



УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦЕРКВА В КАНАДІ
UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF CANADA
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October 26, 2014

Statement
Of the Episcopate of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada
On the Parliamentary Elections in Ukraine

Glory to Jesus Christ!

The Episcopate, on behalf of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, welcomes the expression of the democratic election process by the Ukrainian people in the parliamentary elections in Ukraine on October 26, 2014. Despite the many attempts to interrupt the campaign process and to disrupt the voting, the results demonstrate the will of the Ukrainian people for fundamental change to build a society based on dignity, unity and respect for human rights. In exercising their fundamental democratic rights, Ukrainian citizens made a clear choice for accountable and transparent leadership.

2014 has been one of turmoil, violence and unrest for the citizens of Ukraine. The Ukrainian State has experienced, at great human cost, the Revolution of Dignity, the occupation and annexation of its Crimean peninsula and armed conflict in the eastern regions by Russian-sponsored terrorists and military of the Russian Federation. International election observer delegations and the international community have applauded the Ukrainian people for conducting this election in a democratic manner that meets international norms, despite facing security challenges.

We fervently pray that with the election of these parliamentary representatives, the Ukrainian people may undertake those much-needed transformations in all areas of social, political, cultural and economic life for which their fellow citizens have given their lives. It is our hope and prayer that this desired change will bring about a peaceful resolution to the armed conflict as well as

economic and social stability. We support continued positive change in building a democratic society in Ukraine based on traditional Christian values. Let us ask the Lord for protection and peace for the Ukrainian people and for the wisdom and guidance of its newly-elected parliamentary representatives at this decisive time in the country's history.

With Hierarchical Blessing,

† **YURIJ**, Metropolitan
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

† **ILARION**, Bishop
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

† **ANDRIY**, Bishop
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada