

Dr. E. C. Olson's Photo-Journal of the 2022 Ukraine Humanitarian Mission

with additional photographs provided by Fedir Petrov

Please join me as I guide you through every day of our 2022 Ukraine Humanitarian Mission as told in pictures, so that you will see firsthand what we did as we traveled halfway around the world to deliver vitally needed medical and humanitarian aid to the imperiled people of Ukraine, while we also conducted fact-finding and uncensored reporting on the actual conditions on-the-ground in Ukraine so that you, like myself, will know the truth about what's happening over there, and how you can best help these imperiled people.

Because our Mission is as much about the people we meet and serve, here I will also introduce you to every person I met while over there, from my Polish driver "Rushka" who picked me up at the Warsaw International Airport when I arrived, to the Ukrainian driver "Stanislav" who dropped me off there thirteen days later for my trip back to the U.S.

In between I will introduce you to everyone else who helped to make our Mission the unprecedented success that it was, from the highest-ranking Ukrainian political leaders to the foot soldiers in the front-line battlefield – or as the Ukrainian military calls the front-lines, "The Zero Line". Together we will venture through the ravaged communities and meet the survivors.

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- My greatest overall takeaway from my time in Ukraine is that it is a country of dramatic contrasts: in Kyiv for example, most parts of the city appear as any other modern Old World European city with its spectacular architecture, clean, pristine streets, and public spaces bustling with seemingly happy, carefree residents, while less than a mile away burned-out Russian tanks still clog debris-strewn streets bordered by demolished apartments and storefronts.

- Likewise, modern autobahns slice through Ukraine's rich, agrarian countryside, which features vast stretches of neatly maintained rows of endless nodding sunflowers, freshly shorn wheat and sturdy deep green stalks of corn - - when in minutes the scene changes abruptly by the fresh evidence of a recent, harshly-fought battle: Russian tanks with the turrets blown off, blackened hulls of scorched armor personnel carriers, and overturned trucks pushed to the side of roads deeply pockmarked by massive explosion craters large enough to swallow a school bus.