



November 10, 2021

The Honorable
Senator Dick Durbin
Washington, D.C.
711 Hart Senate Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

**Request to designate the Ukrainian Famine
Holodomor (1932-1933) as genocide**

Dear Senator Durbin:

On behalf of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America Illinois Division representing over 200,000 Ukrainian-Americans and over seventy community organizations, we send greetings and well wishes. We write to request your support for a presidential designation of the horrific Ukrainian Famine (1932-1933) known as *Holodomor* as a genocide.

In commemoration of the Ukrainian *Holodomor* of 1932-1933 (*Holodomor* means *Death by Starvation*), the Ukrainian government has designated the last Saturday of the month of November as *Ukrainian Genocide Remembrance Day*. The emphasis on this commemorative date is for the Ukrainian nation, not just within the borders of Ukraine, but for Ukrainians throughout the world, to commemorate the occasion with appropriate observances. The Ukrainian *Holodomor* must not be forgotten, thus insuring that history does not repeat itself.

Since the observance of the 50th anniversary of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide in 1983, U.S. presidents have issued presidential statements regarding this tragic killing of millions through the intentional starvation of Ukrainians. A Statement from the President of the United States would indicate an official acknowledgement of this crime by the Soviet regime.

In the United States, the annual commemoration of the anniversary of the Ukrainian *Holodomor* will be held on Saturday, November 27, 2021 at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Chicago, and in all communities where Ukrainian-Americans live in the United States throughout the month of November.

Time has come for the President of the United States to issue a presidential statement designating the Ukrainian *Holodomor* as a genocide. We assure you of the gratitude of all Ukrainian-Americans for your continuous support of Ukraine. Should your staff require any further information regarding this observance, please feel free to contact Marta Farion at 773-490-9797 or email at marta@farion.org. Attached is a copy of the letter sent The President of the United States.

Respectfully,

On behalf of the UCCA Illinois Executive Board,

D. Diaczun

Marta Farion

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