

# WCFU

*World Congress of Free  
Ukrainians*



CONGRES MONDIAL DES UKRAINIENS LIBRES  
CONGRESO MUNDIAL DE UCRANIOS LIBRES  
WELTKONGRESS DER FREIEN UKRAINER  
CONGRESSO MUNDIAL DOS UCRANIANOS LIVRES

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**Світовий Конгрес Вільних Українців**  
**СКВУ**

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## THE UKRAINIAN WORLD CONGRESS

*The Congress is the international co-ordinating body of Ukrainians in the free world. As such it represents Ukrainian community organizations encompassing over 2,000,000 people of Ukrainian descent in twenty countries.*

*Established in 1967 by delegates from 230 organizations representing all facets of religious, social, political, economic, cultural and educational life of their respective communities, the Congress strives to co-ordinate the community efforts of Ukrainians throughout the world in two major areas of concern:*

*a) The preservation and development of Ukrainian identity, culture and language, and the continuation of a dynamic community life.*

*b) Action to bring to the attention of the international community the violation of human rights and civil liberties in Ukraine and to uphold the fundamental right of the Ukrainian people to national and political self-determination.*

*The Congress functions through an elected Secretariat, presently based in Canada (1973-78). The Secretariat consists of representatives from national co-ordinating bodies, the hierarchies of Ukrainian Churches, international federative structures and individual community organizations in their respective countries. Complementing the operation of the Congress Secretariat are various permanent Commissions and Councils, such as the Human Rights Commission, the Council for Cultural Affairs, the Educational Council etc. The executive organ of the Congress Secretariat is the Presidium.*

### MEMBERS OF THE PRESIDUM OF THE WCFU SECRETARIAT

President .....	Very Rev. Dr. Basil Kushnir, Winnipeg, Canada
1st Vice-President .....	Mykola Plaviuk, Grimsby, Ontario, Canada
2nd Vice-President .....	Stefania Sawchuk, Toronto, Canada
3rd Vice-President .....	William Kereluk, Toronto, Canada
Secretary-general .....	Yuri Shymko, Toronto, Canada
Financial secretary .....	Dr. Frank Martyniuk, Hamilton, Canada
Member-at-large .....	Dr. JuriJ Darewych, Toronto, Canada

### Representatives of the Ukrainian Churches

Ukrainian Catholic Church —

Most Rev. Metropolitan Maxim Hermaniuk, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada

Ukrainian Orthodox Church —

Most Rev. Metropolitan Mstyslav Skrypnyk, S. Bound Brook, N. J., USA

Ukrainian Protestant Churches —

Pastor Dr. Lev Zhabko-Potapovych, Wilmington, Del., USA

## UKRAINIANS IN UKRAINE

The vast majority of the Ukrainian people continue to inhabit the Ukrainian ethnic territory today contained within the borders of the Soviet Union. The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic has a population of 47,126,000, of whom 75 percent are Ukrainians.

The Constitution of the USSR (soon to be revised) guarantees the sovereignty and right of secession of every Union Republic. These provisions support the official Soviet contention that Ukraine remains within the federation voluntarily, a thriving and respected member of the socialist "family of nations". The rise of the USSR to great-power status has, in fact, produced some benefits for Ukraine: the consolidation of her national territory, unprecedented economic growth, the transformation of a backward agrarian society into an industrial power. However, the course of Ukraine's development has consistently been determined, not by the needs of the Ukrainian people, but by the interests of the Soviet state, in which Russian dominance has forcibly been maintained. Accordingly, Ukraine's labour force and economic resources have been exploited to develop the Russian Republic; her foreign relations have been manipulated from the Kremlin; her people have been treated — and expected to behave — as servile provincials.

Soviet regimes have used force to maintain their control of Ukraine right from the initial invasion of the Ukrainian Republic by the Russian Red Army in 1918-20. Insurgent movements were destroyed after both world wars and resistance to collectivization was broken by a man-made famine which claimed several million lives. But the effort to integrate Ukraine into the USSR has been carried forward mainly by intensive russification: a massive influx of Russians into Ukraine and an attempt to substitute the Russian language for the Ukrainian in every phase of daily activity.

Ukraine's will to maintain her identity has most recently been manifested by the cultural renaissance which began in the early 1960s. Since that time, hundreds of Ukrainians have been arrested and denied the right to work or study because they demanded the recognition of elementary civil rights. Those most prominent in the movement — among them historian Valentyn Moroz, journalist Vyacheslav Chornovil, poets Ihor and Iryna Kalynets, literary critic Yevhen Sverstiuk, mathematician Leonid Plyusch — have been arrested, tried in camera and sentenced to long terms in prisons, labour camps or psychiatric institutions.

Under these circumstances, the Ukrainian World Congress has a clear responsibility to inform the world community of repression in Ukraine and to press for action which will assist Ukrainians in the USSR to gain their right to self-determination.

## THE UKRAINIAN DIASPORA

In the course of the 19th and 20th centuries Ukrainians have settled in many countries of the western world, and most major countries of Western Europe, North and South America as well as Australia have substantial Ukrainian-speaking minorities. In each of these countries the Ukrainian communities are organized in many church and secular organizations, headed by national co-ordinating bodies.

The countries of the Western World with the largest Ukrainian populations are:

**The USA** — The Ukrainian community here numbers over 1½ millions and dates initially from the end of the nineteenth century, though major waves of Ukrainian immigration occurred between the great wars and after World War II. The national co-ordinating body is the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America with headquarters at 302 West 13th St., New York, N.Y. 10014.

**Canada** — Ukrainian Canadians number over 600,000 and are settled mainly in the province of Ontario and the three western provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba. The national representative body is the Ukrainian Canadian Committee, with headquarters at 456 Main St., Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 1B6.

**Australia** — The Ukrainian community here numbers over 20,000 and is mostly of post-war vintage. It is headed by the Federation of Ukrainian Associations in Australia, P.O. Box 33, Unley, S.A. 5061, Australia.

**Western Europe** — Substantial Ukrainian communities exist in France (over 50,000), West Germany (over 20,000), Great Britain (over 30,000), Belgium (over 3,000) and smaller communities in the Netherlands, Austria, Italy, Sweden and other countries. The names and addresses of the principal co-ordinating bodies are listed below:

France:

Comite Central des Organisations Ukrainiennes en France  
186 Blvd. St. Germain, Paris VI, France

West Germany:

Zentralvertretung der Ukrainischen Emigration  
8 Munchen 2, Dachauerstrasse 9/11, W. Germany

United Kingdom:

Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain  
49 Linden Gardens, London, W2 4HG, England  
Federation of Ukrainians in Great Britain  
78 Kensington Park Rd., London W 11, England

The all-Europe Ukrainian co-ordinating council is the

Central Co-ordinating Committee of Ukrainian Organizations in Europe  
49 Linden Gardens, London, W2 4HG, Great Britain

**South America** — The principal communities here are in Argentina and Brazil (with over 100,000 Ukrainians in each of these two countries) with smaller groups in Venezuela, Paraguay and other countries. In Argentina and Brazil the national co-ordinating bodies are, respectively: Representacion Central Ucraina en la Republica Argentina, Soler 5039, Buenos Aires, Argentina and Comite Ucraino-Brasiliero, Rua Martin Alfonso 441, 80,000 Curitiba, Parana, Brazil.

Very substantial numbers of Ukrainians live also in countries of Eastern Europe and Asia. The number of Ukrainians living in the USSR, outside the Ukrainian SSR, alone amounts to over 3 million persons who, in contrast to those living in the western world, are not permitted to have their own Ukrainian organizations or schools nor any access to Ukrainian-language media. Somewhat better off are Ukrainians living in satellite countries: Poland (over 200,000), Czechoslovakia (over 100,000), and Romania (over 200,000), many of them in ethnically-Ukrainian territories bordering on Ukrainian SSR which were incorporated into the respective countries at the end of World War II.

The vital Ukrainian community in Yugoslavia numbers over 40,000 persons and is one of the oldest in the diaspora, dating initially from the 18th century.

## **ACTIVITIES OF THE WORLD CONGRESS OF FREE UKRAINIANS**

### **Constitutional Aims:**

The activities of the WCFU are based on the Aims set out in the Constitution:

- a) To aid the Ukrainian people in their struggle for freedom and sovereignty.
- b) To work toward the realization of the rights of the Ukrainian people as set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- c) To co-ordinate the activities of member organizations in accordance with the resolutions of the First and subsequent Congresses of the WCFU.
- d) To preserve the national identity of the Ukrainian people and to develop and pass from generation to generation the Ukrainian language, culture and traditions.

Activities are also based on the resolutions of the First and Second Ukrainian World Congresses.

### **Executive Branch**

The activities outlined above are carried out by the Presidium of the WCFU as well as the Councils and Commissions of the WCFU.

The Presidium is the executive body of the Secretariat which is a representative body of the member organizations and acts as the legislative arm of the WCFU.

The permanent Councils are autonomous co-ordinating bodies elected by representatives of member organizations that have interest and responsibility in the particular area; for example, the Council for Cultural Affairs, the Educational Council, the Council of Youth Organizations, the Council of Ukrainian Churches, etc.

The Commissions are bodies appointed by the Presidium for the purpose of carrying out activities in a particular area: for example, the Commission on Human Rights, the Information Service of the WCFU, and others.

### **Highlights of present activities**

- Maintaining the head office of the WCFU in Toronto.
- Establishing a permanent information centre and office of the WCFU and its Human Rights Commission at the seat of the United Nations in New York.
- Publication of the Bulletin of the WCFU as well as frequent press releases to the Ukrainian-language press.
- Defence of the individual human rights as well as national rights of the Ukrainian people, through the activities of the Human Rights Commission of the WCFU and associated organizations in various countries.
- Publication of documentary information on Ukraine and Ukrainians, and in particular:
  - statistical compendium of Ukrainians in the Free World
  - documents dealing with the suppression of religion in Ukraine
  - documents dealing with the cultural and linguistic Russification of Ukraine
- Co-ordinating the activities of national Ukrainian councils in the U.S.A., Canada, Europe, Australia and South America, in such areas as education, information services, social services and the development of Ukrainian culture.
- Acting as the central representative and planning body of the Ukrainian people in the free world and maintaining relations with international institutions and world congresses of other nationalities.
- Establishing a Ukrainian World Fund, with a projected capitalization of \$5,000,000, in order to finance the activities of the WCFU, particularly its Commissions and Councils.

## FINANCING THE WORK OF THE WORLD CONGRESS OF FREE UKRAINIANS

The Annual Budget of the WCFU comprises upwards of \$100,000 annually. This modest sum barely suffices to support the most essential activities:

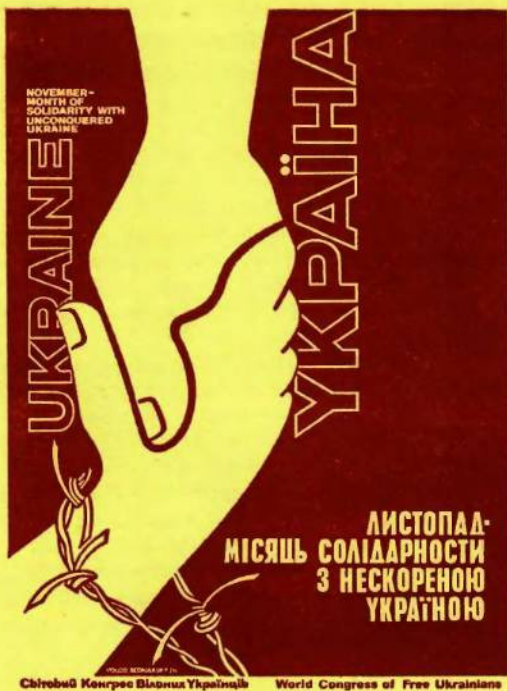
- The maintenance of the main WCFU office in Toronto, including two full-time employees, rent, stationery, transportation and communications costs amounts to about \$35,000.00 p.a.
- The activities of the Human Rights Commission, including the maintenance of an information bureau of the WCFU at the seat of the United Nations in New York, with at least one full-time employee, and minimal supporting facilities, require at least \$25,000 p.a.
- The activities of the Information Services, which include distribution of press releases, publication of the WCFU Bulletin, publication of informational materials on Ukraine and Ukrainians requires an additional \$30,000 p.a. At that, this amount is an absolute minimum if one bears in mind that the publication and worldwide distribution of a **single** issue of the Bulletin costs over \$3,000.
- The costs of holding a single plenary session of the WCFU Secretariat, with the participation of members from Europe, Australia as well as North and South America alone amount to \$10,000.

The above figures do not include the budgets of the various Commissions and Councils of the WCFU, whose activities require many more thousands of dollars.

These expenditures are normally met from the contributions of the member organizations of the WCFU. However, in 1974, less than half the budgetary allocations were actually received, thus necessitating a sharp curtailment of the activities of the WCFU.

The Second Ukrainian World Congress authorized the WCFU Secretariat to establish the **Ukrainian World Foundation** with a projected capitalization of \$5,000,000. The purpose of the Foundation would be to provide a stable basis for the activities of the WCFU, particularly its Commissions and Councils. The campaign of gathering funds for the foundation has commenced only a few months ago.

**THE WCFU SECRETARIAT APPEALS TO EACH AND EVERY UKRAINIAN TO SUPPORT GENEROUSLY THE ACTIVITIES OF THE WCFU, BY MAKING A DONATION TO THE UKRAINIAN WORLD FOUNDATION WITHOUT DELAY.**



Mail your contributions to:

**WORLD CONGRESS OF FREE UKRAINIANS**

2200 Yonge Street, Suite 1701,  
Toronto, Ont., Canada, M4S 2C6

Tel. (416) 487-4611

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