

February 7, 2020

DISSEMINATION BY THE LIVINGSON GROUP, LLC

FARA registration #6344

Secretary of State Pompeo recently returned from a successful visit to Ukraine. It was gratifying to see a continued demonstration of our shared commitment to democratic values, sovereignty, and prosperity. The United States has been a tremendous support to Ukraine politically and financially through security assistance, and now through the advancement of trade and investment opportunities between our two countries.

The Livingston Group represents the Ukrainian steel association, Ukrmetallurgprom, which actively supports the advancement of bilateral trade between the United States and Ukraine. We understand that Secretary Pompeo and President Zelenskyy had the opportunity to discuss trade and investment opportunities. Indeed, at the January 31 press briefing President Zelenskyy affirmed in his statement that *“2020 will become the year when we will significantly increase the investment and trade cooperation between Ukraine and the United States.”* He also advised that Ukraine is counting on the United States removing trade hurdles such as the *“preventative duty on steel imports of 25 percent.”* Ukrmetallurgprom concurs with President Zelenskyy that *“this is a sensitive issue for [our] metallurgy experts”* and also hopes *“that this duty will be rescinded for Ukraine.”*

In Ukraine, metallurgy currently accounts for 28 percent of manufacturing production and 300,000 industry employees. Metallurgy remains a significant contributor to Ukraine’s economic security despite the reduction of steel production since 2014 due to the loss of steelmaking facilities in the Donbass. The metallurgical industry and the entire Ukrainian economy are under constant pressure due to ongoing economic and territorial aggression by Russia.

Ukrmetallurgprom member companies contribute to the economic security of Ukraine through the global export of iron and steel. Though significant to the Ukrainian economy, the impact of these exports on the US economy is minimal. Currently, Ukrainian iron and steel imports account for around one percent of total imports, and less than one percent of total consumption in the United States.

A positive trade agreement on Ukrainian steel imports to the United States is a natural next step in the US-Ukraine partnership. We would appreciate your assistance in encouraging State and USTR to actively dialogue with President Zelenskyy and his Administration on exempting Ukraine from steel tariffs.

Ukrmetallurgprom is available to be a resource to you and your designated representatives on metallurgy in Ukraine and the importance of Ukrainian steel imports to the United States. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,
Bob Livingston

THE LIVINGSTON GROUP, LLC PROVIDES REPRESENTATION FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF ENTERPRISES UKRMETALURGPROM (A UKRAINIAN TRADE ASSOCIATION) IN ORDER TO ADVANCE THE BILATERAL TRADE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND UKRAINE. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, WASHINGTON, DC.