Ukraine's Quest *for*
Mature Nation Statehood

Roundtable XXVI

Contemplating Post War Recovery– The Issue of Priority Sectors in the Ukrainian Economy

October 23, 2025

529 14th St, NW • National Press Club

Washington, D.C.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood Roundtable XXVI: Contemplating Post War Recovery – The Issue of Priority Sectors in the Ukrainian Economy is scheduled to take place October 23, 2025 at the National Press Club in Washington DC. The forum is the second in a UA QUEST RT trilogy (XXV, XXVI, XXVII) dedicated to exploring the optimal path to postwar recovery for Ukraine. This year's gathering will concentrate on examining the sectors in the Ukrainian economy that would demand (or deserve) 'first attention: Infrastructure, Agriculture, Resources, Defense Industry, Cutting Edge Technology

UA HES EVENT INVOCATION

Oh Lord, Master of Heaven and Earth
You have graced Ukraine with Liberty,
We beseech you to help Her sustain
Your precious gift

STEERING COMMITTEE

Christine Balko
Andrij Dobriansky
Katie Fox
Annie Harvey
Mykola Hryckowian
Roman Myhal
Steven Nix
Herman Pirchner
Annie Swingen
Walter Zaryckyj

EXECUTIVE COORDINATOR

Andrij Dobriansky

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

Mykola Hryckowian

PROGRAM COORDINATOR

Walter Zaryckyj

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PROGRAM

Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood Roundtable XXVI: Contemplating Post War Recovery – The Issue of Priority Sectors in the Ukrainian Economy

Date: October 23, 2025

Venue: National Press Club
529 14th St NW, Washington, DC 20045

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM Registration

9:00 AM - 9:20 AM First Word

Host Moderator: Walter Zaryckyj [Executive Director/Center for US-Ukrainian Relations]
Opening Remarks: US Congressional Ukraine Caucus Co-Chair Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA)

9:20 AM - 9:50 AM Highlight Focus Session I

Theme: UA Post War Recovery – Ranking the Priority Sectors – Perspective From Kyiv

Chair: Michael Sawkiw [President/Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

Featured Speaker: Ihor Baranetski [Minister-Counsellor on Economic Issues/Embassy of Ukraine in the US]

9:50 AM – 11:05 AM Panel Discussion Session I

Theme: Infrastructure – Construction/Transportation/Communications

Moderator:

Amb. William Courtney [Senior Fellow/RAND Corp.]

Panelists:

Thomas Lang [CEO/Rebuilding Ukraine Association]
Jon Queen [President/Berezan Port Project]
David Grasso [Head of Partnerships/America-Ukraine Strategic Partners]

Special Discussant: Jed Sunden [Kyiv Post Founder]

10:55 AM – 11:10 AM Coffee Break

11:10 AM – 12:25 PM Panel Discussion Session II

Theme: Agriculture – Production/Storage/Distribution

Moderator:

Anders Aslund [Chairman/Economics Education and Research Consortium]

Panelists:

Roman Waschuk [Ukraine's Business Ombudsman | CA Envoy to UA 2014-19]
Kent Dale [President/KNM Cattle LLC]
Pavlo Chumak [President/SunPro | Senior VP/Berezan Port Project]

Special Discussant: Tymofiy Mylovanov [President/Kyiv School of Economics]

12:25 PM – 12:45 PM Lunch Break
[Press Interviews]

12:45 PM – 1:10 PM Highlight Focus Session II

Theme: UA Post War Recovery – Ranking the Priority Sectors – Perspective from DC

Chair: Mykola Hryckowian [DC Bureau Director/Center for US-Ukrainian Relations]

Featured Speaker: Amb. Roman Popadiuk [President/Diplomacy Center Foundation]

1:10 PM – 2:25 PM Panel Discussion Session III

Theme: Resources – Metals/Chemicals-Rare Earths/Energy

Moderator:

Amb. John Herbst [Eurasia Center Senior Director/Atlantic Council]

Panelists:

Jock Mendoza Wilson [Director of International And Investment Relations/System Capital Management]
Grant Turner [Research Associate/Strategic Foresight Hub-Stimson Center]
Max Pyziur [DTFE & NGP Research Director/Energy Research Policy Foundation]

Special Discussant: Howard Shatz [Senior Economist/RAND Corp.]

2:25 PM – 3:40 PM Panel Discussion Session IV

Theme: Cutting Edge Technology – Cyber-AI/Robotics/Bio-Med

Moderator:

Herman Pirchner [President/American Foreign Policy Council]

Panelists:

Oleksandr Romanko [Director/SS&C Technologies Canada | UT Industrial Eng.]
Richard Ogilchyn [Chair/Grand Founders Initiative | President/Ogilchyn Capital]
Evhenii Honchar [Deputy Minister of Health of Ukraine]

Special Discussant: Anna Sczepanek [Executive Director/Penta Prosthetics]

3:40 PM – 3:45 PM Coffee Break

3:45 PM – 5:00 PM Panel Discussion Session V

Theme: Defense Industry – Land/Sea/Air-Space

Moderator

Greg Melcher [Chief Operations Officer/Center for New Generation Warfare]

Panelists:

Perry Boyle [Chief Executive Officer/MITS Capital]
Zenon Wowczuk [Chief Executive Officer/Civilian Military Innovation Institute]
Davis Richardson [Founder-Director/America-Ukraine Strategic Partners]

Special Discussant: Phillip Petersen [Chief Executive Officer/Center for New Generation Warfare]

6:00 PM – 8:00 PM Patrons' Reception
[AFPC/509 C Street NE]

Host: Andrij Dobriansky [Communications Director/Ukrainian Congress Committee of America]

BIOS

Anders Aslund, currently Chairman of the Economics Education and Research Consortium, senior fellow at the Stockholm Free World Forum and adjunct professor at Georgetown University, has been focusing on the systemic transition from a planned economy to a market economy in the post Soviet space for over 30 years. He has been an advisor to, among others, the presidents of Russia, Ukraine and Kyrgyzstan and has contributed to the economic policy of the Baltic States. From 1989 to 1994 he was a professor of international economics at the Stockholm School of Economics. He graduated from the Stockholm School of Economics, and earned a PhD from Oxford University.

Perry Boyle is the founder and CEO of MITS Capital, with offices in the US and Ukraine. MITS Capital has an extensive portfolio of defense tech investments in Ukraine and is working to integrate Ukraine into Europe's defense architecture. He is also the Chairman of MITS Industries, a Danish-Ukrainian defense company in Copenhagen and Kyiv. Before his work in Ukraine, Perry had a 30-year career on Wall Street. Perry holds degrees from Stanford, Dartmouth, and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, as well as a PGCert in Global Security from King's College London.

William Courtney is an adjunct senior fellow at the RAND Corporation. He chairs the board of trustees of Eurasia Foundation, which carries out programs abroad to improve governance and strengthen civil society. He co-chairs the international advisory council of the America 250 Foundation. It will oversee and encourage commemorations of the 250th anniversary of America's founding in 1776. For 28 years he was a foreign service officer in the Department of State, and 14 years a corporate executive. He served as Ambassador to Kazakhstan, Georgia, and the U.S.-Soviet Commission to implement the Threshold Test Ban Treaty.

Pavlo Chumak is a Ukrainian entrepreneur and philanthropist, founder and head of the international group of companies Sunpro group, which operates in Ukraine, the European Union, and the US. Over the past decade, he has successfully implemented a number of projects in the fields of food industry, maritime logistics, port infrastructure, and renewable energy. He is currently working on several large-scale initiatives, including the development of the largest deep-water port on the Black Sea and the establishment of two industrial parks in S. Ukraine. With his support, numerous social initiatives have been implemented, including the provision of medical equipment, reconstruction of road infrastructure, and support for spiritual/cultural development programs.

Kent Dale is the President of KNM Cattle, LLC, in College Station, Texas. KNM is an integrated company producing cattle from birth to processed beef. Since 1987 he has been involved in all aspects of the cattle industry: cow/calf, stocker, and feeder cattleproduction. For the past 15 years he has been involved in humanitarian work in Ukraine. He currently serves as the Vice-Chairman of the Board of Directors for Elevate Ukraine.This non-profit has provided medical supplies and humanitarian aid to Ukrainians impacted by the ongoing war. In addition, he serves on the Board of Directors of EEM (Eastern European Missions).

Andrij Dobriansky, Director of Communications for the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, is often referred to as the most visible face of the Ukrainian American community. With a history of appearances on The Daily Show with Jon Stewart, MSNBC, PBS, NPR, Voice of America and other outlets, he assists Ukraine and its worldwide diaspora in getting its message out. At the United Nations, he is the Chair of the UN Affairs Committee for the Ukrainian World Congress, the international assembly of all public organizations in the Ukrainian diaspora of over 20 million people.

Brian K. Fitzpatrick is the U.S. Representative for Pennsylvania's 8th congressional district. He was elected in 2016 and took office on January 3, 2017. Before his election to the Congress, Rep. Fitzpatrick served as a Federal Bureau of Investigation Special Agent, where his focus was on fighting political corruption and supporting global counterterrorism efforts. As an FBI agent, he served our country in Operation Iraqi Freedom – the largest of several active fronts in the War on Terror; he also served as the National Director for the FBI's Campaign Finance and Election Crimes Enforcement Program. Rep. Fitzpatrick has traveled the world to promote the cause of Ukrainian territorial integrity during the Russo-Ukrainian War; he is a Co-Chair of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

David Grasso is the head of partnerships at America-Ukraine Strategic Partners (AUSP), where he leads global collaborations with financial institutions, development actors, and private investors supporting Ukraine's defense and reconstruction. His work spans venture capital, infrastructure, and international development, bringing battlefield-validated innovation into U.S. and allied markets. Beyond AUSP's core defense and investment work, he also helps lead its cultural initiatives, including Art Shield—a nonprofit effort promoting Ukrainian art and artists worldwide. Originally from Miami, David grew up in Little Havana, where he was shaped by the civic life and political traditions of the Cuban exile community. He holds a Master in Public Policy from Harvard Kennedy School

John Herbst is the senior director of the Atlantic Council's Eurasia Center. Amb. Herbst served for thirty-one years as a foreign service officer in the US Department of State, retiring at the rank of career minister. He was the US ambassador to Ukraine from 2003 to 2006. Prior to his duties in Ukraine, he was the ambassador to Uzbekistan from 2000 to 2003. The seasoned diplomat previously served as US consul general in Jerusalem; principal deputy to the ambassador-at-large for the Newly Independent States; director of the Office of Independent States and Commonwealth Affairs; director of regional affairs in the Near East Bureau; and at the embassies in Tel Aviv, Moscow, and Saudi Arabia. He most recently served as director of the Center for Complex Operations at the National Defense University. He has received two Presidential Distinguished Service Awards.

Yevhenii Honchar is the Deputy Minister of Health of Ukraine. After graduating from Bogomolets National Medical University in 2014 and completing an internship in Family Medicine, Dr. Honchar began his career in primary healthcare, later working in private sector clinical research and as a health consultant for several organizations. He joined the Ministry of Health in 2019, where he has advanced from a state expert to heading both a division and a department. In his current role, he is responsible for the Medical Guarantees Program, organizing medical care, financing reform, health technology assessment, etc. His oversight also includes the

procurement and supply of medicines and medical devices. He has played a pivotal role in navigating Ukraine's most significant health challenges, from reforming procurement to leading the response to COVID-19 & organizing medical provision during the war.

Glen E. Howard currently serves as the President and Chairman of The Saratoga Foundation. Before his time in Saratoga, Mr. Howard was President of the Jamestown Foundation; he shaped the research and analysis activities of the said institution for 20+ years and extensively interacted with prominent leaders and national strategists from Europe and Eurasia. Earlier, he was an analyst at the Science Applications International Corporation (SAIC) Strategic Assessment Center. His articles have appeared in The Wall Street Journal, the Central Asia-Caucasus Analyst, and Jane's Defense Weekly; he has consulted private sector and governmental agencies, including the U.S. Department of Defense, the National Intelligence Council and oil companies operating in Central Asia.

Mykola Hryckowian is currently Director of the Washington DC office of the Center for US Ukrainian Relations (CUSUR); the Center has organized over 100 forums dealing with US-UA bilateral ties in the areas of national and energy security as well as economic and civil society development. From 2014 to 2015, Mr. Hryckowian was the Chairman of the Ad-Hoc Committee for Ukraine, a coalition of US NGO and Ukrainian-American communities that successfully advocated for the passage of the Ukraine Freedom Support Act 2014 and for the creation of the Senate Ukraine Caucus in 2015.

Tom Lang, president of Lang Development and Consulting Inc. and leading figure in the Rebuilding Ukraine Association, is a seasoned executive with over thirty-five years of building and managing multi-million-dollar construction and materials companies and projects in domestic and international markets. He is acknowledged for his ability to interface with foreign governments, comply with international regulations, create positive relations with clients, and be well received by executive leadership to develop, manage, and complete projects that return profit margins that meet or exceed projections. International Projects include: developing and managing numerous surface mining operations, hot mix asphalt, ready mix and block facilities, along with construction and consulting services have been completed in the countries of: Ukraine, Poland, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates,

Greg Melcher is the Chief Operations Officer for the New Generation Warfare Centre. He is also affiliated with the Virginia Tech Applied Research Corporation and Alion Science and Technology. He was a Senior Fellow at The Potomac Foundation and recently graduated from Johns Hopkins University with a Master's in Global Policy. In a prior position, he was a Vice President leading National Security Analysis at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory where he substantially grew their portfolio in modeling, simulation and analysis for US DOD and HomeLand Security clients. He also established and led their efforts to counter China's anti-access area-denial and the Russian Strategic Initiative.

Jock Mendoza-Wilson is the Director of the International and Investor Relations of System Capital Management since 2005, as well as a chairperson of the UN Global Compact in Ukraine, a member of the Advisory Board of the EU-Ukraine Business Council, a Director of the British-Ukrainian Chamber of Commerce and serves on the President's Advisory Council of the US-Ukraine Business Council. Additionally, he serves as a member of the UNled Humanitarian Country Team in Ukraine, which coordinates the response to the humanitarian crisis resulting from the conflict in the country's Donbas region. Mr. Mendoza-Wilson has extensive experience in developing communications strategies and implementing public and regulatory affairs programs for leading global corporations.

Richard-Ivan Ogilchyn is an entrepreneur, experienced asset manager and banker as well as an investment advisor to institutions. He served as an investment advisor in deals amounting to more than $9 billion and has assisted companies expanding into the US, Eastern Asia, Eastern Europe and the Middle East. He has over a decade of experience in the banking market. He started his career at COOP Bank as an intern and retired as the chairman. He has taken on additional years of experience in investment banking; he is the founder as well as Chairman and CEO of Ogilchyn Capital Investment Bank. Most propitiously, Mr. Ogilchyn has pursued the task of directing capital into Ukraine's reconstruction (especially in its Hi-Tech Sector) through the Grand Founders initiative.

Herman Pirchner, in 1982, became the founding President of the American Foreign Policy Council (AFPC), a nonprofit public policy organization headquartered in Washington, DC. Under his leadership, AFPC has hosted the Washington visits of hundreds of foreign officials, ranging from the Prime Minister of Malta to the Prime Minister of Russia; conducted hundreds of briefings for members of Congress and their staffs; and organized dozens of factfinding missions abroad for current and former senior American officials. AFPC's publication program includes the sponsorship of numerous articles, monographs and books; in recent years, AFPC authors have appeared in the Washington Post, the New York Times, the Financial Times and the Wall Street Journal.

Roman Popadiuk, a former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine and past principal of Morgan-Lewis Consulting, presently serves as President of the Diplomacy Center Foundation and the World Affairs Councils of America's Chairman of the national Board of Directors. A retired member of the career Senior Foreign Service, Dr. Popadiuk brings more than 30 years of experience in the areas of national security, political risk analysis, communications strategy and energy policy, including serving on the National Security Councils of Presidents Ronald Reagan and George Bush. With his vast experience and contacts that span the globe, he brings a unique insight into international political and business matters.

Max Pyziur is Research Director for Downstream, Transportation Fuels, Electricity, and Natural Gas Programs at the Energy Research Policy Foundation. EPRINC is a Washington, DC-based think-tank focused on the intersection of energy, economics, and security policy issues. Previously he has held senior analytical roles at PIRA Energy and CPM Group, both commodities market consultancies, as well as financial service companies such as Banc of America Securities and Victory Capital Asset Management.

Jon Queen is a businessman who lived and worked in Ukraine for almost fifteen years prior to becoming a Board Member for the U.S.- Ukraine Foundation. During his time in Ukraine, Jon helped manage two Ukrainian investment banks and he co-owned and operated twelve Ukrainian biomass heat-power stations. Jon also helped create the Ukrainian-language online education technology company Learning.ua. Currently, he serves as President of the Berezan Port Project. A trained economist and former lawyer, Jon holds the Chartered Financial Analyst and Chartered Alternative Investment Analyst designations.

Davis Richardson is the founder and director of America-Ukraine Strategic Partners (AUSP), a U.S. firm that connects battlefield-tested Ukrainian technology with American and allied defense markets. He leads AUSP's investment strategy and institutional engagement across defense technology, infrastructure, and resource exports. Davis is active in Ukraine's defense innovation ecosystem through Brave1 and serves as a Limited Partner in Green Flag Ventures, which invests in dual-use technologies across aerospace, AI, and communications. He previously advised venture capital funds and media organizations, with a background in journalism and public relations.

Dr. Oleksandr Romanko works as Associate Director in Financial Risk Quantitative Research at SS&C Technologies Canada; he is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Toronto, American University Kyiv, and Ukrainian Catholic University. Oleksandr is the Founding Director of the Master of Technology Leadership and Artificial Intelligence program at American University Kyiv. Previously, he worked as a Senior Research Analyst and Manager of Quantitative Research at Watson Financial Services division of IBM. Dr. Romanko is the author of over twenty articles/book chapters in the fields of financial risk management, artificial intelligence, machine learning, analytics, and operations research. To popularize data science and AI as a new career option in Ukraine, starting from 2013 Dr. Romanko taught courses in Data Science, Business Analytics and AI with more than 5000 attendees.

Michael Sawkiw is the President of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA), the leading representative organization of the Ukrainian American community. He was first elected President in 2000 in Chicago and subsequently re-elected in 2004 in Philadelphia. After more than a decade's break, Mr. Sawkiw took on a third term as head of the UCCA in 2024. Since 1996, Mr. Sawkiw has also served as Director of the UCCA's Washington bureau – the Ukrainian National Information Service - and currently continues to hold this position. His achievements in Washington include the formation of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus; advocating the graduation of Ukraine from the Jackson-Vanik amendment; and passage by the United States Congress of a bill to authorize the construction of a monument to the victims of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide in Washington, DC.

Howard J. Shatz is a senior economist at the RAND Corporation and a professor at the Pardee RAND Graduate School. He specializes in international economics and economics & national security. His RAND research has included Ukraine's post-war reconstruction and economic issues related to Russia's 2022 invasion of Ukraine; economic competition and the U.S. role in the global economic order; the Chinese and Russian economies; and the development of socio-economic strategy by governments. From 2007 to 2008, he was on leave from RAND, serving as a senior economist at the U.S. President's Council of Economic Advisers. Dr. Shatz has held research fellowships at Brookings and the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System

Jed Sunden was the founder of KP Media, a pioneering media company in Ukraine. Under his leadership, KP Media became the publisher of the Kyiv Post, Korrespondent—Ukraine's leading news magazine—and grew to become the country's largest consumer-facing internet company. The company was listed on the Ukrainian Stock Exchange in 2007 and successfully acquired in 2011. Beyond his business achievements, Sunden played an active role in Ukraine's political reform and anti-corruption movements. He also served for 15 years as Vice President of the Jewish Community of Ukraine under Chief Rabbi Yaakov Bleich.

Anna Szczepanek is an accomplished nonprofit executive and global development professional with over twelve years of experience designing and scaling programs that advance health equity, sustainability, and social impact across the world. As current Executive Director of Penta Medical Recycling, she leads a mission at the intersection of healthcare and environmental sustainability, collecting and redistributing surplus prosthetic devices from the United States to underserved communities in nearly thirty countries. Since the start of the war in Ukraine, Anna has overseen the transfer of 4,000+ prosthetic components to Ukrainian clinics and rehabilitation centers, helping to restore mobility and dignity to those affected by conflict.

Grant W. Turner is a Research Associate with the Strategic Foresight Hub at the Stimson Center, where he supports a range of projects focused on global trends, strategic analysis, and emerging technologies. His work centers on interdisciplinary approaches to Eurasian and Indo-Pacific affairs, grand strategy, great power competition, social change, and technological development. In addition to his role at Stimson, Grant contributes as a freelance analyst for the Jamestown Foundation and has written for RUSI Newsbrief, Eurasia Daily Monitor, The Diplomat, the Center for European Policy Analysis, and the Global Policy Journal blog.

Roman Waschuk joined the Canadian Foreign Service in 1987, serving abroad in Moscow, Kyiv, and Berlin, and at HQ in policy planning and post-conflict stabilization/reconstruction units. He was Ambassador in Belgrade (2011-14, with concurrent accreditation to Montenegro and North Macedonia) and in Kyiv (2014-2019). He retired from the Foreign Service in December 2019. From 2019 to 2022, Amb. Waschuk served as chair of the Foreign Policy Committee of the Ukrainian World Congress and since 2022 has served as Ukraine's Business Ombudsman.

Zenovy Wowczuk founded the Civil-Military Innovation Institute (CMI2), a non-profit defense innovation organization focusing on rapid development and technology transition to meet the warfighter needs. At CMI2 and its affiliated entities, Dr. Wowczuk leads the overall vision and growth strategies as well as the enterprise program transition activities (military program of record or commercial IP acquisition). During his career, Dr. Wowczuk has published over 25 peer-reviewed technical papers. He is the inventor/co-inventor of multiple patented and protected civil-military technologies,including aerospace systems, automated payload systems, blockchain, and biometric technologies.

Walter Zaryckyj is Executive Director of the Center for US-Ukrainian Relations. The Center provides "informational platforms" or venues for senior-level representatives of the political, economic, security, diplomatic and cultural/academic establishments of the United States and Ukraine to exchange views on a wide range of issues of mutual interest, and to showcase what has been referred to as a "burgeoning relationship of notable geopolitical import" between the two nations. Dr. Zaryckyj completed his undergraduate and graduate work at Columbia University; he taught political science at New York University for nearly three decades before moving on in recent years to do postdoctoral research work on Eastern Europe.

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BEREZAN PORT

UKRAINE'S QUEST FOR MATURE NATION STATEHOOD ROUNDTABLE XXVI:

CONTEMPLATING POST WAR RECOVERY – THE ISSUE OF PRIORITY SECTORS IN THE UKRAINIAN ECONOMY

OCTOBER 23, 2025