



Ukraine Retrospective – One Year On

Stefan Romaniw OAM; Senator David Van; Petr Kuzmin; Richard Iron CMG OBE

Tuesday 28 February: 5.30pm for 6pm – 7pm AEDT

Dyason House, 124 Jolimont Road, East Melbourne

It is twelve months since Russia invaded Ukraine - not just an unwarranted attack on the borders of a sovereign nation in contravention of international law, but an egregious assault on the global rules-based international order.

One year on, AIIA VIC will review the key developments in Ukraine and Russia, as well as the shifts in the Western perspective on the war between these two countries.



How has Ukrainian society reacted to the existential threat to its country? Is Ukraine stronger now than a year ago? Are Western sanctions having sufficient effect on Russia's will to continue the invasion? Has Russian society accepted and embraced the war? How did Western countries, including Australia, view Ukraine's chances of success in defending its sovereignty at the start of the invasion and are they committed to helping Ukraine win the war now?

AIIA Victoria invites you to join this panel discussion with Stefan Romaniw, Senator David Van, Petr Kuzmin and Richard Iron who will provide answers to these and other questions from the Ukrainian, Russian, and Australian/Western perspectives.



Stefan Romaniw OAM is the First Vice President of the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) and Co-Chair of the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organisations (AFUO). He currently holds the position of Executive Director of Community Languages Australia. He has served terms as Chairperson of the Victorian Multicultural Commission under both Governments in Victoria. He has also served as Chairman of the Victorian Government's Australia Day Committee (Victoria).



Senator David Van is a Liberal Senator for Victoria, elected to the Senate in 2019. He is Deputy Chair of the Subcommittee on Foreign Affairs and Aid of the Joint Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade as well as Deputy Chair of the Senate Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Delegated Legislation. He is an active member of several committees including the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties and the Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories. Senator Van's commitment to international relations is reflected in his membership of several Parliamentary Friendship groups, co-chairing Parliamentary Friendship Groups of Ukraine, Spain, Mexico, Thailand and the Pacific Islands. Having made a visit to Ukraine in 2022, he is believed to be the only western parliamentarian to have been to the Donbas region in the last year. He holds a Master of International Relations degree from Monash University and is undertaking a Master of Strategy and Security degree at UNSW at the

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

AIIA Victoria gratefully acknowledges the Walter Mangold Trust Fund for its ongoing support of our young members

In-person: AIIA Premium & Young Professionals members free. AIIA Members \$20. Non-Members \$30. Student Non-Members \$10

Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10



Australian Institute of International Affairs Victoria

Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA).



Petr Kuzmin is a Russian-Australian anti-war activist and one of the founders of a grassroots pro-democracy movement *Svoboda Alliance AU&NZ* that sprang up organically in Australia and New Zealand in the wake of protests that swept Russia in 2021 upon Alexei Navalny's return and arrest. This movement has adopted a strong anti-war stance and is conducting ongoing solidarity rallies to emphasise strong cultural and human links between the people of Ukraine and Russia.



Richard Iron CMG OBE is the President of AIIA Victoria. He served for 37 years in the British Army in a wide range of theatres and was a visiting fellow to the *Changing Character of War Programme* at the University of Oxford. He was the lead editor and contributor to *British Generals in Blair's Wars*.

[BOOK ONLINE HERE](#)

AIIA Victoria gratefully acknowledges the Walter Mangold Trust Fund for its ongoing support of our young members
In-person: AIIA Premium & Young Professionals members free. AIIA Members \$20. Non-Members \$30. Student Non-Members \$10
Webinar: Free for all AIIA members. Student Non-Members \$5. Non-Members \$10