

## YKPAÏHA-2050 UKRAINE-2050

## <u>Press conference</u> (11 January 2022 at Ukraine Crisis Media Center)

## NGO "Ukraine-2050": Review of activities in 2021 and plans for the future

I welcome everyone at this press conference.

My name is Eugene Czolij and I am the President of Non-governmental organization "Ukraine-2050" and Past President of the Ukrainian World Congress.

NGO "Ukraine-2050" is a non-profit organization established in Ukraine in December 2019 to help implement, within one generation – by 2050 – strategies for the sustainable development of Ukraine as a fully independent, territorially integral, democratic, reformed and economically competitive European state.

The main objectives of NGO "Ukraine-2050" are to promote:

- (I) the full membership of Ukraine in NATO;
- (II) the full membership of Ukraine in the European Union;
- (III) the Patriarchal status for both the Orthodox Church of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church; and
- (IV) the positioning of Ukraine in the top 10 European Union states by gross domestic product (GDP) and in the top 20 countries in the UN World Happiness Report.

On 19 December 2021, NGO "Ukraine-2050" completed the second year of its activities.

The greatest success of NGO "Ukraine-2050" in 2021 was the deployment of the Permanent International Media Monitoring Mission on Disinformation about Ukraine and the Ukrainian diaspora. This Mission has two teams, namely: (i) a team that monitors media, social networks and other information resources in various countries in numerous languages and generates reports on articles that disseminate disinformation about Ukraine and the Ukrainian diaspora; and (ii) a team that analyzes the data of the reports, draws conclusions and takes effective measures to help counter such disinformation. The Media Monitoring Mission started its work on 4 June 2021 and announced its first report on the results of its monitoring on 31 August 2021. As of this day, there are 166 members of this Mission, who are doing media monitoring on a voluntary basis in 42 languages of the world. The Mission has monitors from 56 countries, including all the G7 countries, all the 27 EU member states and 28 NATO member states.

To sensitize the general public and raise awareness on disinformation, NGO "Ukraine-2050" also presented on its YouTube channel our three online trainings on real and effective ways to counter disinformation and disseminated this information in our network of contacts. I invite you to visit our web site and view those online trainings.

In 2021 the President of NGO "Ukraine-2050" participated as a panelist in several conferences, including in: (i) the Regional Thematic Meeting of the European Union Global Diaspora Facility on Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Moldova, organized by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ii) the International Conference on Sustainable Development organized by NGO "Sustainable Development Landmarks" and Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University; (iii) the IV International Scientific and Practical Conference titled "Administrative Justice in Ukraine: Theory and Practice" – "Protection of Electoral Rights by Administrative Courts in Ukraine" conducted by the Supreme Court; (iv) the International Scientific Conference titled "Role of the diaspora in the third revival of Ukrainian statehood" conducted by the Department of Global Ukrainian Studies of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv; and (v) the panel discussion titled "Diaspora, as brand ambassadors of Ukraine in the world" during the 10th Forum of Diaspora Ukrainian Youth "Chernivtsi 2021" and 3rd Congress of the World Congress of Ukrainian Youth Organizations.

In August 2021, the Leadership of NGO "Ukraine-2050" participated in various events related to the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ukraine's renewed Independence, which included meetings with Heads of Churches, high-level government and NGO officials of Ukraine and other countries, and Chief Justices of Ukrainian Courts to discuss further plans of our cooperation. At that time, the official signing of a Memorandum of Cooperation between NGO "Ukraine-2050" and the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv took place.

Throughout 2021, the President of NGO "Ukraine-2050" appeared as a lecturer in virtual conferences with Ukrainian communities in the U.S., Germany, France, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Croatia, Brazil and Argentina to highlight their input in the development of Ukrainian statehood and encourage them to continue their advocacy work in defence of Ukraine's territorial integrity.

During the year NGO "Ukraine-2050" issued over 110 statements on various current issues, including on the question of multiple citizenship in Ukraine.

On 19 December 2021, NGO "Ukraine-2050" held its Annual General Meeting in a virtual format in view of existing restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Annual General Meeting approved the Report on the activities and the Financial report of NGO "Ukraine-2050", as well as re-elected Eugene Czolij as President of the organization and Myron Nayda as Executive Director. The Annual General Meeting also renewed the mandate of existing members of the Honorary Board and Board of Directors and elected new ones.

The Honorary Board and Board of Directors of NGO "Ukraine-2050" are currently composed of very prominent personalities, including the Head of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine, the Head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, three Members of the European Parliament (including a former Prime Minister of Lithuania), the Premier of the Province of Alberta in Canada, Heads of the Departments of Foreign Affairs of the Orthodox Church of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, a Member of the Romanian Parliament, three Rectors of prominent universities in Ukraine, the Honorary Consul of Ukraine in Fribourg (Switzerland), the President of the Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce, Vice-Presidents of the Ukrainian World Congress, the first and the current Presidents of the European Congress of Ukrainians, leaders of Ukrainian communities in the diaspora, lawyers and the Managing Partner of the law firm Vasil Kisil & Partners, the Director of the International Institute of Education, Culture and Diaspora Relations, renowned businessmen and philanthropists, the Chair of the National Holodomor Awareness Committee of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the Scientific Director of McGill's Molecular Pathology Laboratory and a private equity risk manager.

The participants at the Annual General Meeting also approved the Action plan of NGO "Ukraine-2050" for the future, namely:

(1) Strengthening the work of the Permanent International Media Monitoring Mission on Disinformation about Ukraine and the Ukrainian diaspora;

- (2) Continuation of the advocacy work of the organization for the international community to support Ukraine during these challenging times of Russia's increased aggression against the West, since Ukraine is not only defending its territorial integrity, but also containing Russia's global expansionist ambitions with the intent to recreate a new and menacing Russian empire;
- (3) Strengthening ties with the authorities and civil society of Ukraine and other states to advance the organization's core objectives, including for: (i) NATO to provide Ukraine the NATO Membership Action Plan; (ii) Russia not to be able to bypass Ukraine in gas supplies to Europe and continue to use gas as a political weapon against the West; and (iii) Russia to be banned from using the SWIFT payment system unless it deoccupies Ukraine within a certain period of time set by the West.
- (4) Participation in Ukrainian delegations at international events;
- (5) Participation in the Catholic Convention "Katholikentag", which is scheduled in Stuttgart from 25 to 29 May 2022;
- (6) Organization of offline and online conferences to promote the organization's core objectives; and
- (7) Preparing statements and reports on strategic issues and current events and disseminating them in the media, social networks and our network of contacts.

NGO "Ukraine-2050" www.ukraine-2050.org