

UKR INDEPENDENCE DAY PROCLAMATION KIT

Request Letters

Sample Mayoral Request

Subject: Request for Proclamation - Recognizing the 33rd Anniversary of Ukraine's Independence

Dear Mayor [Mayor's Last Name],

As a proud resident of Philadelphia and advocate for its Ukrainian-American community, I am writing to request your support in issuing a proclamation to commemorate the 33rd anniversary of Ukraine's independence on August 24th, 2024.

Ukraine's independence day holds immense significance for Ukrainian-Americans in Philadelphia and across the nation. This annual celebration marks the country's hard-fought journey towards democracy, sovereignty, and national unity that continues to this day. It serves as a reminder of the enduring spirit and resilience of the Ukrainian people.

By officially recognizing this important milestone, Philadelphia can demonstrate its commitment to fostering inclusivity, cultural diversity, and international understanding within our vibrant city. Moreover, it would underscore the significance of the Ukrainian-American community and its contributions to the rich tapestry of Philadelphia's cultural heritage.

I kindly request that you consider issuing a proclamation to commemorate Ukraine's 33rd anniversary of independence, from the birthplace of America's independence. This proclamation would serve as a symbol of unity and appreciation for the Ukrainian-American community, while highlighting the strong ties between Philadelphia and Ukraine.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I would be delighted to provide any additional information or assistance needed to facilitate this request. I look forward to the opportunity to celebrate this significant occasion together.

Yours sincerely,

[Your Name]



Sample Light-Up Request (Building)

Subject: Request to Light Up Blue and Yellow for Ukraine's Independence Day - August 24th, 2024

Dear [Skyscraper's Name] Management,

As a proud Philadelphian & member of the Ukrainian-American community, I am writing to kindly request your support in illuminating [Skyscraper's Name] in blue and yellow on August 24th, 2024, to commemorate Ukraine's 33rd anniversary of independence.

Philadelphia has one of the largest Ukrainian populations (per capita) in the US and Ukrainians have been part of our city's history since the 1890s. Our vibrant community takes great pride in celebrating Ukraine's Independence Day, which holds immense significance for Ukrainian-Americans and the Ukrainian people worldwide. Lighting up [Skyscraper's Name] with blue and yellow, the colors of the Ukrainian flag, would symbolize unity, pride, and support for Ukraine's ongoing journey towards freedom and self-determination.

The Radiant Unity Campaign, organized by Ukrainian-American community organizations, aims to foster solidarity and raise awareness about Ukraine's independence. By participating in this campaign, [Skyscraper's Name] would not only honor the cultural heritage and contributions of the Ukrainian-American community in Philadelphia but also demonstrate your commitment to promoting inclusivity, diversity, and international understanding within our great city. Your participation would serve as a powerful symbol of unity and friendship between the United States and Ukraine.

If you require any additional information or have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am more than happy to provide further details and assist in any way possible to facilitate this meaningful gesture.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Sample Light-Up Request (Bridge)

Subject: Request to Illuminate the [Bridge Name] Bridge Blue and Yellow for Ukraine's Independence Day

Dear Delaware Port Authority,

As a proud member of the Ukrainian-American community and an advocate for Ukraine's independence, I am writing to kindly request your support in illuminating [Bridge Name] with blue and yellow lights on August 24th, 2024, to commemorate Ukraine's 33rd anniversary of independence.

Philadelphia is home to one of the largest Ukrainian populations per capita in the United States, and our vibrant community takes great pride in celebrating Ukraine's Independence Day. By lighting up [Bridge Name] with blue and yellow, the colors of the Ukrainian flag, we can symbolize unity, pride, and support for Ukraine's ongoing fight for freedom and self-determination.

The Radiant Unity Campaign, organized by Ukrainian-American community organizations, aims to foster solidarity and raise awareness about Ukraine's independence. By participating in this campaign, the Port Authority of Philadelphia would not only honor the cultural heritage and contributions of the Ukrainian-American community but also demonstrate your commitment to promoting inclusivity, diversity, and international understanding within our great city.

I kindly request your consideration and support in illuminating [Bridge Name] with blue and yellow lights on August 24th, 2024. This gesture would serve as a powerful symbol of unity and friendship between the United States and Ukraine, as well as highlight Philadelphia's role as a city that embraces and celebrates its diverse communities.

Should you require any additional information or have any questions regarding this request, please do not hesitate to contact me. I am more than happy to provide further details and assist in any way possible to facilitate this meaningful tribute.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter. Your support would mean a great deal to the Ukrainian-American community in Philadelphia and further strengthen the bonds between our city and Ukraine.

Yours sincerely,



Proclamation Drafts

City Draft

WHEREAS, for centuries, the Ukrainian people have courageously fought for their freedom, self-governance, and national identity, overcoming numerous challenges and preserving their rich cultural heritage; and

WHEREAS, on August 24th, 1991, Ukraine achieved independence from the Soviet Union, marking a historic milestone in the Ukrainian people's journey towards freedom, democracy, and self-determination; and

WHEREAS, the Ukrainian-American community in Philadelphia has steadfastly celebrated Ukraine's Independence Day, honoring the sacrifices and resilience of their ancestors and the Ukrainian people as a whole; and

WHEREAS, the City of Philadelphia recognizes the importance of promoting cultural diversity, fostering international understanding, and supporting the aspirations of all nations towards freedom, justice, and independence; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge Russia's unprovoked war, which has persisted for over nine years, and stand in solidarity with the Ukrainian people in their pursuit of peace, sovereignty, and territorial integrity;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, [Mayor's Full Name], Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, do hereby proclaim August 24th, 2024, as

"UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE DAY"

in the City of Philadelphia. I call upon all residents to join in commemorating this significant occasion, to honor the Ukrainian-American community, and to recognize the Ukrainian people's enduring spirit and their ongoing struggle for freedom and self-governance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Philadelphia to be affixed this [Date].

[Mayor's Full Name]
Mayor of the City of Philadelphia



State Draft

WHEREAS, the [STATE] is proud to commemorate the 33rd anniversary of Ukraine's Independence Day on August 24th, 2024; and

WHEREAS, Ukraine has shown resilience, determination, and a steadfast commitment to freedom and democracy throughout its history; and

WHEREAS, it is imperative to recognize the ongoing struggles faced by the people of Ukraine, as Russia has prosecuted a war against Ukraine for over nine years, resulting in immense human suffering, loss of life, and displacement of innocent civilians; and

WHEREAS, the Ukrainian people have faced centuries of oppression, with Russia's suppression of Ukrainian language and culture dating back to the 1600s, making it essential to honor their perseverance and celebrate their rich heritage; and

WHEREAS, the [STATE] holds a special place in the history of Ukrainian immigration, being the first location in the New World where Ukrainians arrived, seeking a better life and opportunities to contribute to the growth of our great nation; and

WHEREAS, [STATE] proudly boasts the significant Ukrainian population, with Ukrainian-Americans making contributions to our society in various fields, including arts, culture, business, academia, and public service; and

WHEREAS, the Ukrainian community in [STATE] serves as a vibrant thread in the tapestry of our diverse population, enriching our state with their traditions, language, music, dance, and culinary heritage; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial to promote awareness and understanding of Ukraine's struggles and achievements, fostering a spirit of solidarity and support for the Ukrainian people in their pursuit of peace, justice, and self-determination;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, name and position, do hereby proclaim August 24th, 2024, as the 33rd anniversary of Ukraine's Independence Day. I encourage all [STATE] to join in this commemoration and celebrate the invaluable contributions of the Ukrainian community to our great state. Let us stand united in solidarity with the people of Ukraine, affirming our commitment to peace, justice, and the preservation of Ukrainian culture and language.

Given under my hand and the Seal of the Governor of the [STATE], this [DATE], in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-three.

[Signature]



Alternate Proclamation Draft

WHEREAS the territorial integrity of Ukraine is sovereign and inviolable, and portions of Ukraine's territory are currently under foreign military occupation, we honor the efforts and sacrifices of the Armed Forces and Territorial Defense Forces of Ukraine, in their heroic defense of the entire European continent and our United States allies against further aggressive actions; and

WHEREAS, for centuries the people of Ukraine yearned and struggled to achieve an independent state all the while preserving their culture, language, and self-identity; and,

WHEREAS, thirty-two years ago, on August 24, 1991, the Parliament of Ukraine formally declared an independent, sovereign, and democratic Ukrainian state, establishing the territorial integrity of Ukraine as sovereign and inviolable, further upheld by over 90% of Ukrainians in a national referendum in December of that same year; and

WHEREAS, also in 1991, the indigenous Crimean Tatar people of Ukraine restored their historic executive representative body - Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar people - which was banned once again by occupying forces in 2016, and the language, rights, and culture of Ukraine's indigenous people remain under threat today, much as they were during the Soviet and Tsarist regimes; and,

WHEREAS, Ukraine has always had a special bond with the United States, with Ukraine sending servicemen and women to serve alongside U.S. forces in theaters such as Afghanistan and Iraq throughout its three-decade long support of NATO deployments; and

WHEREAS, since the invasion of Ukraine In 2014, the United States and its allies have helped train Ukraine's Armed Forces, therefore we honor the men and women of the United States Armed Forces for providing the educational materials and training to further the professional development and increase the overall readiness of Ukraine's Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, the people of the United States have opened their homes to Ukrainians displaced by the war in their homeland, and have personally donated time and again to humanitarian relief for the victims of the unprovoked invasion, we honor the American spirit of generosity as an essential part of what makes us an exceptional nation; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, "Governor's/Mayor's Name, "Governor/Mayor of State/City," on behalf of its citizens, do hereby proclaim this day/week August 24, 2024 as Ukrainian



Independence Day/Week/Month and request and urge all citizens to join in commemorating this important anniversary. On this day, let us recommit ourselves to helping the Ukrainian nation reclaim full sovereignty over its international borders and remember its heroes who sacrificed their lives to ensure freedom and happiness of the future generations.



Resources

State Proclamation Guidelines & Governor Directory:

<https://byf.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/State-Proclamation-Guidelines.pdf>

