

Table of Contents

Foreword.....	7
Bohdan Krawchenko	
<i>Building State and Civil Society in Ukraine after Independence</i>	9
Bohdan Hawrylyshyn	
<i>Ukraine 1991-1996 : Changes in the Economic System and Structure</i>	21
Taras Kuzio	
<i>The Domestic Sources of Ukrainian Foreign Policy</i>	29
Borys Gudziak	
<i>Ukrainian Religious Life During the First Five Years of Independence</i>	49
Mykola Zhulynsky	
<i>Cultural, Educational and Linguistic Policy in Ukraine, 1991-1996</i>	73
Anatoli Zlenko	
<i>The Development of the Foreign Policy of Ukraine, 1991-1996</i>	85
Ihor Kharchenko, Andriy Veselovsky	
<i>Ukraine's Foreign Policy Strategy</i>	95
Іван Дзюба	
<i>Проблеми культури в незалежній Україні</i>	103
Contributors.....	123

Foreword

The Conference "Towards a New Ukraine I: Ukraine and the New World Order 1991–1996," held on 21–22 March 1997 at the University of Ottawa, was the first major initiative of the new Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa. The Conference's objectives were to examine a spectrum of issues pertaining to the ongoing transformation of civil society, politics, economics, culture, education, and religion in Ukraine. The results appear in this volume.

The Conference was especially useful in both cementing recently-established and in creating new international linkages for the Chair. It has placed the Chair, along with the University of Ottawa, at the forefront of the promotion of Canadian scholarship on Ukraine. Noteworthy, too, was the active cooperation (both program and financial) of the Departments of Economics, and Political Science at the University of Ottawa, and the Sheptytsky Institute of St. Paul's University, as well as corporate sponsorship (Northland Power Corporation).

In order to reach as wide a readership as possible, the contributions to the proceedings (with one exception) are published in English, although some of them were originally presented in Ukrainian. The papers are arranged according to their listing in the Conference program. We wish to thank all the speakers who took part in the Conference and allowed us to include their contributions in these proceedings.

In order not to alter the authors' style of thinking and writing, only minimal changes have been made to the texts. This is also the case with papers translated from Ukrainian. Cyrillic words, names and titles are given in transliteration. The academic transliteration system (as used by the MLA) has been adopted for the present volume, except for the names of some contributors and proper and place names in titles of official institutions which appear as provided. The views expressed in the papers are not necessarily those of the Editors.

Our gratitude is expressed to the following: the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada for funding the Conference and for providing funds for the publication of this volume; the University of Ottawa for its co-operation and financial support; Irena Bell, University of Ottawa Chair of Ukrainian Studies Co-ordinator, for her invaluable help in organizing the Conference; Dr. Leonard G. Sbrocchi of Legas Publishers for his help in the publication of these proceedings.

The Editors
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