



CANADA-UKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY PROGRAM  
ПАРЛЯМЕНТАРНА ПРОГРАМА КАНАДА-УКРАЇНА  
PROGRAMME PARLIAMENTAIRE CANADA-UKRAINE



**UKRAINIAN DAY ON  
PARLIAMENT HILL**

JOURNÉE DES  
UKRAINIENS SUR LA  
COLLINE DU PARLEMENT

**VYSHYVANKA DAY**

JOURNÉE DE LA  
VYSHYVANKA

**PRAYER FOR PEACE IN  
UKRAINE AND THROUGHOUT  
THE WORLD**

PRIÈRE POUR LA PAIX EN  
UKRAINE ET DANS LE MONDE



**WEDNESDAY, MAY 15<sup>TH</sup>, 2019**

**LE MERCREDI 15 MAI 2019**

**11:00 AM**

Prayer for Peace in Ukraine and throughout the world  
*The Peacekeeping Monument, Ottawa*

**11 heures**

Prière pour la paix en Ukraine et dans le monde  
*Monument au maintien de la paix, Ottawa*

**6:00 PM**

Reception with Interns of the Canada-Ukraine  
Parliamentary Program (CUPP)  
*131 Queen Street, Room 58, 8th Floor*

**18 heures**

Réception avec les stagiaires du Programme  
parlementaire Canada-Ukraine (PPCU)  
*131, rue Queen, pièce 58, 8e étage*

2019 Vyshyvanka Day Commemorative Photo

Photo souvenir de la Journée de la vyshyvanka 2019

# INVITED GUESTS OF HONOUR



**Cabinet Ministry**

Cabinet ministériel

**Members of Parliament**

Députés

**Senators**

Sénateurs

**Diplomatic Corps**

Corps diplomatique



**Geoff Regan**

The Speaker of the House of Commons

Président de la Chambre des communes



**Mustafa Dzhemilev**

Member of Ukrainian Parliament; Former Chairman of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People; Recognized leader of the Crimean Tatar National Movement

Député du Parlement ukrainien; Ancien président des Mejlis du peuple tatar de Crimée; Chef reconnu du mouvement national tatar de Crimée



**Akhtem Chyihoz**

Deputy of the Head of the Mejlis (Assembly) of the Crimean Tatar People

Adjoint au chef de la Mejlis (Assemblée) qui représente les Tatars de Crimée



**Yuri Kushnir**

President of the CUPP ALUMNI Association

Président de l'Association des anciens du PPCU



**Andriy Shevchenko**

Ambassador of Ukraine

Ambassadeur d'Ukraine

# INVITÉS D'HONNEUR

CANADA-UKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY FRIENDSHIP GROUP MEMBERS  
MEMBRES DU GROUPE D'AMITIÉ PARLEMENTAIRE CANADA-UKRAINE



**Borys Wrzesnewskyj**

Chair | Member of Parliament

Président | Député



**Hon. Raynell Andreychuk**

Vice Chairs | Senator

Vice-présidents | Sénatrice



**James Bezan**

Member of Parliament

Député



**Linda Duncan**

Member of Parliament

Député



Parliamentary Interns from Canada, France, Ukraine, United States of America, Laurentian Leadership Program, Jewish Program, Canadian Universities Programs.

Sénateurs Stagiaires parlementaires du Canada, de la France, du programme Canada, de l'Ukraine, des États-Unis



On July 16, 1990, the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR adopted the Declaration of Sovereignty, which declared that Parliament recognized the need to rebuild the Ukrainian state based on the Rule of Law. On August 24, 1991, the Ukrainian Parliament adopted the Declaration of Independence, which the citizens of Ukraine endorsed in the referendum of December 1, 1991. Also in 1991, Canadians celebrated the Centennial of Ukrainian group immigration to Canada. To mark the Centennial, Canadian organizations planned programs and projects to celebrate this milestone in Canada's history. The Chair of Ukrainian Studies Foundation of Toronto marked the Centennial by establishing the CANADAUKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY PROGRAM (CUPP) for university students from Ukraine in the House of Commons.

CUPP gives Ukrainian students an opportunity to observe parliamentary democracy and government and gain experience from which generations of Canadian, American and West European students have benefited. On the basis of academic excellence, knowledge of the English or French and Ukrainian languages, and an interest in the Westminster model of parliamentary government, university students from Ukrainian and foreign universities, can apply for the CUPP internship program. It is the goal of CUPP to contribute to the education of future leaders of Ukraine.

Since 1991 over one thousand Interns, have participated and attended CUPP internship programs, Model Ukraine Conferences and election campaigns in Canada and abroad.

Two CUPP graduates have served as Cabinet Ministers, several others have served as Deputy Ministers, as well as Members of the Ukrainian Parliament. CUPP graduates have helped establish important projects, namely: Professional Government Association of Ukraine, renamed Professional Government Institute (PGA), established in 2014 as a resource centre to help the Ukrainian Government identify and prioritize programs, motivate government to carry out the programs and projects, assist in securing resources and tools required to complete the projects/programs and measure and publish the results of such efforts.

Teach For Ukraine, a unique two-year leadership development program. Participants work in rural schools to create opportunities for children and mentor children in continuing education towards professions and trades. Teach For Ukraine NGO is associated with Teach For All, which operates in forty-two countries.

Anna Mazurenko Children's Health Centre of Lviv, a first of its kind health/medical centre dedicated to improving the health of children and families.

The Ukrainian Leadership Academy, a program for youth in their gap year between high school and university, is aimed at training young leaders. The program is headed by CUPP graduates.

In 2019, fourteen students from universities in Germany, Hungary, Lithuania, Poland, UK and Ukraine will complete a two-month internship in the House of Commons.



CUPP 2019 interns in front of the West Block of the House of Commons, Parliament Hill, Ottawa.

From left to right: Anna Mysyshyn, Bohdan Puchkov, Natalia Lavrova, Valentyna Kalich, Mykola Antoniuk, Maryna Larina, Maksym Dvorovyi, Yulia Holopoteliuk, Pavlo Bryliak, Khrystyna Myhasiuk, Sofia Kuzminska, Bogdan Kolchenko, Maksym Dzhyhyn.



CUPP 2019 Interns meet with the Prime Minister of Canada, Justin Trudeau, Liberal MPs and Ambassador of Ukraine to Canada, Andriy Shevchenko



MP Wayne Easter gives CUPP interns a tour of the House of Commons



CUPP 2019 interns after the soulful conversation with Borys Wrzesnewskyj – the head of Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Friendship Group and a true friend of Ukraine

CANADA-UKRAINE PARLIAMENTARY PROGRAM Alumni participated in LEADERS OF CHANGE Meeting with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau during visit to Ukraine, July 10 to 12, 2016.

**P** Prime Minister Justin Trudeau made his first official visit to Ukraine on July 10 to 12, 2016. Prior to his visit to Ukraine he participated in the NATO Summit Warsaw 2016.

In Kyiv the Prime Minister visited the **Babyn Yar Memorial**; laid a wreath at the **Tomb of the Unknown Soldier**; observed a moment of silence at the **Holodomor Monument**; visited the **Holodomor Commemoration Museum**; met with **President Petro Poroshenko** and **Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman**; lay flowers at the **Cross of the Revolution of Dignity in Maidan Square**; and met with the **Chairman of Verkhovna Rada Andriy Parubiy**. In the evening of July 11, 2016 the Prime Minister attended the **Leaders of Change Meeting**, at the Fairmont Grand Hotel Kyiv.



A delegation of Canadian MPs were in Ukraine on April 21st, to observe the second round of the 2019 Presidential Elections in Ukraine.. Members of Parliament and CUPP Alumni met and had a fruitful exchange about the consequences of Ukraine's elections, expanding avenues for cooperation between Canada and Ukraine, as well as the continuing involvement of Canada's observation missions to the upcoming elections to Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) in October. Coincidentally, there will be an election to the House of Commons in October as well. CUPP alumni had a unique opportunity to meet the MPs in whose offices they completed their own internship in Ottawa going back to 1998

AMONG THE LEADERS OF CHANGE INVITED  
WERE CUPP ALUMNI:

**Viktor DOVHAN** CUPP 2000

Deputy Minister of Infrastructure responsible for European Integration;

**Uliana KHROMYAK** CUPP 2001

Advisor on export promotion of Creative Industries of Ministry of Economic Development and Trade;

**Antin KUSHNIR** CUPP 2003

Director of Anna Mazurenko Children's Health Centre of Lviv (a CUPP sponsored project);

**Yuri KUSHNIR** CUPP 1998

Advisor to Government ministries and President of CUPP Alumni Association;

**Nataliya KYIAK** CUPP 2003

Advisor to Government ministries and President of CUPP Alumni Association

**Natalia MYKOLSKA** CUPP 2000

Deputy Minister of Economic Development and Trade;

**Volodymyr OMELIAN** CUPP 1999

Minister of Infrastructure;

**Eugene PALENKA** CUPP 1995

Director and co-founder of Poltava Petroleum Company;

**Andriy PIVOVARSKY** CUPP 1999

former Minister of Infrastructure;

**Alona SHKRUM** CUPP 2013

Member of Parliament;

**Rustem UMEROV** CUPP 2003

Advisor to Members of Parliament Mustafa DJEMILEV Leader of Crimean Tatars and Refat CHUBAROV Chairman of Crimean Tatar Mejlis.

interview  
with

# RUSTEM UMEROV

“WITH CUPP  
EVERYTHING  
IS POSSIBLE!”



Rustem Umerov - Crimean Tatar and Ukrainian entrepreneur, investor, civil activist and political advisor served as CUPP intern to Sophia Leung, MP for Vancouver Kingsway, British Columbia in 2003. The recipient of Hon. Ramon Hnatyshyn Scholarship.

Good evening Mr. Umerov and I would like to thank you for dedicating time to our conversation, I really appreciate it.

Good evening Valentyna, you are very welcome. I am always open to anything that concerns the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program and young people who are trying to do the best they can for our world.

Mr. Umerov graduated from National Academy of Management in Kyiv with Bachelor's and Master's degree in Economics and Finance. Recently, he has obtained another Bachelor's qualification in Computer Science and Information Technology at Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute.

**My first question concerns your education. You recently obtained a degree in Computer Science and Information Technology. Why have you decided to continue your education?**

Well, I can say that it corresponds well with my current interests and professional occupation today. As I am a managing director in ASTEM Foundation, what we do here is directly related to my new specialization and therefore I made a decision to become a student of Igor Sikorsky Kyiv Polytechnic Institute. The value of education is always unquestionable.

**If we come back to your previous studies in The National Academy of Management, can you recall what were your major interests as a student?**

During studies, I participated in various international activities, such as 'US-Ukraine Leadership Program', 'European Youth Parliament', 'European Law Student Association', 'European Student's Forum' etc. I have always been looking for international experience, especially at that time when it was not so available as it is now.

**That's why you decided to participate in the Canada-Ukraine Parliamentary Program? Was that your motivation?**

Yes, pretty much. As I said, many of students from my environment were eager to participate in



international exchanges and enhance their skills and knowledge. Especially in my case as I have spent some time in the US during my high school, I knew the value of international experience and how it can help to upgrade my skills. But there were not that many opportunities, that's why CUPP became one of the most influential parts of my life at that time.

**How exactly did CUPP influence your vision and your life goals?**

CUPP has made a tremendous effect on my professional and personal development. To be honest, I have always been interested in several professional sectors, such as business, economics, investments and politics but I have also aspired to make a social impact on Ukraine in general and on the life of Crimean Tatar community in particular. CUPP has shown me the way how to fulfill these goals.

**Oh, that's very interesting. Could you share what exactly you learned being a CUPP intern? That would be a precious piece of information for future CUPP interns and not only...**

Thanks to CUPP I could observe the real implementation of democratic values, not only within the social dimension but most importantly, on the level of various institutions. I could learn the developed democratic structure from regional to national institutions, the formation of 'mature politics' and legislation serving its people. And of course, I made draw plenty of parallels we can implement it back in Ukraine.

**How did your life go after you return to Ukraine? In other words, how does life after CUPP look like?**

Having returned from Canada in 2003, I have become a founder and the 1st President of the 'Foundation for Development of Crimea'. My responsibilities there were wide from launching regional projects to managing administrative programs on the socio-political scale.

**So, were you inspired to make an important impact on the development of both Crimea and Ukraine and started taking real steps in this direction?**

Exactly. In 2007 I was selected as a Delegate to the Crimean Tatar Qurultay National

Representative body of Crimean Tatar people. This is the highest representative body of Crimean Tatars where we are promoting Human and Minority Rights of Crimean Tatars as citizens of Ukraine and native inhabitants of Crimean Peninsula.

**As far as I know, you have continued in that direction and your commitment became even stronger after the illegal annexation of Crimea in 2014 when Crimean Tatars have become one of the strongest pillars of Ukrainian resistance. Where did you find yourself in these important times?**

Well, my engagement with social and civil work has resulted in being an advisor to Mr. Mustafa Dzhemilev – a leader of Crimean Tatar National Movement, a former Chairman of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People and Ukrainian MP. Since 2014 I can say that I am dedicating a tremendous amount of my energy, time and effort to support Crimea and restore social justice for both Crimean Tatars and Ukrainians at home and on the international stage.



**Rustem Umerov, Mustafa Dzhemilev, Refat Chubarov with the US Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch.**

**What about the ASTEM Foundation? How is this project combined with a variety of your other interests?**

For the past 5 years, I have been deeply involved in supporting and initiating big programs for social, economic and educational development which are led by the ASTEM Foundation with my brother Aslan Omer Kirimli. For example, one of our primary focus is the 'Ukrainian Emerging Leaders Program' in Stanford Center on Democracy, Development and Rule of Law. (UPD. Recently ASTEM has added the focus to create a global technology platform, bringing innovations and advanced infrastructure solutions and services to make it a value for society\*).

**The last one and my favorite question: You are now able to share something with future CUPP interns. The floor is yours, Mr. Umerov:**

I want CUPP interns to know that everything is possible! Forget all the obstacles you have faced in your life, forget your social background, leave behind your fears and shyness – you have already made it to Canada or you are surely going to make it! Now

the clock is ticking. You must manage your time well and be as open-minded as possible. Reach out to the MPs, embrace new knowledge and ideas, talk to professionals, ask questions! But in this overwhelming experience do not forget what you are there for. Think. Think about how will you bring this accumulated experience in Canada back to your Ukrainian cities and how will you use this to develop your country and its citizens. And let me give you a small hint keep in mind your future aspirations, maybe you have a project on your mind and discuss this with Canadian MPs, with people on your way, let them give you some advice and let them help you to make this happen and convert into a real future change. [CUPP](#)

# 2019 CUPP MP's



**James Bezan**



**Randy Boissonnault**



**Linda Duncan**



**Hon. Wayne Easter**



**Jim Eglinski**



**Rosemarie Falk**



**Cheryl Gallant**



**Kevin Lamoureux**



**James Maloney**



**Hon. MaryAnn Mihychuk**



**Robert-Falcon Ouellette**



**Shannon Stubbs**



**Arif Virani**



**Borys Wrzesnewskyj**