

Brussels, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2023

Dear President Zelensky,

I extend warm greetings on behalf of AIPC, the global association of convention centers and I want to express my solidarity with the citizens of Ukraine, who are facing very trying times.

As an association, we encourage, support and recognize excellence when it comes to the management of convention centers, which are the perfect platforms for exchanging knowledge, collaboration and trade through international business events.

In our view, such events will be a key driver for boosting growth and prosperity, once the situation in your country stabilizes, opening many opportunities for collaboration and partnerships, leading to the recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine.

As AIPC, we are ready to provide you with all the support and resources we have at our disposal in terms of education, research, quality standards and global network. We indeed believe that knowledge exchange on a global level increases the quality of services delivered and also contributes to better understanding between the people and organizations involved.

Please accept our best wishes in leading your country through these challenging times. We stand ready to contribute to your journey towards a bright future.

Yours sincerely,

Sven Bossu  
CEO  
AIPC

# CITY DESTINATIONS ALLIANCE

City Destinations Alliance  
Represented by its President, Petra Stušek

Volodymyr Zelensky  
President of Ukraine  
Mariinskyi Palace  
5A, Mykhaila Hrushevskoho St, Kyiv,  
Ukraine

Subject: Solidarity and Support for Ukraine's Defence Efforts

Dear President Zelensky,

I extend warm greetings on behalf of City Destinations Alliance, the alliance of Tourist Boards, Convention Bureaux and City Marketing Organisations in Europe. In these challenging times, as your nation faces the unwarranted aggression by Russia, we want to express our heartfelt solidarity and unwavering support for Ukraine's brave defence efforts.

As a nation, Ukraine has shown immense resilience and determination in the face of adversity. Your people's courage and sacrifice have not gone unnoticed, and we want you to know that you are not alone in this struggle. Through the delivery of this letter by our collaborator who is currently visiting your nation, we wish to reaffirm our resolute dedication to contributing our role during this critical global crisis.

We understand the profound impact that stability and peace have on the growth and prosperity of a nation so we want to assure you that our commitment is steadfast. As conditions improve and avenues for collaboration open up, we stand ready to do everything in our power to support your efforts. We will also continue to support our three Ukrainian members in Kyiv, Lviv and Odesa, as we have been since the day the invasion started.

The tourism and events sector possesses a wide array of skills and capabilities that can contribute meaningfully to Ukraine's recovery and reconstruction. Whether it is by organising events to showcase the richness of Ukrainian heritage or fostering international cooperation, we are dedicated to contributing positively to your country's journey toward a brighter future. Our sector is eager to engage and explore opportunities for collaboration that align with our capabilities and expertise.

In closing, please accept our heartfelt support and best wishes as you lead Ukraine through these trying times. Your leadership and resilience inspire us all, and we are confident that your nation will emerge stronger and more united than ever before.

Thank you for your attention, and we look forward to the opportunity to stand by your side and contribute to Ukraine's well-being.

Sincerely,  
Petra Stušek  
President of City Destinations Alliance  
headoffice@citydna.eu

CITY DESTINATIONS ALLIANCE



August 30, 2023

The Honorable Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
President of Ukraine  
Office of the President  
01220, Kyiv, 11 Bankova Str., Ukraine

Dear Mr. President,

Subject: Unwavering Support for Ukraine from Destinations International

On behalf of Destinations International, the global nonprofit professional association focused on uplifting travel, tourism, and destination organizations worldwide, I wish to extend our unwavering support to Ukraine during this distressing period of war and conflict. Our hearts go out to you, your government, and the resilient people of Ukraine who are facing unprecedented challenges.

The devastation that war brings not only cripples the economy but also has a deep, lasting impact on the socio-cultural fabric of a nation. While we recognize that the travel and tourism sector may not be your immediate concern, it is a powerful engine for positive change and community development.

Our membership, comprising professionals and organizations across the globe, stands in solidarity with Ukraine. We are committed to supporting your country throughout this conflict and in the complex task of rebuilding once peace is restored. Specifically, we are taking the following immediate actions:

1. **Waiving Membership Fees:** We have waived all membership fees for Ukrainian tourism organizations during the conflict, allowing them to remain a part of our global community without financial burden.
2. **Annual Convention Invitation:** We cordially invite Ukrainian tourism organizations to attend our annual conventions at no cost of registration during the conflict, offering an invaluable opportunity for networking, knowledge sharing, and global exposure. This past July we were delighted to host representatives from the Tourism and Promotion Department of the Executive Body of the Kyiv City Council (Kyiv City State Administration) and Lviv Convention Bureau at our Annual Convention in Dallas. They were able to take part in various interactive sessions and forums. They

shared projects planned and new partnerships aimed at restoring the flow of international visitors to Ukraine.

3. **Expert Assistance:** Our staff and our 700+ members are ready to assist in the development and rebuilding of destination organizations in Ukraine, sharing best practices and providing hands-on support where appropriate.
4. **Facilitating Meetings:** We can help set up critical meetings and dialogues that contribute to the reconstruction efforts, leaning into our area of expertise in destination marketing and management.
5. **Storytelling:** We will amplify the stories of resilience and rebuilding from Ukraine, giving a platform to voices that need to be heard.

Our association deeply believes in the transformative power of travel and the extraordinary potential of business meetings, conventions, congresses, and trade shows in bringing people together. When applied thoughtfully, they can be a catalyst for economic revival, cultural exchange, and social cohesion.

Tourism and travel are not just about leisure; they are essential tools for portraying and building a destination as an excellent place to live, work, and play. As the situation in Ukraine evolves, we are committed to helping you harness the full potential of travel and meetings to contribute to the community rebuilding process, elevating the importance of destination organizations in this endeavor.

Mr. President, we stand by you, today and in the future, no matter how long the path to peace and rebuilding takes. We offer our support, resources, and community to help Ukraine rise again, stronger, and more vibrant than ever. You have my personal commitment to join you in your great country when you deem appropriate.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Welsh". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Don Welsh  
President & CEO  
Destinations International



## International Congress and Convention Association

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19<sup>th</sup> Aug '2023

His Excellency Volodymyr Zelensky  
President of Ukraine  
Mariinskyi Palace  
5A, Mykhaila Hrushevskoho St, Kyiv, Ukraine

Your Excellency President Zelensky,

Ukraine has occupied much of our shared thoughts and feelings in the last 18 months. In fact, we kept Ukraine in the forefront of our minds as we gathered for our 61<sup>st</sup> annual Congress in Kraków last November, reflecting the important role the local community played in your struggle. 10 months later, we all hoped your situation would be resolved but obviously, it continues, and you endure.

International Congress and Convention Association (ICCA) as a global community, can share how inspired we are by the fortitude and tenacity shown by the Ukraine people. Your togetherness, dignity, and desire to protect your homeland is truly something to behold. Despite the darkness and the difficulties, we are with you in spirit. We look forward to a time when the healing can begin, and we use the power and potential of our international events and meetings industry to help Ukraine back onto her feet. What stories you will tell. What spirit you will evoke. This time will surely come, and we will be together again as we bring business, knowledge sharing and commercial opportunities across your borders. No doubt the Association meetings segment will play a lead role in creating economic and societal development when the time comes right.

From all your friends in ICCA and the global community , we extend our heartfelt support and solidarity. We are watching, and we are waiting. May days of peace be with you soon.

Yours sincerely,

Senthil Gopinath  
ICCA CEO



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Dear Mayor Sadovyi,

Writing this letter of support while you and the Ukrainian people endure an horrific and protracted war seems such a small gesture, but it comes from the hearts of people who care.

We want you to know we see the strength and spirit of the Ukrainian people and, in our position as leaders in the global meetings and events industry, we know how deeply we, our friends and colleagues all over the world yearn for peace in Ukraine.

For the past two years, your colleagues from the Lviv Convention Bureau have made long and tiring journeys to our annual show in Frankfurt where they've represented their country with tremendous courage and commitment. They've also made friends and contacts from all over the world.

Over the years we've seen destinations all over the world come back from extraordinary adversity. IMEX will continue to offer Ukraine our full support in showcasing itself to the global business events market and we stand with others, ready to play a greater part when conditions allow.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Carina Bauer'.

Carina Bauer,  
CEO The IMEX Group

City of Lviv  
Mayor Andriy Sadovyi  
Lviv  
Ukraine

Brussels, 21 August 2023

Dear Mayor Sadovyi,

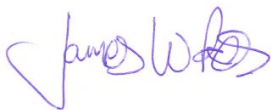
Ukraine is in the middle of an unjustified war and for over 540 days the Ukrainian people have fought for their right to exist as a nation and for their home country as a whole. The bravery of the Ukrainian people in facing and resisting such aggression is extraordinary and greatly inspiring. Your determination to uphold your nation's sovereignty and sustain your cultural heritage illustrates clearly the strong spirit that lives within each individual. It is people who shape destinies, change societies, and rebuild nations.

As the umbrella association of the global meetings and events industry, JMIC Joint Meetings Industry Council fully understands the value of human collaboration since we represent an industry which is built upon the premise that when people come together, ideas are shared, relationships are forged, and progress is made.

The longstanding fight of the Ukrainian people is far from being forgotten by our industry. On the contrary, we as an industry stand ready to help Ukraine in rebuilding the post-war nation. We are proud to support James Latham from The Iceberg as well as the Lviv Convention Bureau in their efforts to compile a report on what the business and professional event sector can do in the post-war recovery and reconstruction of the country.

We are convinced that James Latham's visit to Lviv will bring forward valuable insights and opportunities for cooperation.

Yours sincerely,



James Rees  
President



# NORTHSTAR

TRAVEL GROUP

August 20, 2023

Volodymyr Zelensky  
President of Ukraine  
Mariinskyi Palace  
5A, Mykhaila Hrushevskoho St, Kyiv,  
Ukraine

Dear President Zelensky,

At Northstar Travel Group, a global events, media and marketing services company fully dedicated to supporting the interests of the travel industry, we believe travel is transformational, that it connects us to new people, places and experiences around the world, transforming our understanding of humanity.

War – in principle – directly contradicts our mission and purpose. War in fact, as it has manifested itself since Russia's invasion of Ukraine over a year ago, is a violation of humanity's most fundamental aspirations for peace, cooperation and progress.

Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine, we have supported Ukraine by directly contributing and inspiring donations to UNICEF of Ukraine and by providing services to your country's group travel and meetings organizers, to continue to facilitate meetings and events that support the economic interests of business and organizations with interests in Ukraine. I also note that since the day of the invasion, Northstar has been emphatic about not supporting or accepting business from travel professionals associated with Russian interests.

We will continue to support your efforts until the day that a settlement is reached with Russia that satisfies the Ukrainian government's objectives to end the war. Once that goal is achieved, we stand ready to utilize our reach and our relationships to assist you in facilitating economic development through travel and tourism to Ukraine.

Please know that we continue to be inspired by the toughness and resilience demonstrated by your country's citizens, as you have demonstrated those qualities through your leadership during these exceptionally difficult times.

Sincerely,

David Blansfield  
Executive Vice President  
Northstar Travel Group





20 August, 2023

Mr. Volodymyr Zelenskyy  
President  
Ukraine

Mr. Andriy Ivanovych Sadovyi  
Mayor  
Lviv, Ukraine

Greetings President Zelenskyy and Mayor Sadovyi –

On behalf of PCMA, the world's largest community for business event professionals, I want to express that our global communities stand united against war and acts of evil against innocent civilians. We support people who believe in and live in a peaceful society, and we remain resolute in driving economic good to solve complex issues.

The global business events industry is about bringing together people with purpose to lead social change that advances the quality of life for everyone. As an industry, we fully support your nation and those who remain committed to doing whatever it takes to stem this maelstrom of violence.

Now, more than ever, the world must come together. We, as a global industry, are prepared to do more. As your nation works to emerge from this crisis, please know that the global PCMA community stands ready to assist in support of your renewed economy and social transformation.

Our prayers continue for all who are suffering and grieving, and it is our hope that peace will prevail quickly.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sherrif Karamat'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a prominent initial 'S' and a long, sweeping tail.

Sherrif Karamat, CAE  
President and CEO, PCMA and CEMA