

UKRAINIANS ABROAD: NEWS AND VIEWS #142

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1. Shevchenko Scientific Society of Canada Scholarly Publications Support Programme.

The Shevchenko Scientific Society of Canada provides funding for the publication of scholarly works in Ukrainian studies up to a maximum of CAN \$5,000 or half the cost of publication, whichever is less. The funds are provided directly to the publisher.

Primary consideration will be given to works (monographs, collections of articles) of original scholarship in the field of Ukrainian studies.

Support for the publication of translations, new university-level textbooks, or reprints of works of exceptional scholarly value and need may be considered. Periodicals and belletristic works will not be considered.

To be eligible for consideration, a scholarly work must be

- written in English, Ukrainian, or French;
- deal with the history, culture, society, or heritage of (1) Ukrainians in Canada, (2) Ukraine, or (3) the Ukrainian diaspora elsewhere, in that order.

Support will be given to a Canadian or other scholar whose work has been accepted for publication by a Canadian academic press. Members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society are encouraged to apply.

Applications will be accepted from an author after a publisher's commitment to publish the work in question and a commitment to co-fund it have been secured. Applications for support after a publication has appeared in print will not be considered.

Applicants should submit a request pertaining to the Scholarly Publications Program by *SEPTEMBER 30, 2018* together with the following documents:

- a letter from the publisher confirming that the manuscript has been refereed by academic experts and has been accepted for publication;
- copies of the referees' reviews;
- the publisher's estimate of the cost of publication;
- details regarding the publisher's financial contribution;
- letters from other funding agencies (if these are known to the publisher) stating their financial commitment to the project;
- specifications of the finished work – the approximate number of pages, press run, and projected date of publication; and
- a copy of the manuscript's preface, introduction, and table of contents.

A published work that receives financial support from the Shevchenko Scientific Society of Canada must indicate that fact (including the society's logo) on the verso side of the title page.

The publisher shall provide the society with five complimentary copies of the publication. Decisions regarding all applications rest with the Board of Directors of the Shevchenko

Scientific Society of Canada. The society reserves the right not to award any grant in a year where no submission meets the criteria or is deemed worthy of support by the review committee of the Scholarly Publications Support Program.

All applications and supporting materials should be e-mailed as attachments to the society's e-address ntsh.ca@gmail.com with a copy to Daria Darewych daria_darewych@hotmail.com

2. Australia. "Parliament of Western Australia Praises Contribution of Ukrainian Community," *News from Ukraine*, 24 September 2018.

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The Parliament of Western Australia has praised the contribution of Ukrainian community to the development of the state.

Paul Papalia, the Minister for Multicultural Interest of the Western Australia Government, read the corresponding statement at the Parliament, an Ukrinform correspondent reported.

"This year, Ukrainian communities throughout Australia are commemorating the 70th anniversaries of the first arrivals. The year 2018 also marks the 85th anniversary of Holodomor, the famine in Ukraine caused by the deliberate actions of Stalin's soviet regime. For many Western Australian Ukrainians, these are extremely emotional anniversaries... They [Ukrainians] worked hard, formed families and built up their community, giving much back to Western Australia and helping to make this state the place it is today," the statement reads.

It is noted that Western Australia, which admitted the migrants from the war-torn Europe 70 years ago, is grateful for those people for its present-day prosperity.

"These migrants, many of whom went on to work in the goldmines in Kalgoorlie, the railway lines around Perth, the construction of Mundaring Weir, and many other projects, farms and businesses, certainly did Western Australia proud," the minister added.

In turn, Mykola Mowczan, the head of the Ukrainian community of the state of Western Australia, also commented on the statement: "It is a historic day for Ukrainians and the Ukrainian Association of Western Australia."

3. Canada. "New Ukrainian Consulate Opens in Edmonton," *Kyiv Post*, 10 September 2018.

By Brad LaFoy.

Ukraine's flag flew over Alberta's legislature in Edmonton Canada on Sept. 7 as officials from Ukraine and Canada, along with businesspeople, press, and members of the Ukrainian diaspora gathered to officially open Ukraine's newest foreign consulate.

The opening of the consulate, which coincided with Ukrainian-Canadian Heritage Day in Alberta and Ontario, was hailed by both Canadian politicians and visiting Ukrainian dignitaries as a big boost to an already strong international friendship.

Over 1 million Canadians trace their roots back to Ukraine, with roughly 367,000 of those residing in Alberta. In Edmonton alone, fully 12 percent of the capital's population identify as Ukrainian or Ukrainian-Canadian.

The day began with the raising of the Ukrainian flag on the grounds of the Legislative Assembly ahead of a ribbon-cutting ceremony at the nearby Ledgeview Building, which will house the consulate.

Federal Minister of Science and Sport Kirsty Duncan, a descendant of some of Canada's earliest Ukrainian settlers, was one of those to address the crowd.

"Today for me is very emotional," Duncan said. "When (my predecessors) came to Canada, they began to lose contact with their families, the letter writing became less. Today, this (consulate) strengthens once again the friendship between our two nations. It's fitting that we are in a part of Canada so reminiscent of the Ukrainian countryside."

Visiting Foreign Affairs Minister Pavlo Klimkin echoed the calls for greater cooperation between the nations in exclusive comments to the Kyiv Post.

"What is still missing is that we've started working on goods, now we need another round of negotiations on services and investments," Klimkin said. He noted that while relationship-building has been and continues to be a strength, "our investment level on both sides is marginally low. Trade has been growing, but now we need to use this person-to-person contact to support investment."

Klimkin also addressed the issue of visa-free travel of Ukrainians to Canada, an election promise made by the now-ruling Liberal Party of Canada. "We're in a discussion, it's not an easy issue, but we need to follow a phased approach, and getting better with the level of refusals and getting more trust.

"But visa-free travel in the future is my ultimate goal."

The evening saw a gala banquet with entertainment featuring Ukraine's literary, musical and performing arts traditions, including a performance by the renowned Shumka dance ensemble.

While the mood was festive and celebratory, some speakers, including Edmonton Mayor Don Iveson, repeated Canada's condemnation of Russian aggression and Ottawa's support for Ukraine's independence. Iveson noted the effect of the war on Ukraine's economy.

"We're steadfast in our commitment to the people of Ukraine," Duncan said. "We know that the combination of Russia's illegal annexation of Crimea and the ensuing conflict in eastern Ukraine have had a devastating impact on the Ukrainian economy."

4. Canada. "Ukrainization in Canada," *Winnipeg Sun*, 2 September 2018.

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In 2016 Ukrainian Canadians commemorated the 125th anniversary the arrival of the first settlers to Canada and to Manitoba. It was a distinguished honor for Ukrainian Canadians to be recognized by the different levels of government as one of the ethno-cultural leaders in Canada's community that has contributed four waves of immigrational customs, tradition and history.

During the past 125 years many instrumental key values have meshed into Canada's life and culture. Ukrainians have played a most significant role in advancing a multicultural concept for Canada by maintaining the dignity of the individual. Every group came from a different region of Ukraine and settled in a different area of Canada. Each group had their own distinctive experiences, desires and each wave had something special to offer to Canada, focusing on their achievements and contributions. Maybe now is the time to address the future development of the Ukrainian community in Canada.

Over the past 127 years, the Ukrainian Canadian community has undergone tremendous changes. Today in Canada, the Ukrainian situation is a very special one as an ethno-cultural minority permanently woven into the fabric of Canadian society.

Ukrainian Canadians have long passed the problems of integration and citizenship despite the changing conditions in Canada; the Ukrainian community continues to retain values, traditions and a language which has become part of the way of life in Canada. This has given Ukrainian Canadians a sense of belonging to both community they live in and to Ukraine. Ukrainian Canadians have defined their rights and destiny in Canada. As descendants of immigrants, Ukrainians understand the problems of the past and wish to devise strategies to safeguard a place in Canadian society.

Ukrainians Canadians are determined to maintain using modern technology and communications within their culture, language and identity by strengthening the Ukrainian community. One of the paramount concerns that Ukrainian Canadians have to this date, the retention of language and culture. There must be a continued push for preservation and enhancement of the cultural heritage of the Ukrainian community.

Today, Canada's Ukrainian future existence and developments but there is somewhat of a change. There must be a conscientious strategic community renewal undertaking, a deeper understanding and greater involvement by the Ukrainian Canadian community. A special knowledge of Ukrainian Canadian history and political circumstances would help immensely.

Ukrainian Canadians must guard against defamation and ensure that the reporting of Ukrainian history and aspirations both in Canada and in Ukraine is accurate. What is very important for Ukrainian Canadians to know is that they have for a long time, over 127 years, been an integral part of Canadian society. Ukrainian Canadians believe in Canada as a multicultural nation - a nation whose social and economic development, cultural identity and linguistic diversity has allowed Ukrainian society to preserve and enhance.

Here is the question Ukrainian Canadians must ask themselves in the forthcoming years: Will there be an increasingly usage and facilitating of the Ukrainian language by promoting other elements of Ukrainian culture to sustain their role in Canadian society? If the answer is yes, then Ukrainian Canadians will continue to exist in generations to come within this multicultural diverse society.

[Peter] Manastyrsky is a member of the Ukrainian community of Winnipeg.

5. Canada. “Stelmach House Officially Complete,” *Sherwood Park News*, 30 August 2018.

By Jeff Labine

Alberta’s 13th premier says he was ecstatic to see his grandparents’ former home receive a new lease on life.

“The family was kind of emotionally moved as a result of the completion of the house, especially today when we walked in and saw all the artifacts,” Ed Stelmach said. “It is like someone is living there full-time.”

Back in 2012, the Stelmachs donated the long-empty family home to the Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village. It was a project initiated by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Alberta Provincial Council, with a goal to move it from its location near Andrew to the heritage village, and restore it to its 1918 appearance.

Although the building was unveiled back in 2016, on Sunday, Aug. 19, the bright-yellow home was officially opened as the Stelmach House Learning Centre, a new interactive addition to the Ukrainian Village.

The house is now furnished with a number of exhibits featuring the Stelmach family and the Ukrainian settlers as well as some historically accurate furniture.

Stelmach said he only has a few memories of the old family home, as his grandmother or baba died in 1958. He did recall one fond memory, when he would visit his baba and they would head into the pasture. It was here they would pick wild sorrel for her potato soup.

“If we don’t keep telling (our) stories we’ll lose our history,” he said. “(This is) celebrating the first pioneers. It is important to celebrate the perseverance, the determination and faith that they brought to Canada. Leaving the country in 1898, you have no telecommunications. You didn’t have an iPhone. They took the risk but they knew life would be better someplace (else).”

David Makowsky, a director with the Ukrainian Village, said the house completion falls in line with the 125th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada. It also serves as a means for visitors to learn more about Ukrainian culture and the history of Alberta, he said.

“As a learning centre, it will allow us to tell a broader story not just about the Stelmach family and the Hon. Ed Stelmach, the first premier of Ukrainian descent (in Alberta), but it will also tell a broader community story about their work ethic, their faith and their values,” he said.

“Over the last six years, the house has been restored and we had an opening of the building’s restored state in 2016 and ultimately, the exhibit and furnishings of the learning centre today.”

6. Canada. “Alberta’s Only NDP MP Talks Exiting Politics and the Legacy She’ll Leave Behind,” *Thestar.com*, 28 August 2018.

EDMONTON—Alberta’s only NDP member of Parliament announced on Tuesday that she will not seek re-election in 2019.

Linda Duncan is in her 10th year as MP for Edmonton-Strathcona and plans to ride it out until the next federal election. She currently serves as the opposition critic for international development and deputy critic for the environment and climate change. Ever since she was elected for the first time in 2008, Duncan has championed issues surrounding climate change and the energy sector.

Duncan spoke to StarMetro to answer some questions about her legacy, the future and the hole she’ll leave behind in Parliament. The questions and answers have been edited for clarity and brevity.

What was behind your decision?

I’m announcing now, a year before I don’t run again, in fairness to the candidate who will replace me so they can have time to run. Been thinking about it for a while. As of this October, I will have been elected for a decade, and by the time the election is called it’ll be 11 years. I think that’s sufficient time for somebody to be in office.

It’s a lot of commuting. I’m looking forward to, at the end of next year, being able to just spend more time in my community with my own family and friends.

How was it being the only NDP MP in Alberta?

What it meant was: everybody came to me. So I know, all anybody wants to talk to me about is particular pipelines. But people need to understand that I have to deal with the issues that people bring to me, and by and large, those range from people upset with shooting the bison in the park, to people concerned about selling Canadian arms to Saudi Arabia, to people concerned about access to affordable medicines, to everybody having access to advanced education.

I’ve also had the privilege of being a spokesperson on behalf of the Ukrainian community in Edmonton. That has been a great honour, even though I have no Ukrainian heritage. I’ve worked very closely with them but I’ve also been a strong spokesperson for nuclear disarmament, working very closely with the former Progressive Conservative MP from my riding, Doug Roche, and I have worked very closely with farmers in Alberta.

I have been very fortunate to work with a heck of a lot of people on a lot of diverse issues and its been a great honour to represent all those people in the house.

You've got to remember, people fixate on who's in government. They need to also pay attention to the fact that we need strong opposition in there holding the government's feet to the fire, and it's important to also be electing strong opposition members.

What's your legacy?

I promised that I would be there for my constituency and I've done that. Frankly, every week I've travelled back to Edmonton, and I hold town halls, and I'm having a barbecue tomorrow night, and I have done that. I ran for office because I was concerned that if Stephen Harper ever got a majority he would shred all the federal environmental laws, and that's exactly what he did. So I have been a strong spokesperson to retain those, I ran for a party that said that we would bring them back and so did the Liberals — but they haven't. So I think that's what people remember me for and they also remember all my incredible staff.

You know a lot of people say, "Well, how are you ever going to elect another NDP?" And I say to them, "That's what they said when I ran!" So yes, I am fully confident. In fact, I'm hoping that we elect more federal NDP across this province.

Will there be a void in Parliament where your voice was?

Maybe on some of the things that were my particular issues, but that is the prerogative of anybody who gets elected to decide what the issues are. But you know, the constituency isn't going to change.

The constituents are still going to demand that the representatives speak up on the issues that are their top concern, and so I'm presuming that whoever replaces me will be continuing to do that.

What are the biggest issues facing Canadians, Albertans and Edmontonians?

I would say that the priority is we need to work with our provincial government and federal one to diversify our energy economy.

We need to be educating our youth so that they will have jobs in the future. We need to be building affordable housing and we need to be actually addressing climate change.

7. Canada. "Day in the Park Showcases Culture," *StarPhoenix*, 27 August 2018.

By Matthew Olson
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Viktor Skihar says that when he came to Canada almost 20 years ago, he was surprised to see the Ukrainian culture so alive here.

“I’m glad that now I’m a part of the Ukrainian community,” he said on Saturday at the annual Ukrainian Day in the Park, which took place along the river at Rotary Park in Saskatoon.

Across the park from the main stage was the cultural exhibit, which Skihar (who is originally from Ukraine) helped organize and run during the day in the park.

“We are a big part of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, all of Canada,” Skihar said. “We would like to show our identity, and show how multinational Canada is.”

Most of the cultural exhibits consisted of bright outfits and photos lining the tent walls - many of them showcasing the costumes and abilities of different Ukrainian dance troupes.

Saskatoon plays host to a number of different Ukrainian dance groups, including Pavlychenko and the Yevshan folk ballet ensemble.

The main stage at the event hosted traditional singers and dancers throughout Saturday afternoon.

And at the day in the park, you didn’t have to be a professional to try out a few dance steps. Sebastian Gardulski and Marina Sorokotiaguine with the Yevshan dance group walked young children through a few simple dance steps near the children's area.

“Ukrainians like to dance when they’re happy; they like to dance when they’re sad,” Gardulski said. “There’s always music playing. There’s always dancing.”

Sorokotiaguine said dance is a unique way to “express your roots,” and that Ukrainian dancing is deeply rooted in the Ukrainian culture.

“It gives you such an amazing feeling to show where you come from, where your roots are from,” Sorokotiaguine said. “Living in Saskatchewan, it’s a big Ukrainian community.”

There were plenty of opportunities for food at the event, including some food trucks and (of course) perogies. There was even an eating contest for the Ukrainian favourite on the main stage.

But according to Gardulski, the most important part of the day was that it showcased what the Ukrainian community had to offer - whether it be food, or dance or just fun.

“It doesn’t matter if you’re ... from anywhere in the world. You can be Ukrainian for a day,” he said.

8. Canada. “‘It was a People’s Paper’: Community United by Ukrainian Voice, Closing after 108 Years,” *Winnipeg Free Press*, 23 August 2018.

By Melissa Martin

In early August, as the final days drew nearer, Bill Strus tapped out an email to a *Free Press* journalist. Would there be any interest, he asked, in the fact the iconic *Ukrainian Voice* newspaper would soon publish its last?

And it was Strus who made the decision to shutter the paper, after 108 years of publication. That's what he had been brought here to do. Yet decisions like this weigh heavy on the heart, even when they are clear on paper.

So now, at the end of it all, Strus wanted the *Ukrainian Voice* to be remembered.

"I guess I do not want to go quietly into the night," he wrote.

Strus is the paper's 12th and final publisher, but — by his own admission — he is not a wordsmith. His background is numbers, so let's start with a few: figures can tell the story of Ukrainians in Manitoba as clearly as any words do.

Here's one: 1891, the year of the first official Ukrainian immigration to Canada. There were Ukrainians living here before that, but it was 1891 when two men made landfall in Nova Scotia and headed west, to the interior Prairie.

In Manitoba, those men saw vast opportunity. One settled near Gretna, while the other returned to his homeland that winter. There, he met with some misadventure, but not before his tales of Canadian lands stirred up interest.

Soon, Ukrainian families began making the journey, encouraged by a colonial government eager to settle the young country with European farmers and workers. By 1914, as many as 200,000 Ukrainians had immigrated.

The early years were hard ones for many, yet on the Prairies, the community began to flourish: by the 2016 Census, more than 180,000 Manitobans — nearly one in six of us — raised a hand to be counted as Ukrainian-Canadian.

For decades, whether they were newly arrived or second-generation, one newspaper brought them together.

Founded in 1910, and first printed out of a little space on Selkirk Avenue, the *Ukrainian Voice* was not the first Ukrainian-language newspaper in Canada. Yet it soon became one of the young community's most essential.

The paper covered everything connected to Ukrainian life. There were clear-eyed columns on political matters — one editor was even courted by the *New York Times* — and stories on farming, church news and new education.

"That's what we needed to get ahead," Strus says of the focus on education.

As a girl growing up in tiny Gardenton, near the southeastern edge of Manitoba, Olena Garrity — she goes by Helen, in English — remembers submitting articles for a children's page, which sometimes attracted pen pals.

"People would read and they would write to you," Garrity recalls. "I would get somebody from Dauphin, somebody from High River, Alta., and they asked me about myself. I thought that was a very good little (section) there."

Garrity's parents subscribed in 1940, when she was just five years old; she took out her own subscription as an adult in 1960. At the time, she says, the paper was "very, very important." Each new issue was quickly devoured.

Above all, there is this: the *Ukrainian Voice* was one of the first publications to call Ukrainians by that name. For years, Ukrainians were described by other regional monikers, but the paper's editors stood up for their identity.

"It pioneered a philosophy of, we should be proud of our heritage, but we should be passionate about the country we lived in," Strus says. "It gave us an identity. We could proudly walk around the country, holding our heads high."

That message travelled far and wide. In its heyday of the 1960s, the newspaper boasted a staff of 35 and a circulation of more than 22,000. It reached readers across Canada, into the United States and deep into Europe.

But history is history, and numbers are numbers. Here is where the numbers begin to change, and tell a different story. This one ends here, with the *Ukrainian Voice* falling silent for just the third time in its century-long history.

Of those 180,000 Ukrainian-Canadians in Manitoba today, only around 17,000 speak Ukrainian; barely half as many named it as a mother tongue than a decade ago. Only 2,700 people use it as their main language at home.

This slow erosion of the language, along with the evolution of Ukrainian-Canadian identity in third-generation Canadians and beyond, began to chip at the *Ukrainian Voice*'s reach. Slowly but surely, the paper ebbed away.

By this year, monthly subscriptions had sunk to just 300, far below what was needed to cover expenses. The paper, which once published weekly, cut its schedule to once a month. Still, the company hemorrhaged cash.

At a crossroads, last year the board of Triton Press Ltd., which owns the paper, enlisted Strus. Based in Hamilton, Ont., he had a background in accounting and entrepreneurship, and is active in Ukrainian-Canadian organization.

They asked him to take a look at the books, to see what could be done. The numbers didn't lie, Strus says with a sigh, and his recommendation was clear: after 108 years in circulation, the *Ukrainian Voice* needed to fade away.

There is no avoiding it, no way around it. Strus knows that. Yet as he began the process of winding up the business and closing the newspaper's old Main Street office, he marinated in the sadness of the decision.

"The hardest thing I had to do here was deal with the history," Strus says. "Selling this building, I did in half an hour, with a handshake... then it was a matter of co-ordinating, how do we get the history kept and preserved?"

For that, there are some promising options. The University of Manitoba's Slavic studies department will hold the paper's archives; it will soon digitize them for future generations of scholars and interested members of the public.

And in a stroke of genius, Strus obtained a trademark for the *Ukrainian Voice*'s name; it's a classic, he thinks. It has a ring to it. Maybe one day, he hopes, someone else will find a way to make it resonate across Canada again.

Still, it's sad. All month, longtime subscribers have been trickling into the paper's office, just to say goodbye. Though Garrity is on the paper's board, she's still accepting it: "I never, ever thought it would close," she says.

But maybe, in a way, the historic paper goes to sleep now under the tree of its successes. For diasporic communities, the impulse to connect hasn't vanished; it's just that now, there are new ways of connecting.

The paper's early editors strove to give Ukrainians an identity and a voice in the Canadian mosaic. If they were here now, maybe they would thrill to see Ukrainian names woven through Manitoba; a strong community, vibrant.

What they built, right from that first printing press on Selkirk Avenue, hasn't vanished. It is all around us. The legacy of the paper is written in a heritage remembered; when it was most needed, that newspaper mattered.

One year, Garrity remembers, a drought swept through the province, devastating local farmers. That summer, the *Ukrainian Voice* ran some articles with a notably positive tone. She saw how that seemed to spread a little cheer.

"I'd like them to remember it was a people's paper," she says.

"If there were any problems or anything, you were always supported by the *Ukrainian Voice*. You could always write to the newspaper and cry on their shoulder."

9. Canada. “Memorial Plaque on Building of Diplomatic Mission of West Ukrainian People’s Republic Opens in Canada,” *News from Ukraine*, 3 August 2018.

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A memorial plaque on the building of the former diplomatic mission of the West Ukrainian People’s Republic was opened in the Canadian city of Winnipeg.

Ambassador of Ukraine to Canada Andriy Shevchenko took part in the opening ceremony. The event was also attended by representatives of Ukrainian diaspora organizations, many of which historically have their central offices in Winnipeg, an Ukrinform correspondent reported.

The diplomatic mission of the West Ukrainian People’s Republic operated in Winnipeg in 1920-1923. The young state, although it did not receive a general official recognition, opened its representative offices in Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Britain, Canada and established diplomatic relations with several other states.

10. Canada. “Proud History: Kenora Ukrainian Summer Camp Celebrates 30 Years,” *Daily Miner and News (Kenora)*, 24 July 2018.

By Ryan Stelter
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For 30 years kids from Kenora have had the opportunity to learn about Ukrainian culture.

The camp was started in 1987 by Nick Kristalovich, Nuisa Dnes and Mary Zroback with the goal of exposing kids to Ukrainian culture.

“There was a need to give the younger people the culture, the language, and the songs,” Kristalovich said, now 85. “It’s such a rich culture.” When the camp started, Kristalovich was a school teacher who had just retired and said “Yeah I could give a couple weeks.” Kristalovich grew up in western Manitoba near Brandon in a Ukrainian community. For the past 16 years Kristalovich has housed the camp’s dance instructor, Dean Mackedenski, who is from Rosburn, Man. Mackedenski now lives in Calgary teaching out of the Calgary Tryzub School of Ukrainian Dance and still makes the commute to teach in Kenora.

“It’s like a family,” he said.

“The youngest kids now have moved up the different levels now they’re helping at camp and some of them have graduated, they’ve gotten married. It’s crazy after 16 years it’s cute seeing the little ones starting, knowing where they’ll end up.”

Mackedenski has been teaching Ukrainian dance since he was 12 years old and teaches all over Alberta, Manitoba and Kenora. The weeklong camp comprises of dance lessons, learning language and doing arts and crafts. For 30 years, with the exception of last year, where they took

a break, there has been an average of 30 kids coming out each year, and not all of them have to have a Ukrainian background.

The language lessons are taught by Zorianna Faseruk, a school teacher from Winnipeg.

Camp coordinator Denise Chmeliuk from Kenora does the arts and crafts with the kids. There is also a perogy and sausage dinner during the week that acts as a fundraiser for the camp. Kristalovich who has lived in Europe said learning a second language is valuable.

“Once you learn several languages you start seeing the connection, some of the words are the same,” he said.

This year’s camp concluded with a dance recital on Friday, with kids dazzling parents and family members with what they have learned over the week, decked out in full Ukrainian dress of course.

11. Croatia. “Ukraine’s Honorary Consulate Opens in Croatia,” *News from Ukraine*, 21 August 2018.

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The Croatian city of Split has hosted the ceremonial opening of the Honorary Consulate of Ukraine, which was attended by the Ukrainian president’s wife, Maryna Poroshenko, and Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin, Ukraine’s Embassy in Croatia has reported.

“The ceremonial opening of the Honorary Consulate of Ukraine took place in the Croatian city of Split on August 20, 2018. An honorary guest of the event was the wife of the Ukrainian president, M. Poroshenko,” the statement reads.

The opening ceremony was also attended by Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic, Croatian Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs Marija Pejcinovic Buric, and Split Mayor Andro Krstulovic Opara.

While in Split, Maryna Poroshenko held a meeting with the Croatian prime minister, spoke with representatives of the Ukrainian community in Croatia and visited the Ukrainian military who are currently on vacation and rehabilitation at the Galeb campsite, the embassy said.

12. Denmark. “Volunteers from Denmark Delivered over 500 Tonnes of Humanitarian Cargo over Past 4 Years,” *News from Ukraine*, 13 August 2018.

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The volunteer union Bevar Ukraine, which unites Ukrainians in Denmark, has delivered over 500 tonnes of humanitarian cargo to Ukraine over the past four years.

Prime Minister of Ukraine Volodymyr Groysman wrote this on his Facebook page.

“Four years ago, the volunteer union Bevar Ukraine appeared in Denmark. It united Ukrainians who live in this country and want to help their homeland. The social initiative arose from a purely emotional impulse and quickly turned into an effective social movement. Today they equip Ukrainian kindergartens and nursing homes. Moreover, household appliances, special beds, mattresses collected by volunteers are delivered to remote towns and villages. More than 500 tonnes of humanitarian cargo have been transferred to Ukraine over the past four years,” Groysman said.

He added that he met with representatives of the volunteer organization during his visit to Denmark and agreed on cooperation with them.

13. France. “Ukrainian School of Paris Holds Flash Mob in Support of Sushchenko,” *News from Ukraine*, 10 September 2018.

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Students and teachers of the Ukrainian School of Paris have held a rally in support of Ukrinform journalist Roman Sushchenko, who was illegally convicted in Russia, an Ukrinform correspondent reports.

“We have known Roman for a long time. He was a member of the parent committee and actively participated in the life of our school. His son visited our school for four years. With this action we want to remind Ukrainians in Paris about Roman and support him and his family. We want him to know that everyone here remembers him and is waiting for him,” school director Olena Mistal said.

According to her, an exhibition of Sushchenko’s drawings, which had been made at the Lefortovo jail for almost two years, was held during the event. Students and teachers of the school in Paris put on T-shirts with the inscription #FreeSushchenko and called on other Ukrainians to join this flash mob.

The participants in the action wrote letters to Sushchenko, whereas children prepared drawings for him.

As reported, Ukrinform Paris-based correspondent Roman Sushchenko was illegally detained on September 30, 2016 in Moscow, where he arrived on a private trip.

On October 7, 2016, he was charged with “espionage.” Russia’s FSB claimed that Sushchenko is a member of the Main Intelligence Directorate of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry. The latter denied this allegation.

On June 4, 2018, the Moscow City Court sentenced Sushchenko to 12 years in a high-security penal colony. The appeal against the sentence was filed on June 5. The Russian Supreme Court will consider it on September 12. Lawyer Mark Feygin said earlier that Sushchenko would be present at the court session.

14. General. “‘Candle of Remembrance’ to Commemorate Holodomor Victims Lit in Armenia, Mozambique, Australia and Azerbaijan,” *News from Ukraine*, 10 September 2018.

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September 7-9, the activists in Armenia, Mozambique, Australia and Azerbaijan joined the international action “Light a candle of remembrance” to commemorate the victims of the Holodomor of 1932-33 in Ukraine.

On September 7, the Federation of Ukrainians in Armenia “Ukraina” joined the international action “Light a candle of remembrance” and honoured the memory of the millions who died in the Holodomor.

The same day, a small Ukrainian community in Mozambique appealed to the country’s authorities with a request to support and recognize the greatest Ukrainian tragedy of the 20th century.

“We hope the Republican Assembly [the country’s parliament] will recognize the Holodomor as the genocide of Ukrainian people and the crime against humanity” Ukrainians emphasized.

On 8 September 2018 in Melbourne, Australia, a candle of remembrance in memory of the victims of the Holodomor was lit during the 20th Teachers’ Convention of the Ukrainian Central School Board of Australia (UCSBA). The teachers resolved to further Holodomor studies in the educational curriculum.

On September 9, near the monument to Taras Shevchenko in the center of Baku, Ukrainian diplomats and representatives of diaspora organizations held the event on the occasion of the 85th anniversary of the Holodomor.

On September 1, 85 days before the Holodomor remembrance day, Ukraine and the world began to honor the victims killed during the genocide of 1932-1933. Turkey, Jordan, Iraq, the People’s Republic of China have already joined the international action “Light a candle of remembrance.”

15. General. “Headhunting Agency Tries to Recruit Specialists Back to Ukraine,” *Arab News*, 31 July 2018.

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Vladyslav Greziev, CEO of Lobby X, has been active in civil society projects since the early days of the EuroMaidan Revolution that toppled former Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovych from power in 2014. His crowdsourced Waze-style app tracked the movements of Berkut riot police, allowing the protestors self-defense units to mount a coordinated response effort.

So its no surprise that Lobby X is not an ordinary headhunting agency. It makes money in the same way as any other recruiting agency, charging a fee to help business fills open positions. But

part of its earnings are reinvested into Ukraine by helping NGOs, ministries, and reform-focused organizations recruit specialists free of charge.

Greziev got the idea of helping reformers attract staff after regularly attending presentations given by nongovernmental organizations and social organizations like the December First Initiative. There were always smart people there drafting good policy proposals, but they could never quite explain who would implement them, he said.

I understood that the most important thing, and the most valuable thing in the process of changing the country would be people, employees, Greziev said.

But good specialists are hard to find, especially in a troubled economy like Ukraine's, where many who can leave, do. The country is currently in the midst of a brain-drain crisis its estimated that up to 7 percent of the country's labor force, which had been 20 million people, has emigrated, attracted by higher salaries and better standards of living in other countries.

Plugging the drain

Lobby X's goal is thus to tempt specialists back home to work in key sectors. No other Ukrainian recruiting agency specializes in recruiting highly skilled candidates with Western experience for reform work.

Greziev and his team worked for nine months on an entirely voluntary basis. But that wasn't sustainable.

One option might have been grants, but instead the company opted for the social enterprise model, as you're more effective when you use your own resources, Greziev said. Secondly, being entirely self-funded gives Lobby X complete independence. Currently the company employs five people full-time and 22 freelancers.

Global reach

While accessible anywhere via the web, Lobby X wants to expand its physical presence worldwide. The company will soon open an office in Warsaw, and it wants to open three more, in Moscow, New York and Toronto (where there are large communities of Ukrainian diaspora).

The project has significant grassroots support: A Ukrainian businessman in Warsaw has agreed to provide Lobby X rent-free office space, and it's not uncommon for Ukrainians abroad to volunteer their time or expertise to help the project.

Networking is key to Lobby X's operations. Users can alert their friends to vacancies. Its strong partnerships with international organizations provides the company with connections in cities all over the world, which can help ease its entry into the market.

However, this support has its limits, and Lobby X can't work with everyone. Moreover, the company only works with NGOs or ministries that it believes are transparent, and fighting corruption.

This reputation is valuable. According to Greziev, people know that our platform is the number one platform for finding opportunities to change the country, to have a real impact and work on fascinating projects.

Being based in Ukraine is also critical.

Providing opportunities

Lobby X never attempts to guilt-trip Ukrainian diaspora into returning, as this would be both ineffective and counter-productive. The key is to provide interesting opportunities to interesting people. To get the right people, Lobby X needs to show there are real opportunities to make a real difference.

But patriotism has its limits.

The method can be effective for headhunting specialists, but it won't be able to reverse the overall brain drain trend which, according to Alexander Clarkson, a lecturer in European studies at Kings College London, is an unavoidable byproduct of Ukrainians increased mobility. To prevent people from moving abroad, the Ukrainian government would have to cross the threshold from democratic to authoritarian, Clarkson said.

Ukrainian businesses will not be able compete with wages in Poland or Germany in the near term, but it may not be necessary, Clarkson said. General improvements in infrastructure and the standard of living will do a lot to keep workers in Ukraine, he said. And the specialists that Lobby X brings back will be working directly on these issues.

One thing the government could do, according to Clarkson, is to ease restrictions on dual citizenship. It is illegal for Ukrainians to get dual citizenship, and many Ukrainians who work abroad end up either giving up their original citizenship, or refraining from voting or otherwise participating in Ukrainian politics so as to escape the attention of authorities.

Growing fast

Lobby X's success comes with challenges. Its flow of job candidates has doubled over the past year. The company has had to order its own customer relations management system, where before Excel and Google Drive were sufficient.

The next challenge will be to grow fast in Warsaw. To get up and running, Lobby X will need to develop connections among businesses and NGOs.

But the company fully anticipates success, which it will then aim to repeat in New York, Toronto, and Moscow.

Now we can see the dynamics, Greziev said, and understanding that we will refresh the whole of this sector of government management with great new Ukrainians, were working to foster this process.

16. Germany. “Ukrainians Living in Munich Send Another Humanitarian Aid to Ivano-Frankivsk,” *News from Ukraine*, 19 September 2018.

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The Ukrainian community of Munich has sent another batch of humanitarian aid to a medical institution of Ivano-Frankivsk city.

“Another batch of humanitarian cargo (medicines, medical clothes, shoes, first-aid material) goes to Ukraine,” Ukrainian activist in Munich Taras Berezhansky wrote on his Facebook page.

According to him, the Ivano-Frankivsk City or Regional Children’s Hospital will receive this humanitarian aid.

He also added that a large cargo from Switzerland had been recently sent to the Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Clinical Hospital, which included, among other things, hemodialysis chairs, wheelchairs and hospital beds.

17. Hungary. “Almost 180 Ukrainian Children Come to Summer Camp in Hungary,” *MTI Daily Bulletin*, 11 August 2018.

MTI Daily Bulletin - News in English
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Budapest, August 11 (MTI) - Almost 180 Ukrainian children have enjoyed summer camps at Lake Velence, in central Hungary, this year, Miklos Soltesz, the state secretary for church and minority relations and the support of persecuted Christians, said in Velence on Saturday.

Providing such summer camps for youth sends the message that solidarity is of key importance, regardless of the political situation or the conflict with Ukraine’s political leaders over the language law, Soltesz said. The Hungarian government believes it is important to try and support the physical and emotional recreation of those children whose immediate family have been injured or killed in the conflict in eastern Ukraine, he added.

Hungary has hosted some 2,000 Ukrainian children over the past four years.

Gyorgy Kravcsenko, who heads the Ukrainian minority in Hungary, said the Ukrainian children had come to Velence for three one-week-long camps between July 23 and August 12. They got to know the area and even paddle in dragon boats, he added.

Brigitta Szuperak, who speaks for the Ukrainian minority in Hungary's parliament, thanked the government for making the summer camps available again this year to the children affected by the armed conflict.

18. Iran. "Ukraine-Iran Cultural Dialogue Days Open in Tehran," *News from Ukraine*, 29 August 2018.

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On August 28, the Days of Cultural Dialogue between Ukraine and Iran were solemnly opened in Tehran to mark the 27th anniversary of Ukraine's independence and the 100th anniversary of the restoration of Ukrainian statehood.

"The Embassy of Ukraine in Iran in cooperation with the Book City Institute held the Ukrainian-Iranian literary evening, during which the public was presented with the novel "Kaidash's Family" by well-known Ukrainian writer Ivan Nechuy-Levytsky in Persian language and collections of poems by modern Iranian poet Alireza Bahrami in Ukrainian language," the press office of the Embassy of Ukraine in Iran reported.

The event was attended by staff members of the Embassy of Ukraine in Iran, the Ukrainian community and members of their families, representatives of the Culture Ministry of Iran, Iranian literary critics, poets and public figures.

19. Kazakhstan. "Ethnic Ukrainians Express Affection for Their Kazakh Homeland," *Kazakhstan Newsline*, 13 August 2018.

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Many Ukrainians made their career in Kazakhstan in modern history, varying from no one less than Leonid Brezhnev who was First Secretary of Kazakhstan under Nikita Khrushchev to our contemporary Gregoriy Marchenko who held several ministerial posts and was longstanding governor of the National Bank. Ethnic Ukrainians feel at home in Kazakhstan while maintaining their ethnic and cultural roots through communal cultural centres throughout the country.

Vatra, the capital-based Ukrainian cultural centre founded in 1993, has contributed toward the educational and cultural development of Kazakhstan's ethnic Ukrainian community. It is among 26 such Ukrainian centres in the country.

According to Kazakhstan's 2009 population census, approximately 333,000 Ukrainians resided in the country, composing 2 percent of the total population. The current figure is estimated at just under 300,000.

Despite the gradual decrease in numbers throughout the years, the Ukrainian community has been proactively reviving its cultural heritage, made possible by the Kazakh Constitution provision regarding the free development of ethnic groups' cultures.

Taras Chernega has been the Vatra head and council chairperson since 1997. A candidate of philological sciences, he is also the editor-in-chief of “Ukrainian Noviny” (“Ukrainian News”), the national Ukrainian-language newspaper, and deputy chairperson of the Association of Ukrainians of Kazakhstan.

“The centre’s name aptly reflects its community and activities,” said Chernega. “In Ukrainian, ‘vatra’ refers to hearth, fire and bonfire.”

In naming the centre, surgeon, scientist and maslikhat (city administration) member Zinovii Gritsulyak hoped to convey how it could come to gather and connect like-minded people and warm their hands and hearts over a symbolic campfire.

Vatra’s main activities focus on education and culture. The centre has operated a Ukrainian Sunday school since 1992, which school students attend regularly to study language, culture and history.

The centre hosts celebrations of Ukrainian and Kazakh public holidays and customs. Chervona Kalina, a Ukrainian vocal ensemble, is a regular performing act and its rich repertoire includes more than 100 songs in Ukrainian, Russian and Kazakh. Vatryanochka, a Ukrainian dance ensemble led by choreographer Yuliya Amirova, has been performing since 2008.

Vatra has published “Ukrainian Noviny” for more than 24 years. When the first issue was circulated in 1994, President Nursultan Nazarbayev congratulated the Ukrainian community on its timely release, as strengthening peace and harmony in a diverse society has always been a key priority. The newspaper remains the only weekly Ukrainian-language publication in Asia.

The importance and presence of the centre’s current work is tied to the history of Ukrainians in Kazakhstan. Individual Ukrainian settlements on present-day Kazakh territory appeared as early as the 15th Century, when individual explorers gained a better grasp of the Trans-Urals, Siberia, northern and eastern Kazakhstan and the Far East.

Another migration flow occurred during the more violent context of the early 18th century, when participants in the 1768 Koliivshchyna uprising and Zaporozhye Cossacks of the 1775 Zaporozhian Sich destruction were sent to the Kazakh steppes along the valleys of the Ilek, Irtysh, Ural Tobol and Yessil rivers.

In the second half of the 19th century, the resettlement flow to Kazakhstan increased significantly following the Russian Empire’s 1861 abolition of serfdom and the 1894 Siberian railway opening. Immigrants from Chernigov, Ekaterinoslav, Kharkov, Kherson, Kiev, Poltava and Tauride settled primarily in present-day Akmola, Kostanai and East, West and North Kazakhstan regions.

The greatest immigrant flow came at the turn of the 19th century, when the foundation of Kazakhstan’s Ukrainian community was established. Still, the term ‘flow’ conceals the rather complex settlement timeline and its socioeconomic characteristics. The resettlement occurred concurrently with movement from Ukraine to Siberia and only then eastward to Kazakhstan.

“If we talk about ‘waves’ of Ukrainian migration to Kazakhstan, the first of them should be attributed to the end of the 19th century,” said Chernega. “The second resettlement wave is associated with the Stolypin land reform in 1906-1917. The next, most significant wave of migrations was repressive in nature, during the period of the forced collectivisation of peasant farms.”

Subsequent mass migration flows include the Great Patriotic War military evacuation relocations, post-war relocations of Soviet repression victims and political prisoners and resettlements associated with work on the Virgin Lands Campaign.

“The help of Kazakhs to Soviet repression victims and political prisoners, who were branded as the ‘enemies of the state’ and with whom they shared their last pieces of bread, was immense. This page in our common history deserves separate discussion and appreciation,” he added. “No matter how paradoxical it may seem, it is in the years of grave misfortunes and mass repression when a solid foundation of tolerance and mutual compassion for each other as representatives of various ethnic groups, bound by a common misfortune and fate on shared ground, was laid.”

The difficult common times firmly united Kazakhstan’s indigenous and non-indigenous inhabitants towards shared aspirations to survive and thrive, no matter the circumstances.

“The best human qualities which were crystallised then, such as compassion, good neighbourliness and a lack of selfishness, came to define the character of Kazakhstan’s nationalities for decades to come,” said Chernega.

Ukrainian ethno-cultural associations also operate in Aktau, Aktobe, Almaty, Karaganda, Kostanai, Pavlodar, Semipalatinsk and Ust-Kamenogorsk.

“As you can see, the descendants of Ukrainian immigrants continue to cherish the culture and traditions of their people on the Kazakh steppes,” he added.

By Dilshat Zhussupova for the Astana Times.

20. Lithuania. “Economy Minister Sees Labor Immigrants as Good Sign for Lithuania,” *Baltic Daily - Political/Social News*, 23 August 2018.

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VILNIUS, Aug 23, BNS - Economy Minister Virginijus Sinkevicius believes that Lithuania benefits from labor immigration, saying that Ukrainians and other foreigners who come to work to the country are not driving down local wages.

“We are talking about 20,000 people who have come to Lithuania. Eighty percent of them are Ukrainians, who number 16,000. Are these trends alarming? I don’t think so,” Sinkevicius told Ziniu Radijas on Thursday.

“Labor migrants are very important. This is an excellent sign for Lithuanian businesses that they can have plans for development in the country and for foreign investors that this is a safe country,” he added.

The minister dismissed as groundless worries that the immigration of Ukrainians will drive down wages for Lithuanian nationals.

“I can give you figures from other EU countries, where immigrant numbers are much higher and where salaries have grown. For example, Denmark, where East European immigrants helped Danes to move up the career ladder. Denmark sees it as a positive thing,” he said.

The Migration Department forecasts that the number of Ukrainian nationals coming to work in Lithuania will surge by 30-50 percent next year.

Around 22,200 working visas were issued to foreign nationals, of whom some 80 percent were Ukrainians, in Lithuania in January through July 2018. Another 6,300 Ukrainian nationals obtained residence permits, according to the department.

21. Poland. “Ivanna Klympush-Tsintsadze Met with Ukrainian Community of Poland,” *Ukrainian Government News*, 28 September 2018.

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On a working visit to Poland, Ivanna Klympush-Tsintsadze, Vice Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine, met with the Ukrainian community of Gdansk.

With head of the Pomorskie Branch of the Association of Ukrainians in Poland Elizabeth Krzeminski and Mitrat Joseph Ulycki, the Vice Prime Minister of Ukraine discussed the possibility of creating conditions for learning the Ukrainian language for Ukrainian citizens temporarily staying in Poland, using the opportunities of Polish schools with Ukrainian as the language of education. Points for studying the Ukrainian language on the basis of Polish secondary schools are in the settlements of Biały Bór, Bartoszyce and Górowo Iławeckie. However, these schools are funded by the Polish Government, as schools for national minorities (Polish citizens), and do not provide for funding for education of foreign citizens.

The interlocutors also talked about the establishment of integrated centers of support for Ukrainians - Ukrainian homes - in places of sizeable population of Ukrainian communities. This is a joint initiative of the Consulate of Ukraine in Gdansk, the Pomorskie Branch of the Association of Ukrainians in Poland and the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Parish, with the prior support of local authorities. Such centers, set up on the legal basis of centers of Association of Ukrainians in Poland in large cities, in premises provided by local authorities on preferential terms, should include lounges, concert halls, rooms-offices for the establishment of legal and operational assistance centers for Ukrainian migrants.

Elizabeth Krzeminski told that Pomorskie Branch of the Association on the annual basis with the support of the Ukrainian Consulate holds a youth festival The Fair. This year’s festival will take

place in October during the “Third Ukrainian Week” with the participation of well-known Ukrainian music groups.

During his visit to the church and parish home, Mitrat Joseph Ulycki described the activities of the church, which, according to him, remains “the pillar of Ukrainian identity.”

The Ukrainian Pomorskie community also has a theater, visited by both Ukrainians and Poles. In the near future, the theatrical studio will demonstrate a bilingual tale in Przemyśl.

Moreover, the visitors also attended the Monument to St. Volodymyr erected in 2015 near the Square of the baptism of Rus-Ukraine, - a cult place for Ukrainians in Pomorskie province. In Gdansk there have been erected monuments to the Holodomor victims, repressions, and forcibly displaced Ukrainians.

The parties considered promising projects of the Ukrainian community in Gdansk, in particular, the establishment of a Ukrainian House in this city.

“It’s good that you are telling us about what is a true history of Ukraine. It is crucial for us to get ourselves back to the cultural, historical, intellectual map of Europe. At last, Ukraine and Ukrainian diplomacy are recovering. In times of countering the Russian aggression, it is very important for the Ukrainian community to stick together”, stressed Ivanna Klympush-Tsintsadze.

22. Poland. “Ukrainian Immigrants Give the Polish Government an out on Refugees,” *Forbes.com*, 19 September 2018.

Frey Lindsay
Contributor

The central statistics office for Poland (Główny Urząd Statystyczny) released data late last week on foreign work visas issued in 2017. They show a continuing upward trend and Ukrainian nationals represent the lion’s share of these new workers.

Overall the number of work permits for foreigners in Poland grew in 2017, with more than 235,600 issued. This is a near doubling (84%) from 2016, and a 258% increase from 2015. This steep increase was driven largely by Ukrainians fleeing political upheaval: according to a survey by the National Bank of Poland, between 2010 and 2014 the rate of new workers registered in Poland hovered around 40,000, with the Ukrainian share of that being 50% (a share broadly consistent since the collapse of the Soviet Union) but between 2014 and 2017 that number sharply increased, with the Ukrainian share jumping up to around 80%. This year, Ukrainians received 81,7% of all work visas issued in Poland.

This increase is uncontroversially associated with various upheavals in Ukraine: the Euromaidan demonstrations in 2013 and subsequent violent government response, the 2014 revolution, the Russian annexation of Crimea and the war in Donbass. All of this with an economic crisis that saw GDP plummet and a bailout implemented by the IMF to avoid default. But though the cause of this migration may be no mystery what is less known is how the character of the last few

years' migration, as well as changes in Polish policy, affects the position of Ukrainian migrants in Poland.

"Now we can observe a higher rate of not only work permits granted to Ukrainian migrants but also other paths to staying in Poland legally," says Anita Brzozowska, a researcher at Warsaw University's Centre of Migration Research (CMR). "We can see they not only circulate (through Poland for work) but they also want to stay longer in Poland."

Traditionally a lot of Ukrainian labor migration around Europe is seasonal, with workers coming on short-term visas or under the table. As political and economic instability in Ukraine continues, however, and it becomes more difficult for people to go back, many Ukrainians are now considering their options in staying.

"It's harder because of the economic conditions," says Brzozowska, "and because of all these push factors in Ukraine: the conflict in Donbass and a really bad economic situation. It's similar to the situation in the 90s after the collapse of the Soviet Union; a decline in the standard of living in Ukraine."

The longer stay is causing Ukrainians to seek stronger legal and social roots in Poland. This is related to a process known as "anchoring", described by Brzozowska and colleague Aleksandra Grzymała-Kazłowska as the process of "searching for footholds and points of reference" that allow migrants to feel safe and secure in their host country. These footholds include the legal protections offered by work visas, as well as higher social interaction and intermarriage between Poles and Ukrainians, both of which Brzozowska and CMR have observed. But aside from the practical aspects of anchoring, a crucial source of stability is in comparing their current situation to what they left behind. Brzozowska found, when interviewing Ukrainians about their experiences in Poland, that this comparison between the relative economic and political stability of Poland and the economic crisis and corruption of Ukraine was a key aspect in how they perceive their lives in Poland.

"When (they) compare to the uncertain situation in Ukraine, it is really crucial for their sense of security. Even if they are working in the secondary labor markets - the dirty and dangerous jobs - it really makes a difference to them. Also, their perception of the Polish legal system, the lack of corruption, is a really important aspect."

But Ukrainian migrants are not the only ones shifting perceptions about their situation. As many of them get settled into their lives in Poland, all of them are being used as a bargaining chip by the governing party.

Brzozowska says Ukrainian migrants are of great value to Poland as a source of labor. They fill the gap left by both an aging population and high Polish emigration. In this sense, the upsurge of Ukrainian migration has been a boon for Poland. Ukrainian Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin even went so far as to say at the end of last year that Ukrainian migrants had saved the Polish economy.

But that's not an opinion often heard coming from the ruling Law and Justice (Prawo i Sprawiedliwość, or PiS) party. For the party, led by Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki, the need for Ukrainian labor is a topic mostly to be avoided.

"These migration flows are really important for future generations," says Brzozowska. "But still, we do not observe this in the public discourse made by PiS. Maybe in conferences prepared by employers organizations this topic (is discussed), but it's still not a dominant topic or a key message in the public discourse (of the government)."

Rather, the Ukrainians in Poland serve a more useful function as leverage against EU refugee quotas. Though the number of Ukrainians who have received asylum in Poland is vanishingly small compared to the number of work permits issued (according to the Ukrainian embassy in Poland, only 56 Ukrainian citizens were granted asylum in 2017, compared to the 235,600 work permits issued) the government have often referred to the burden of helping Ukrainian refugees as an excuse to be exempted from having to accept refugees from the Middle East and North Africa. Prime Minister Morawiecki claims the number of Ukrainian refugees in Poland (as opposed to labor migrants) to be in the tens of thousands. (This is actually a climbdown from previous prime minister Beata Szydło's claim of over a million refugees). This is a deliberate obscuring of the difference between refugees and economic migrants and is not borne out by the country's own asylum figures.

When questioned on the refugee/migrant question, Morawiecki doubled down, claiming many of the migrant workers are in fact refugees without the status. He has recently, however, acknowledged that Poland needs migrant labor, though he continues to emphasize the burden of Ukrainian "refugees" as a reason for not taking any from elsewhere. Poland is doing enough, essentially. "That's the key message in the discourse made by PiS," says Brzozowska. "And this, of course, is very misleading and lacks any insight into the problems of the Polish labor market."

23. Poland. "Most Ukrainians in Poland Would Leave for Germany," *Thenews.pl*, 3 August 2018.

Fifty-nine percent of Ukrainians working in Poland have said they would leave the country if the German labour market opened up to them, the Dziennik Gazeta Prawna daily reported citing a new study.

Such a scenario "would deepen Poland's labour shortages from 150,000 vacancies to 500,000," Maciej Witucki, CEO of human resources company Work Service, which conducted the study, was quoted by the daily as saying.

"Many people have argued that should the Polish and German labour market compete [for Ukrainian workers], Poland would have an advantage in terms of geographical and linguistic closeness," Witucki told Dziennik Gazeta Prawna.

"Unfortunately, our research has shown that these factors are at the bottom of the list of reasons why Ukrainians pick Poland for work. Higher salaries play a key role ... and these are still several times higher in Germany than on the Polish market," Witucki added.

“Many people have argued that should the Polish and German labour market compete [for Ukrainian workers], Poland would have an advantage in terms of geographical and linguistic closeness,” Witucki told Dziennik Gazeta Prawna. “Unfortunately, our research has shown that these factors are at the bottom of the list of reasons why Ukrainians pick Poland for work. Higher salaries play a key role ... and these are still several times higher in Germany than on the Polish market,” Witucki added.

The study also found that nearly eight out of ten Ukrainian migrants said they were happy with the working conditions in Poland. Eighty-four percent of them said they would recommend working in Poland to their friends and family, the paper said.

But, more than two out of three of the respondents said they were working below their qualifications, Dziennik Gazeta Prawna added.

“This means that the potential of people entering [the Polish] labour market is not fully tapped,” Maciej Witucki told the daily. “We need to remember that there is a growing workforce deficit in Poland also in the case of specialised jobs,” he added.

Seventy-five percent of those questioned said they would like to stay in Poland for two, three years.

Source: Dziennik Gazeta Prawna

24. Portugal. “Ukrainians in Portugal Urging Local Film Makers to Join Action for Sentsov’s Release,” *News from Ukraine*, 14 August 2018.

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The Ukrainian diaspora in Portugal has urged local film makers to appeal to the president of Russia with a request to release Ukrainian film director Oleg Sentsov and other political prisoners of the Kremlin.

The relevant appeal was published on the official website of the Association of Ukrainians in Portugal.

“We believe that the art of cinema made the world more open, humane and peaceful. It united the continents and opened a completely new dialogue between cultures, despite language and political barriers. And we believe that people who make movies continue to do their job in order to change the world for people to live without violence, tension and military conflicts ... So, the Ukrainian community in Portugal is asking you, our friends, to give your voice for the liberation of Oleg Sentsov and other political prisoners in Russia. Please, write a joint letter from the film makers of Portugal to President Putin demanding the release of Oleg Sentsov,” the letter reads.

Earlier, well-known French artists and officials, including French Minister of Culture Françoise Nyssen, as well as film directors Jean-Luc Godard and Ken Loach, wrote an open letter calling for the release of Oleg Sentsov and international mobilization to accelerate this process.

Sentsov, who was illegally sentenced to 20 years in a penal colony, on May 14, 2018 declared a hunger strike demanding the release of all Ukrainian political prisoners of the Kremlin. On May 28, Sentsov agreed to supportive therapy.

On August 7, his lawyer Dmitry Dinze said that Sentsov's health condition had deteriorated.

25. Sweden. "Ukrainians in Sweden Join United by Flag Action," *News from Ukraine*, 13 August 2018.

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The Ukrainian communities in Sweden have joined the United by Flag international action, which took place in one of the central squares of Stockholm on August 9.

"Ambassador of Ukraine to Sweden Ihor Sagach, chairs and members of the civic organizations of Ukrainians in Sweden "Ukrainian Women Organization in Sweden", "Ukrainian Youth in Sweden", diplomatic staff of the Embassy of Ukraine in Sweden, Ukrainian and Swedish activists of Stockholm wrote the wishes for peace to Ukrainians around the world," the press service of the Ukrainian Embassy in Sweden reports.

Signed in Stockholm, the blue and yellow flag went to Warsaw.

Initiated by the Ukrainian community in Ireland, the flag of Ukraine travels around the globe, uniting Ukrainian communities in various part of the world. This chain of unity will end on August 23, when the flag arrives in Kyiv on the eve of the Independence Day celebrations.

The blue and yellow flag has already been to the UK, France, Germany, Portugal, Spain, Greece, Turkey, Bulgaria, Italy, Estonia, Finland, Latvia and Lithuania.

26. Turkey. "Diaspora to Represent Ukraine at Culture Festival in Antalya," *News from Ukraine*, 26 September 2018.

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On September 28, the creative teams and performers of the Ukrainian community will represent Ukraine at the first festival of world cultures in Antalya, Turkey.

"Ukraine will be represented by the teams of the Mediterranean Union of Ukrainians in Antalya on September 28," the Ukrainian diaspora in Antalya reported on Facebook.

The first festival of world cultures will last until September 30 at Antalya Expo Centre. A total of 77 countries participate in the festival.

27. United Kingdom. "'Betrayed by Trump' - This Manchester Community Watched the Putin Summit in Dismay," *Manchestereveningnews.co.uk*, 22 July 2018.

By Stefan Jajecznyk

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Ukrainians in Greater Manchester are watching events anxiously

When Donald Trump met with Vladimir Putin this week, one of Manchester oldest's immigrant communities was watching intently.

It's fair to say the reaction to that historic meeting in Helsinki has been intense.

The US president's most ardent supporters maintain it is a positive new era for Russo-American relations. But there has been much criticism and ridicule from those who believe Mr Trump kowtowed to a dictator - before half-heartedly and unconvincingly backtracking.

Here in Manchester, the Ukrainian community - whose traditional heartland is Cheetham Hill - has been left reeling.

It's a community I know well, as my own heritage is Ukrainian, and as Trump met with Putin on Monday, I was on holiday in Ukraine.

Despite some Ukrainians' familial or ancestral ties to Russia - usually among those who have arrived in the country since 1991 - the majority of us in the UK firmly support our native homeland as it struggles to break free from the influence of Moscow.

The Ukrainian community in Manchester has always seen the US as our strongest ally. But when Trump met Putin face-to-face for the first time, despite past bravado promising a 'tough' stance towards Russia, the President failed to challenge his counterpart on the Kremlin's aggression.

The US President failed to pull up Russia for its involvement in the invasion and occupation of Eastern Ukraine; while making no attempt to make clear to Ukrainians that the US firmly believed that Crimea, invaded in 2014, was Ukrainian sovereign territory, as it has done in the past.

"President Trump wasted an enormous opportunity to put down a strong marker to President Putin, on behalf of the USA and it's allies, to say that we are not to be under-estimated in dealing with Russia in the continued aggression and interference we have witnessed worldwide", Bob Sopel, chair of Chadderton FC and chair of the Manchester branch of the Association of Ukrainians in Great Britain (AUGB), said.

"To question his own security advisers and believe the words of a dangerous dictator in a two hour meeting, behind closed doors, must surely worry us all. We worry what the future holds with un-checked aggression from Russia towards Ukraine."

Ukraine has endured centuries of oppression from the Russians across the border - from the Tsarist empire to the Soviet Union.

The Ukrainian language was banned in the 19th century and Ukrainians were marginalised in their own land. The Manchester community's history is bound up with this woeful past.

Thousands of former partisans and soldiers came to Manchester after WWII. They had fought against the Soviet Army in the hope of establishing an independent Ukraine.

Others, young men and women, had been forcibly taken by Nazi German occupiers as forced labourers or 'Ostarbeiter'.

After WWII, many opted not to return to their Soviet-controlled homeland for fear of being shot or imprisoned as falsely-accused spies or Nazi collaborators.

The Manchester community's origins lie in Cheetham Hill. Ukrainian Jews first settled before WWI, and today, the area remains home to thriving schools, churches, social clubs, dance groups and a rich choral and literary history.

Greater Manchester's heavy industries employed these hard-working East European immigrants as the area's manufacturing base was rebuilt following WWII. Rochdale, for example, is twinned with the Ukrainian-speaking, patriotic Western Ukrainian city of L'viv.

Even today, in the community hold hopes of returning to their native land. But the country has been under Soviet rule until 1991, and even after independence the Russians have continued to exert a malign influence.

While I cannot speak for all Ukrainian Mancunians, I can say the traditional dream of a Western-facing, prosperous Ukraine - one so many have died for - burns strongly in the community.

And for us, President Trump's failure to defend the Ukraine's basic national rights sparks fears of further abandonment.

"Trump ignored the issue of flight MH17 shot down over Ukraine (in July 2014) by what is now known to have been Russian backed forces and equipment", Bob Sopel, chair of the local branch of the AUGB. said.

"That came months after Russia invaded Ukraine, seizing Crimea, together with hundreds of miles of territory in Eastern Ukraine. No action has been taken to uphold ceasefire agreements signed in 2014 and 2015."

In 1994 the United States, along with Russia and the UK, signed an agreement that assured support for Ukraine's sovereignty - in exchange for the country giving up nuclear weapons inherited from the Soviets.

But Russian aggression has ridden roughshod over this deal, and Trump is just the latest western leader who seems to have forgotten the obligation to maintain it.

When Russia started the war in East Ukraine in 2014, Manchester's Ukrainians called on the government to honour guarantees with military aid, but the response was limp.

"The Ukrainian community can only pray that one day the nations of the world will help Ukraine retain its independence, gained in 1991, after so many years under Russian rule and aggression - including the genocide of a forced famine in 1933, that killed around 8 million people", Mr Sopel added.

"Trump's irrational behaviour is now a worry worldwide and we may all soon regret his choice to cosy up to Russia and move further away from NATO, the EU and frankly, the security of his own people."

Peter Rewko, national chair of the AUGB, who is from Ashton-under-Lyne, describes the Trump-Putin meeting as one where Russia 'ran the agenda'.

"We do feel a missed opportunity by the US president to put the Russian Federation on the spot on some very serious issues", Peter said.

"The fact that the pair met on the anniversary of the downing of MH17 seemed also to be insignificant. Trump looked weak and overawed by Putin."

While Western media continues its 'post-match analysis' of that historic Trump-Putin meeting, Ukrainians in Manchester watch helplessly, and hope.

28. USA. "Poroshenko Thanks Ukrainian Diaspora in U.S. for Efforts in Recognizing Holodomor as Genocide of Ukrainian People," *Interfax: Ukrainian General Newswire*, 26 September 2018.

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KYIV. Sept 26 (Interfax-Ukraine) - Ukrainian President Petro Poroshenko has thanked the Ukrainian community in the United States for its efforts in the issue of recognizing the Holodomor of 1932-1933 as genocide of the Ukrainian people, Ukraine's presidential press service has said.

"I am very grateful to each of you who made great efforts to ensure that 12 states at the local level recognized our tragedy as genocide," Poroshenko said, addressing the leaders of the Ukrainian community during a working visit to the United States.

"We will not stop and now we are waiting at the level of the Congressional Committee for the decision of the United States Congress on recognizing the Holodomor as genocide," Poroshenko said.

29. USA. "'Tree of Friendship' with American Town of Irondequoit Planted in Poltava," *News from Ukraine*, 18 September 2018.

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A tree of friendship has been recently planted in the Poltava arboretum on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of good relations between the twin cities - Ukrainian city of Poltava and American town of Irondequoit.

Tamara Denysenko, the American of Ukrainian descent, the representative of Ukrainian non-governmental organizations of Irondequoit and initiator of establishment of friendly relations between Poltava and Irondequoit, took part in planting of a tree, Poltava365 reports.

“In 1993, we planted a fir tree in memory of the Holodomor victims of 1993 in Irondequoit. This year, to my great regret, the tree dried up, and we decided to plant a tree in Poltava for the friendship between our cities to flourish and grow and the relations between America and Ukraine to develop,” she said.

A mountain ash was chosen to be a friendship tree of the twin cities.

The Ukrainian community in Irondequoit is one of the oldest in the United States and has already celebrated the 100th anniversary of its establishment.

30. USA. “Book about Ukrainians in Hollywood Presented in Kyiv,” *News from Ukraine*, 31 August 2018.

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Book “To Hollywood from Ukraine” telling about Ukrainians in American cinema was presented in Kyiv.

Its author Stanislav Suknenko is an actor, director, author of numerous art articles, reports and interviews, which are published in periodicals in Ukraine, Russia, the Baltic States, the Czech Republic, an Ukrinform correspondent reports.

“I really love movies, it’s my profession. Therefore, when studying the history of world cinema, it was strange to see how many our compatriots have been there [in Hollywood cinema] and how little it is written about them. It is usually written about five, at most ten people. Therefore, at some point, I began to study the scale of participation of our compatriots. It turned out to be a real iceberg,” the author said at the presentation of the book.

The book tells about Ukrainian roots of 100 outstanding figures of American cinema. Suknenko studied this topic for ten years.

The book was published in English with the support of the Information Policy Ministry of Ukraine.

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