ADVOCACY IN ACTION

June 25, 2024

For more information, please contact: communications@americancoalitionforukraine.org

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American Coalition for Ukraine (ACU) Formalizes Governing Board and Structure

After two years of ad-hoc work, The American Coalition for Ukraine (ACU) incorporates as a non-profit organization, pending 501(c)(3) status, and elects a governing board composed of representatives from its founding organizations and professionals in the non-profit sector.

With this formalization, the American Coalition for Ukraine has become an official alliance of US-based organizations. These groups have united their efforts and resources to support Ukraine in its defense of universal values such as freedom and human dignity. While coalition partners call the United States home, many share historical experiences of oppression, violence, and war in their countries of origin and ancestral homelands—often at the hands of Russian imperialism.

The <u>governing board</u> comprises representatives of the ACU's founding member organizations: <u>the Ukrainian National Women's League of America</u>, <u>the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council</u>, <u>Razom for Ukraine</u>, <u>Nova Ukraine</u>, and <u>United Help Ukraine</u>.

Other board members are key members from organizations such as <u>Georgian Association</u> in the U.S.A., <u>MedGlobal</u>, <u>Klych</u> and <u>Shield of Freedom</u>.

The ACU aims to create a framework bringing together diverse US-based organizations and individuals supporting Ukraine, providing guidance, coordinating effective nationwide advocacy efforts, and facilitating communication with US audiences. ACU does this by amplifying the voices, coordinating actions, and utilizing the resources offered by the member organizations and their local networks.

In 2022, ACU founding members combined their resources to organize the Ukraine Action Summit in Washington, D.C. This event brought constituents from across the country to congressional offices to convey the urgency and importance of helping Ukraine defend its independence, freedom, and territorial integrity. Since then, the ACU has held four consecutive Summits, building a robust nationwide network of volunteers and non-profit organizations dedicated to advocating for Ukraine and engaging legislative offices at all levels.