Internet Resources for UKRAINE

General Information

Travel Information: www.ukraine.com

Ukrainian Information Project: www.uazone.net

The Ukrainian National News Agency (Ukrinform): www.ukrinform.com/eng

Interfax-Ukraine News Agency: http://www.interfax.com.ua/eng/

Ukrainian Research Server: www.meta.ua/en

Ukrainian Translation Dictionary On-Line: http://lingresua.tripod.com/online

Maps of Ukraine: http://travel.kyiv.org/map

Youth in Action Programme related links

EAC Executive Agency: http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.php

SALTO Resource Centres Network: www.salto-youth.net

European Youth Portal: www.europa.eu/youth

Eurodesk: www.eurodesk.eu

EVS Volunteers Blogs: www.myevs.net

SALTO EECA Support Service (www.salto-eeca.eu)

- Contact List of Organizations,
- Forum (Partner Finding, Exchange of Experience, Reports and Photos from Events, Documents and Articles download and more),
- Blogs and Chat Room for EVS Volunteers.

…moreover

Regional Multipliers Network: www.salto-youth.net/eecamultipliers

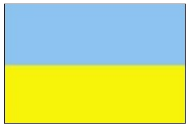
Manual on EECA Countries: www.salto-youth.net/eecamanual

Ukraine

Ukraine is a country in Eastern Europe. It borders Russia to the northeast, Belarus to the north, Poland, Slovakia and Hungary to the west, Romania and Moldova to the southwest and the Black Sea to the south. The historic city of Kiev (Kyiv) is the republic's capital.

From at least the ninth century the territory of present-day Ukraine was a centre of medieval East Slavic civilization that formed the state that became known as Kievian Rus and for the following several centuries the territory was divided between a number of regional powers.

After a brief period of independence (1917-1921) following the Russian Revolution of 1917, Ukraine became one of the founding Soviet Republics in 1922. The Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic's territory was enlarged westward after the Second World War and finally in 1954 with the Crimea transfer.



Flag

Coat of Arms

The April 1986 disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in Ukraine was the product of a flawed Soviet reactor design coupled with serious mistakes made by the plant operators in the context of a system where training was minimal. It was a direct consequence of Cold War isolation and the resulting lack of any safety culture. Nobody off-site suffered from acute radiation effects. However, large areas of Belarus, Ukraine, Russia and beyond were contaminated in varying degrees.

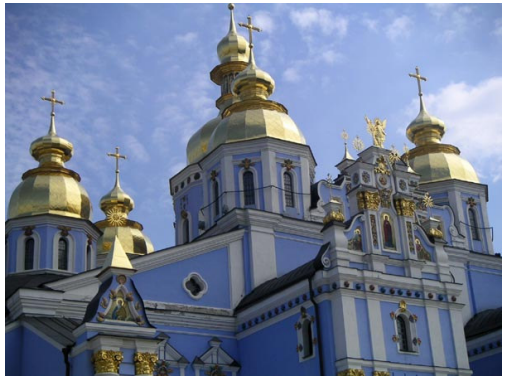
Ukraine became independent again after the Soviet Union's collapse in 1991. At the turn of 2004-2005 there was a series of protests and political events, called Orange Revolution, that took place throughout the

country in response to allegations of massive corruption, voter intimidation and direct electoral fraud during the 2004 Ukrainian presidential election. A second runoff found Viktor Yushchenko the winner.

The dominant religion in Ukraine is Eastern Orthodox Christianity, which is currently split between three Church bodies; the distant second is the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, which practices the same liturgical and spiritual tradition as Eastern Orthodoxy, but is in communion with the See of Peter and recognizes the primacy of the Pope as head of the Church. There are also smaller groups of Roman Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and Muslim faithful.

Ukrainian is the only official state language. Russian, which was a *de facto* official language in the Soviet Union, is largely used by many people, especially in eastern and southern Ukraine.

(source: *Wikipedia*)



Visas and registration

Citizens of EECA as well as EU countries don't need visas to enter Ukraine for period of 90 days. Passport must be valid for at least 6 months. Travelers receive a registration card at the border-crossing, it shall be presented again at the border while leaving the country. All travelers should have valid medical/health insurance. It can be bought at the border-crossings. Bringing to Ukraine more than 3000 USD requires official declaration.

Year-long visas require official invitation, which confirms institutional support and purpose of stay in Ukraine, it costs around: 200 USD. This visa should be issued prior to arrival to the country. Visas can be prolonged in the registration office (OWIR).

www.mfa.gov.ua, 2007

Basic information

Full country name: Ukraine

Government type: Republic

Capital: Kiev (Kyiv)

Independence: 24 August 1991 (from the Soviet Union)

National holiday: Independence Day, 24 August (1991); the date of 22 January (1918), the day Ukraine first declared its independence, is now celebrated as Unity Day

Area: 603,700 sq km

Administrative divisions: 24 provinces (oblasti, singular - oblast'), 1 autonomous republic (avtonomna respublika), and 2 municipalities (mista, singular - misto) with oblast status

Population: 45,700,395 (July 2009 est.)

Ethnic groups: Ukrainian 77.8%, Russian 17.3%, Belarusian 0.6%, Moldovan 0.5%, Crimean Tatar 0.5%, Bulgarian 0.4%, Hungarian 0.3%, Romanian 0.3%, Polish 0.3%, Jewish 0.2%, other 1.8% (2001 census)

Language: Ukrainian 67% - official, Russian 24%; small Romanian-, Polish-, and Hungarian-speaking minorities

Religion: Ukrainian Orthodox - Kyiv Patriarchate 50.4%, Ukrainian Orthodox - Moscow Patriarchate 26.1%, Ukrainian Greek Catholic 8%, Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox 7.2%, Roman Catholic 2.2%, Protestant 2.2%, Jewish 0.6%, other 3.2% (2006 est.)

(source: *The World Factbook*)

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