyvovarsky was a CUPP Intern in 1999. In 2000, he graduated from the history department of Taras Shevchenko National University in Kyiv. He also earned an MA degree in International Business and Finance at Tufts University, a research university in Massachusetts, USA.

He worked as a financial analyst and business developer in Kyiv Investment Group BLASIG during 1998-2001, where he developed and oversaw

several projects with an investment of \$10 million. Until 2006, Andriy worked at the International Finance Corporation (IFC) as an investment adviser. In January 2013 he became CEO of the Continuum Group.

On 2 December 2014 he was appointed Minister of Infrastructure of Ukraine. Despite his desire to leave the Ministry, he was not released from his post until April 2016.



CUPP 2004

## Markian Malskyy

Intern to [Lida Preyma](#), Etobicoke Centre, Ontario  
[William Kereliuk Scholarship](#) recipient

Graduated from Ivan Franko National University of Lviv Faculty of Law and International Relations, and completed LL.M in Stockholm University in 2006. In 2007 Markian graduated from the World Trade Institute in Bern with a Master's degree in International Law and Economics (MILE). In 2012 obtained PhD at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv with thesis "Arbitration agreement as a precondition of dispute resolution in international commercial arbitration". In September of 2020 he earned a PhD hab. degree at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv.

Currently he is a Partner at the Arzinger law firm where he is Head of the West Ukrainian branch and also Co-Head of International Litigation and Arbitration Practice.

In the last 10+ years he has been pursuing his professional activities in the field of law, mainly representing the interests of clients in energy, real estate, tax and customs, other legal and arbitration disputes, corporate relations and investments. He

has vast experience in resolving corporate disputes in the energy sector, contractual disputes, sales and services, real estate & construction disputes, enforcement of foreign judgments and arbitral awards, real estate and M&A transactions. He was engaged in the settlement of over 300 disputes, including under the ICSID, ICC, SCC, UNCITRAL, LCIA and ICAC rules.

Prior to joining Arzinger in 2008, Markian worked as a lawyer in the international arbitration team at Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer in Paris. In July-December 2019 was Governor of Lviv region and was named among top-5 most effective governors of Ukraine of 2019 according to Dilova Stolytsia newspaper. In 2016-2019 and since October 2020 Markian Malskyy is Honorary consul of Austria in Lviv with consular district that includes six oblasts of Western Ukraine.

Author of four textbooks on the resolution of commercial disputes, as well as more than 100 publications on legal topics.

### CUPP EXPERIENCE

CUPP played an important role in my career development. I've noted that Canada is a great example of absolute democracy and transparent business. I was impressed with level of respect to human right and freedoms. I am very proud and honored to be among CUPP alumni.





**МІНІСТЕРСТВО ОСВІТИ І НАУКИ УКРАЇНИ  
ХАРКІВСЬКИЙ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ  
імені В. Н. КАРАЗІНА**

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18.03.2021 № 0903/2

на №

**Mr. Ihor Walter BARDYN**  
**Founder and Director**  
**Canada – Ukraine Parliamentary Program**  
**Toronto, Ontario**  
**Canada**

**Dear Mr. Bardyn,**

On behalf of V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University, I would like to congratulate the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program team and all its alumni on the occasion of the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the program in the Canadian Parliament

In 1991, Ukrainians were given the opportunity to govern their own state, but there was a crucial necessity to replace the ruling political class with generations of bright, intelligent, and determined Ukrainians motivated to embrace Western democratic values in all spheres of Ukrainian public life. Realizing the need to cultivate such talents, Ukrainian Canadians proposed several ideas, including the creation of a parliamentary internship program between Canada and Ukraine.

After 30 years of operation, the importance of the CUPP for the future of Ukraine is obvious. The program has released a cohort of leaders who are shaping Ukraine today. During all the years of internship, CUPP interns, including many graduates of Karazin University, have gained a reputation as initiative and active professionals who are able to respond quickly to support any pro-Ukrainian initiative, relying on their own efforts.

With the further integration of Ukraine into the community of rule of law countries, it is expected that more and more former interns of the CUPP will be able to participate in the process of making key decisions in our country. By training a new generation of leaders, Ukraine cultivates talents who can take control and leadership in the interests of the people and the state. In this context, the CUPP provides our students with a unique opportunity to work and study in the Canadian Parliament, allowing them to gain the experience enjoyed by generations of Canadian, American and Western European students and use it for the benefit of Ukraine and their *alma mater*.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you personally for your many years of dedicated work and invaluable contribution to the worldwide success of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program and the development of the future of the Ukrainian state, in which Karazin University graduates will undoubtedly play a significant role.

Sincerely yours,

**Vil BAKIROV**  
**President**  
V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University





*Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University*  
13 Voli Avenue, Lutsk, 43025 Ukraine

*Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University (Lutsk) is proud to have the possibility to congratulate the unique and one of the oldest internship programs, The Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program, on celebrating its 30th year of operation in the Canadian Parliament.*

*Our university would like to express deep gratitude to the CUPP for helping us educate young people who are ready to create the future of Ukraine, and want to be the change for the country. The experience they gain when participating in the program is remarkably valuable. However, internship in the House of Commons and a chance to observe how real democracy functions are not the only things the students learn. Communication with Ukrainian diaspora in Canada is very precious, too, since it helps students to look at Ukraine from a different perspective and discover some contexts they never considered before. The CUPP alumni who graduated from Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University found their paths in life, helping to build Ukraine, working all over the world as well as in their home country. The Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program is an inseparable part of their success journey.*

*We wish the CUPP to bring together even more proactive people with common values who would invest their effort into the Program development thus raising awareness of many people around the world about the Program itself and Ukraine, the country that the CUPP has been helping to build for three decades.*

*Lesya Ukrainka Eastern European National University cherishes cooperation with the CUPP and is always open to support all the great initiatives associated with the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program.*

*Vice-Rector for Research  
and International Affairs*

*Larysa Zasiukina*

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e-mail: [prorectorscience@eenu.edu.ua](mailto:prorectorscience@eenu.edu.ua)

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21.08.2020 № 01/785

Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program  
Ihor Bardyn, CUPP Director

Dear Director Ihor Bardyn,

The achievement of reaching the 30th year marker in operation of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program is not only in the longevity of its reach but also in the role the program has played in the life of the Ukrainian community worldwide.

The Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program has been providing young Ukrainians with a unique opportunity to work and study in the Canadian Parliament allowing them to gain experience from which generations of Canadian, American and West European students had benefited. The Ukrainian youth has the opportunity to learn first-hand – not from a manual or a one-week seminar – democratic governance, as practiced in the West. It allows them to understand the importance of democratic institutions and principles of free society, as well as to learn lessons of over eight centuries of evolution in legal and political tradition.

After 30 years, the impact of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program for Ukraine's future is obvious. The program has graduated the cohort of leaders who are shaping Ukraine today. Andriy Pyvovarskyi and Volodymyr Omelyan (interns of 1998) served as Ministers of Infrastructure, Anna Novosad (intern of 2013) was the Minister of Education and Science. Markian Malskyy (intern of 2004) was the Head of the Lviv Regional State Administration.

On behalf of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, I send our warm greetings to you, Director Ihor Bardyn and all members of community of the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program.

I salute you and your vision for the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program in its pursuit of nurturing new generation of Ukrainian leaders, who believe in values of liberty, equality and justice. My hope is that the organization will continue to serve as the stronghold defending Ukraine's interests in this decisive moment of our history.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. Dr. Vasyl Ozhohal  
Acting President  
National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy

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НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ УНІВЕРСИТЕТ  
«КИЄВО-МОГИЛЯНСЬКА АКАДЕМІЯ»



CANADA-UKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY PROGRAM  
ПАРЛЯМЕНТАРНА ПРОГРАМА КАНАДА-УКРАЇНА  
PROGRAMME PARLIAMENTAIRE CANADA-UKRAINE



# GLOBAL LEADERS 2021

*1 year and 7 months since COVID-19 outbreak*



**Joe Biden**  
*President of the United States*



**Mario Draghi**  
*Prime Minister of Italy*



**Andrzej Duda**  
*President of Poland*



**Recep Tayyip Erdoğan**  
*President of Turkey*



**Mette Frederiksen**  
*Prime Minister of Denmark*



**Irakli Garibashvili**  
*Prime Minister of Georgia*



**Boris Johnson**  
*Prime Minister  
of the United Kingdom*



**Kaja Kallas**  
*Prime Minister of Estonia*



**Arturs Krišjānis Kariņš**  
*Prime Minister of Latvia*



**Stefan Löfven**  
*Prime Minister of Sweden*



**Yoshihide Suga**  
*Prime Minister of Japan*



**Emmanuel Macron**  
*President of France*



**Angela Merkel**  
*Chancellor of Germany*



**Scott Morrison**  
*Prime Minister of Australia*



**Gitanas Nausėda**  
*President of Lithuania*



**Vladimir Putin**  
*President of Russia  
(rule|reign extended to 2036)*



**Mark Rutte**  
*Prime Minister  
of the Netherlands*



**Erna Solberg**  
*Prime Minister of Norway*



**Justin Trudeau**  
*Prime Minister of Canada*



**Volodymyr Zelensky**  
*President of Ukraine*