

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

February 20, 2025

Ald. Peter Burgelis  
(414) 286-3446

## MEDIA ADVISORY

### Ald. Burgelis to participate in rally to support Ukraine

**Alderman Peter Burgelis** will be participating in, and speaking at, the community rally in support of Ukraine on the third anniversary of the country's invasion from Russia. The event, hosted by Wisconsin Ukrainians, Inc., will take place on **Sunday, February 23** from **1 – 3 p.m. at 941 E. Wisconsin Ave.**

This event will honor the resilience and sacrifice of the Ukrainian people while calling for continued U.S. support in Ukraine's fight for freedom and sovereignty. The rally will feature keynote speakers, tributes to Ukraine's defenders, community prayers for peace, and actionable ways for attendees to support Ukraine through advocacy. The public is invited to attend.

Alderman Burgelis is a first generation Latvian-American whose parents and grandparents escaped Soviet terror in Europe during World War II. They eventually settled in Milwaukee in the 1950s. During his service as a Milwaukee County Supervisor, Alderman Burgelis authored 2022 Milwaukee County resolution [22-556](#) highlighting the efforts of local diaspora organizations supporting the people of Ukraine and condemning the unprovoked aggression and war crimes committed by Russian Federation soldiers in Ukraine.

**What: Rally in support of Ukraine**

**When: Sunday, February 23 from 1 – 3 p.m.**

**Where: 941 E. Wisconsin Ave.**



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## MEDIA ADVISORY

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### **Wisconsin Ukrainians to Hold Rally in Milwaukee on the Third Anniversary of Russia's Full-Scale Invasion**

**Milwaukee, WI** – Wisconsin Ukrainians, Inc. invites the community to stand in solidarity with Ukraine at the Third Annual Rally for Ukraine on Sunday, February 23, 2025, at 1:00 PM in Milwaukee. This event will honor the resilience and sacrifice of the Ukrainian people while calling for continued U.S. support in Ukraine's fight for freedom and sovereignty.

#### **Event Details:**

**WHEN:** Sunday, February 23, 2025  
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**WHERE:** 941 East Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53202

The rally will feature keynote speakers, tributes to Ukraine's defenders, community prayers for peace, and actionable ways for attendees to support Ukraine through advocacy.

#### **Key Messages:**

- No Negotiations About Ukraine Without Ukraine – Any settlement must include Ukraine as an active participant.
- A Just and Lasting Peace – Peace must be achieved through strength and ensure long-term security.
- Security and Sovereignty for Ukraine – A free, independent Ukraine is vital to U.S. and European security.
- Use of Frozen Russian Assets for Ukraine – Russia must pay for the destruction it has caused. We call for the immediate repurposing of frozen Russian assets to support Ukraine's defense, reconstruction, and humanitarian needs.
- Accountability for War Crimes – Russia must be held accountable for war crimes, including the abduction of Ukrainian children and illegal detention of prisoners.
- Strengthening Sanctions on Russia – Sanctions must be strictly enforced and expanded to weaken Russia's ability to wage war.

- Ongoing U.S.-Ukraine Collaboration – Strengthening diplomatic, economic, and military cooperation is essential.
- Avoiding Past Mistakes – The failures of past agreements (Budapest 1994, Bucharest 2008, Minsk 2015) must not be repeated.
- Commitment to Ukraine’s Territorial Integrity – Ukraine’s sovereignty and internationally recognized borders must be fully restored.
- NATO Membership for Ukraine – Ukraine’s future lies in NATO, a commitment affirmed at the Washington NATO Summit and enshrined in Ukraine’s Constitution.

This event serves as a powerful reminder that Ukraine’s fight for freedom is far from forgotten. Wisconsin Ukrainians, Inc. remains dedicated to promoting Ukrainian culture, fostering community support, and providing direct aid to Ukrainians in need.

### **Statement from Wisconsin Ukrainians, Inc.**

Wisconsin Ukrainians, Inc. stands firm in our unwavering support for Ukraine as it continues its courageous fight for freedom, sovereignty, and democracy. Ukraine has been the victim of an unprovoked and brutal invasion—first in 2014, with the illegal annexation of Crimea, and again in 2022, when Russia launched a full-scale war against the Ukrainian people.

The ongoing war is not just a regional conflict; it is a battle for the fundamental values of liberty and self-determination. While discussions about borders and negotiations continue on the global stage, we must remain clear-eyed about the reality: Ukraine did not start this war, and any resolution must respect Ukraine’s territorial integrity and the will of its people.

The United States has long stood as a defender of democracy, and we urge the current administration and all elected officials to continue their strong support for Ukraine. Abandoning Ukraine now would embolden aggressors worldwide and weaken the very principles upon which our nation was founded.

We call on our leaders to reaffirm their commitment to Ukraine—not only for the sake of Ukraine’s survival but for the security of the free world. The cost of inaction is too high, and history will remember those who stood with Ukraine in its time of need.

Wisconsin Ukrainians, Inc.

#### **About Wisconsin Ukrainians, Inc.**

Wisconsin Ukrainians, Inc. is a grassroots, volunteer-led 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization focused on promoting Ukrainian culture and supporting crucial initiatives in Ukraine. Since its founding in March 2022, the organization has provided Ukrainian defenders with medical supplies, tactical gear, thermal wear, generators, and food supplies. Additionally, it assists Ukrainian refugees by sharing resources and helping with their adjustment to life in the U.S. For more information, visit [www.wisconsin-ukrainians.org](http://www.wisconsin-ukrainians.org).

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