



The Hon. Ros Spence MP

Minister for Prevention of Family Violence  
Minister for Multicultural Affairs  
Minister for Community Sport  
Minister for Youth

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## MESSAGE FROM THE MINISTER FOR MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

On the anniversary of 31 years of independence in Ukraine, I acknowledge this remarkable achievement and the importance of fostering peace, freedom and self-determination.

This is a distressing time for the people of Ukraine, who continue to face immeasurable hardship, loss and sacrifice. I commend all Ukrainians for their immense bravery and strength individually and collectively, as a nation.

Our state is proud to be the home of more than five thousand Ukrainian people. I thank them for their longstanding commitment to enriching Victoria's cultural diversity.

In these difficult and unjust times, Ukrainian Victorians continue to provide support to their families, friends and community in Ukraine. Most recently, the Ukrainian Youth Association held the Chervona Kalyna Fundraising Ball to raise funds and support to respond to the ongoing crisis.

On behalf of the Andrews Labor Government, I want to thank the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organisations and the Embassy of Ukraine in Australia for the opportunity to share a message on Ukraine's 31<sup>st</sup> year of independence.

We stand in solidarity with Ukraine. In the difficult days to come, Victorians will stand by ready to help, and continue to call for peace in Ukraine.

**The Hon. Ros Spence MP**  
Minister for Multicultural Affairs

23/8/2022