

Rebecca Neville

Subject: FW: FARA: Newsletter



DEFENDERS OF
Faith and Religious
Freedom in Ukraine

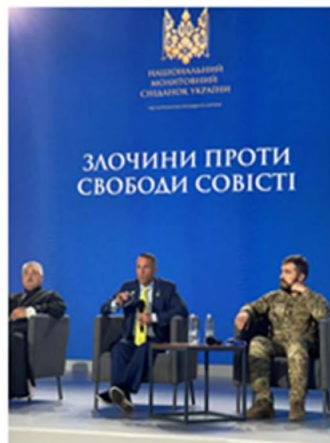
The Defenders Dispatch

Friends,

This is the first installment of a monthly newsletter covering our work on behalf of Ukrainian Evangelical Christians, who are suffering persecution and torture at the hands of the Russian Armed Forces in the Russian-occupied territories of Ukraine. Thank you for your advocacy efforts and your interest in this important issue. May God protect Ukraine and bring about a just and peaceful end to this war.

Gary Marx, President, Defenders of Faith and Religious Freedom in Ukraine

National Prayer Breakfast of Ukraine



In 1953, President Dwight D. Eisenhower spoke at America's first National Prayer Breakfast, where he called faith the "cornerstone of democracy." That event, which has been held annually in Washington ever since, inspired several members of Ukraine's Parliament to start their own National Prayer Breakfast in 2011. Ukraine's National Prayer Breakfast is now the most well-attended government-hosted prayer breakfast in all of Europe. The tradition of coming together across the political divide to break bread and join hands in prayer as legislators, pastors, business leaders, and citizens has been enormously impactful for the Kingdom of God in both Ukraine and the United States.

[Click here](#) to read my op-ed about my experience at the National Prayer Breakfast in Ukraine this past June.

Helsinki Commission Recap



On July 24, Ukrainian Pentecostal Pastor [Mark Sergeev](#) testified before the Helsinki Commission at a hearing on Russia's persecution of Ukrainian Christians. Mark was held at gunpoint by Russian soldiers who took his church and forced him and his family to flee from their home. His bravery in the face of persecution is inspiring, and getting to know him over the past few months has been a blessing.

[Click here](#) for coverage of the hearing and [here](#) for a video of the hearing in its entirety.

Supporting Israel AND Ukraine



Russia is striking Ukraine with the same Iranian drones that Hamas terrorists are using to strike Israel. Vladimir Putin has weaponized a corrupted version of the Orthodox faith to create a Kremlin-controlled mechanism of war, just like Hamas has weaponized a corrupted version of Islam to justify the indiscriminate murder of Jewish people. American Christians must not be tricked into indifference. We must support both Israel AND Ukraine.

More Info —

- Lesson from Netanyahu: Fight Iran's axis of evil ([Washington Times](#))
- Why US Evangelicals who support Israel should also back Ukraine ([The Christian Post](#))



Thank you again for your support and advocacy on behalf of our Ukrainian brothers and sisters in Christ. It is an honor to be partnered in this important work with you.

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