



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
Hon. Stephanie A. Miner, Mayor

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: August 24, 2017

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**MAYOR MINER TO CELEBRATE UKRAINIAN
INDEPENDENCE DAY AT CITY HALL**

*Annual Flag Raising Ceremony Recognizes Twenty-Sixth Anniversary of Ukraine's
Independence*

SYRACUSE, N.Y. – Mayor Stephanie A. Miner will welcome members of the local Ukrainian community to city hall for a celebration of the country's independence day. The Mayor will issue a proclamation recognizing Ukrainian Independence Day in the city of Syracuse during a flag raising ceremony. The event will take place on **Thursday, August 24 at 11:00 am** on the front steps of city hall, 233 East Washington Street in Syracuse.

"I look forward to welcoming members of the local Ukrainian community to city hall for this annual celebration. Now, more than ever, the solidarity between the people of Syracuse and the people of Ukraine is a critical relationship to continue," said **Syracuse Mayor Stephanie A. Miner**. "This year, I congratulate Ukraine on their twenty-sixth anniversary and wish the Ukrainian people, here and abroad, the best for a safe and prosperous future."

The full text of the proclamation, being issued jointly with Onondaga County, appears below.

WHEREAS, In 1991, the Parliament of Ukraine acceded to the aspirations of the Ukrainian people by formally declaring an independent Ukrainian state, thereby establishing the territorial integrity of Ukraine as sovereign and inviolable and this historic action taken on August 24, 1991 brought an end to a brutal totalitarian regime whose crimes against humanity cast a dark shadow over human history and cost many nations, including Ukraine, millions of lives, many of whose names will tragically never be known or memorialized; and

WHEREAS, Western governments have noted that the backsliding of democratic principles in recent years has led to instances of media censorship; lack of basic human rights; and selective prosecution of former elected government officials and thus inhibits integration into the Euro-Atlantic institutions; that if Ukraine wants to join the EuroAtlantic community it must adhere to international norms and democratic principles; and,

WHEREAS, Ukraine's parliament adopted a resolution in support of implementing the necessary conditions for signing the Association Agreement with the EU but, as yet, must prove its commitment to Euro-Atlantic integration by meeting key conditions to demonstrate its loyalty to basic European values, and as Ukraine has



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geopolitical significance, it's becoming a signatory to the EU Association Agreement, could lead to a more prominent role for Ukraine in such issues as political stability, economic growth and energy security; and,

WHEREAS, The Ukrainian American community cherishes the values of democracy, and remains hopeful that Ukraine will reverse its current course and follow a path of constructive action in accordance with European values and principles; and,

WHEREAS, The efforts of Ukrainians around the world to preserve the language, culture and history of the nation must be acknowledged and, encouraged so that this effort continues for the sake of future generations. Such preservation has allowed Ukrainians to make significant contributions to the culture and society of the United States; and,

WHEREAS, We urge all citizens to join the celebration commemorating this momentous event in the history of the Ukrainian nation and to keep the people of Ukraine in their thoughts and prayers as they go through continued struggles as they fight for their freedom and unquestioned right of self-determination.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOANNE M. MAHONEY, County Executive of the County of Onondaga, and I, STEPHANIE A. MINER Mayor of the City of Syracuse, do hereby proclaim the Twenty Fourth Day of August, Two Thousand Seventeen, as

Ukrainian Independence Day
In the County of Onondaga and City of Syracuse

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seals of the county of Onondaga and the city of Syracuse to be imprinted this Twenty Fourth Day of August, Two Thousand Seventeen.

Joanne M. Mahoney
County Executive

Stephanie A. Miner
Mayor