

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

November 7, 2022

As a former Honorary Chairman of the National Constitution Center, I am pleased to join you all in celebrating a rare patriot, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. In him, the Ukrainian people have a leader worthy of their conviction and courage. Together, they are proving that the darkness that drives autocracy is no match for the flame of liberty that lights the souls of free people everywhere.

When Russia launched its brutal assault against Ukraine eight months ago, President Zelenskyy stood strong and declared, "The President is here." His words lifted the Ukrainian people and echoed around the world. Today, he continues to fearlessly lead his country, defend Ukraine's sovereignty, and fight to uphold the basic values that unite us all.

Each time we speak, I hear in President Zelenskyy's voice the unbowed determination of the Ukrainian people to write their own future. From the port of Odesa and the streets of Kyiv to the frontlines of Kharkiv, they have come together to defend their freedom. In the face of Russian aggression, their unbreakable spirit and unshakable resolve have inspired people everywhere. The United States is proud to have helped rally the world to provide these brave Ukrainian women and men vital economic support, humanitarian aid, and security assistance. And we remain united with our allies and partners around the world in our efforts to hold Russia accountable for this brutal and unjust war.

The very principles that we enshrined in our Nation's founding documents, right here in Philadelphia more than 200 years ago, are at stake in this war today—freedom, justice, and liberty. The United States will continue to stand with the heroes of Ukraine in defense of these core values for as long as it takes. I send my sincere congratulations to President Zelenskyy on this well-deserved honor.

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