

Meet the Ambassador – Ukraine

HE Mr Vasyl Myroshnychenko, Ambassador of Ukraine to Australia
in conversation with John Richardson

Friday 9 December: 12.30pm for 1pm – 2pm AEDT at Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

Impressing the international community with the defence of its sovereignty and territorial integrity, Ukraine now faces its greatest challenge yet against Russia's aggression as winter arrives. Over half of the country's energy infrastructure is degraded, and the imminent humanitarian crisis will only further test unity in the EU and NATO.



Maintaining close diplomatic ties since its independence from the Soviet Union in 1991, Australia has earned the reputation as one of Ukraine's more significant non-NATO allies. This relationship has only strengthened in response to Russia's invasion, which has seen Australia commit over \$650 million in military and humanitarian support, including the deployment of ADF personnel to train Ukrainian forces, the supply of 90 armoured Bushmaster troop carriers, the provision of 70,000 tonnes of thermal coal to support Ukraine's energy security, and the approval of 9,500 fast-tracked visa applications.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy recently announced in the aftermath of liberating Kherson that it was the "beginning of the end" of the war. But as winter sets in and Russia engages in scorched earth policy, what will be the cost in resources and lives to achieve this end? What are the viable routes to peace? What does reconstruction look like and how can Australia play a role?

In this next instalment of our *Meet the Ambassador* series, you are invited to join HE Mr Vasyl Myroshnychenko in conversation with Vice-President AIIA Victoria and former Australian ambassador John Richardson.



HE Mr Vasyl Myroshnychenko has served as the Ambassador of Ukraine to Australia since April 2022. He briefly served as an advisor to the Minister of Defence of Ukraine (March-April 2022) and was a Supervisory Board Member of the Ukrainian Institute, a cultural diplomacy organisation under the Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (May 2021- July 2022). Prior to this, he has had an experienced career in international communications consultancy & the NGO space as an active business and civil society leader in Ukraine. He cofounded the "Ukraine Crisis Media Centre" (2014 -2019), a non-government media centre to boost international coverage of Ukraine, counteract the Kremlin disinformation and hybrid warfare threats and improve the capabilities of Ukraine's Government communications. He is a former Chevening Scholar and holds qualifications from various institutions including, Kyiv National Taras Shevchenko University (1998-2003), The London School of Economics and Political Science (2005-2006), Swedish Institute Management Program (2009) and American University, Institute of Advocacy and Public Affairs (2014).

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