

THE U.S.-UKRAINE FOUNDATION

FRIENDS OF UKRAINE NETWORK

SUPPORTING PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

NATIONAL SECURITY TASK FORCE

Building Consensus for Priorities in U.S. Assistance for Ukraine

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF) has brought together various specialists to build a rational consensus for recommendations on military assistance to Ukraine.

Chair: Amb. John Herbst, Atlantic Council;

Vice Chairs: Nadia K. McConnell, USUF; Robert A. McConnell, McConnell and Associates.

The recommendations were deliberated in March 2017 by the task force, which included:



General Philip M. Breedlove
USAF (Ret)
former SACEUR



Dr. Stephen Blank
American Foreign
Policy Council



Ian Joseph Brzezinski
Former Deputy Assistant Secretary of
Defence for Europe and NATO Policy



Michael Carpenter
Former Deputy Asst
Secretary of Defense



General Wesley Clark
USA (Ret), former
SACEUR



Amb. John Herbst
Atlantic Council



Glen Howard
Jamestown
Foundation



**Dr. Donald
Jensen**
SAIS



Dr. Phillip Karber
Potomac Foundation



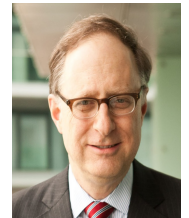
Nadia K. McConnell
U.S.-Ukraine
Foundation



Robert A. McConnell
McConnell and
Associates



Herman Pirchner
President of
American
Foreign Policy
Council



**Amb. Alexander
Vershbow**
Former NATO
Deputy Secretary
General

Endorsements as of April 21, 2017



Tony Blinken
Former Deputy
Secretary of State



Eric Edelman
Former Under Secretary of
Defense for Policy



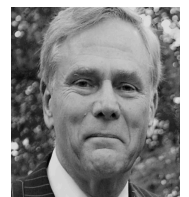
Jim Gerlach
Member of Congress
(2003-2015)



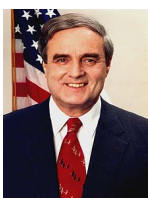
Dennis Hertel
Member of Congress
(1981-1993)



Colin Kahl
Former National Security
Adviser to Vice President



Jan M Lodal
Former Principal Deputy
Under Secretary of Defense



**Amb. William
Green Miller**
Woodrow Wilson
International Center



Powell Moore
Former Assistant
Secretary of Defense
for Legislative Affairs



Jim Moran
Member of
Congress (1991 –
2015)



**Amb. Roman
Popadiuk**
Morgan Lewis



**Anders Fogh
Rasmussen**
NATO Secretary
General 2009-2014



**Amb. William
B. Taylor**
US Institute of
Peace



**Amb. Temuri
Yakobashvili**
PASS USA

CONTAINING THE RUSSIAN CHALLENGE AND SUPPORTING UKRAINE

The Trump Administration, including the Secretary of State, the Secretary of Defense, and the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has condemned President Putin's revisionist actions in Europe, categorizing them among the top security threats we face. Putin has conducted two wars of conquest in Georgia and Ukraine. His larger goal is to weaken NATO, the Transatlantic relationship and the EU. The West's weak response to Putin's war in Georgia encouraged him to seize Crimea; the West's weak response to Crimea encouraged Putin to begin a hybrid, not quite covert war in Ukraine's Donbass. The West's response to Russia's invasions of Ukraine was better than its response to the invasion of Georgia, but still insufficient. It imposed targeted sanctions on some key sectors of the Russian economy and provided some military aid. But that aid was insufficient given our clear interest in stopping Kremlin aggression in Ukraine. Military support for Ukraine needs to be increased.

A strong Transatlantic relationship and a strong NATO are vital to the U.S. NATO took strong steps to deter Russian action against the Baltic states and other eastern members of the Alliance at the NATO summit in 2016. But forward defense of NATO also requires much greater support for Ukraine.

Making the Kremlin pay a heavy price for its aggression in Ukraine will help dissuade it from taking aggressive steps against the neighboring Baltic states and other, vulnerable neighbors. Providing Ukraine with more substantial military support would make it harder for Putin to succeed in Ukraine, and it would strengthen Ukrainian morale in the knowledge of real Western support. We should provide training and equipment – including defensive lethal systems – that enable the Ukrainians to defend themselves while incurring fewer casualties, and to impose much greater costs – including human costs – on Russia if it undertakes further aggression.

Providing such equipment is also a way to show that the U.S. (and the UK and France) are doing more to live up to the Budapest Memorandum, when they provided assurances for Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity as it surrendered the world's fourth largest nuclear stockpile.

To enable Ukraine to fight a successful defensive war against the Kremlin, and to provide further leverage to political efforts to convince Moscow to fulfill its Minsk Agreement obligations, we urge the U.S. to provide the following military assistance to Ukraine:

1. *Additional counter-battery radar units with fire-control systems, including longer-range systems capable of detecting and targeting Russian long-range artillery and multiple-launch rocket systems (responsible for 80% of Ukrainian casualties) as well as mortars.*
2. *Additional tactical secure communications.*
3. *Advanced anti-tank launchers and missiles – to withstand the hundreds of tanks Moscow has deployed to the occupied territories, which have enabled Russia's seizure of hundreds of square kilometers of additional territory since the Minsk II ceasefire.*
4. *Advanced unmanned aerial vehicles with Electronic Warfare countermeasures – to offset the huge Russian advantage in border/coastal surveillance.*
5. *Bradley fighting vehicles, HUMVEEs, MRAPs, JLTVs – to provide a mobile covering force on the flanks to offset the large Russian tank force in the occupied territories. (These vehicles are currently in storage.)*
6. *Mutual real-time intelligence sharing.*
7. *Additional training for the Ukrainian armed forces, with the goal of building towards combined arms training.*
8. *Cooperation with Ukraine in reforming its defense industry.*

Provision of this assistance could be facilitated by granting Ukraine Major Non-NATO Ally (MNNA) status. This designation would be both an operationally useful and symbolically significant demonstration of the US commitment to Ukraine's territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence.

*The **Friends of Ukraine Network** is an initiative of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation. It originated from the Foundation's U.S.-Ukraine Policy Dialogue program, 2006-2012.*

These recommendations do not necessarily reflect the views of all organizations represented herein or other members of the Friends of Ukraine Network.