



Achievements of the Foreign Ministry of Ukraine

in Africa and the
Middle East in 2023

In 2023, Ukraine continued comprehensive efforts to intensify its relations with African states and expand Ukraine's diplomatic presence on the African continent.

The new Ukrainian policy in this priority area is based on the Strategy for the Development of Relations with African States, which was approved in January 2022.

At the same time, Ukraine had a strategic task of expanding cooperation and bringing relations with the countries of the Middle East to a qualitatively new level.



In 2023

President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy had

34 conversations with heads of state from Africa and the Middle East (meetings, phone calls, video addresses).

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Dmytro Kuleba had

47 conversations (phone calls, official visits, meetings on the sidelines of international events).



On May 19, 2023, President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy visited the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to participate in the summit of the League of Arab States (in Jeddah). He held bilateral meetings with Crown Prince, Prime Minister of the KSA Sheikh Mohammed Bin Salman Al Saud, Vice President, Deputy Prime Minister of the UAE Sheikh Mansour Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister for International Relations and Cooperation of the Sultanate of Oman, Special Representative of the Sultan at International Forums Asa'ad bin Tariq Al Said, Crown Prince of Kuwait Sheikh Mishal Al-Sabah, and Prime Minister of Iraq Mohammed As-Sudani.

In 2023, First Lady of Ukraine Olena Zelenska visited the UAE (March) and Israel (June).





On June 16, 2023

Leaders of 4 African states

President of the Union of Comoros and incumbent President of the African Union Azali Assoumani, President of the Republic of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of Senegal Macky Sal, President of Zambia Hakainde Hichilema, as well as Special representatives of the Presidents of Egypt (Prime Minister M. Madbouly), Uganda (ex-Prime Minister R. Rugunda) and the Republic of Congo (State Minister, Director of the Office of the President F. Ntsiba) visited Ukraine.

In 2023, Ukraine hosted official visits of the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar (July); the Heads of Foreign Ministries of Saudi Arabia (February), Israel (February) and Bahrain (May); Minister of Climate Change and Environment of the UAE, Head of the Office of International Affairs in the Presidential Court Mariam Almheiri (June), as well as Ambassador-at-Large at the Foreign Ministry of the Sultanate of Oman Abdulaziz Al-Hinai (May).



In 2023, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine conducted three tours to Africa, where he visited

Morocco, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa, Equatorial Guinea, and Liberia

In April 2023, Dmytro Kuleba paid official visits to Iraq and Kuwait

In 2023, Special Representative of Ukraine for the Middle East and Africa Maksym Subkh visited Qatar and Oman (March), Mauritania, Egypt, and Ethiopia (November). Also he held political consultations on Africa and the Middle East in the foreign ministries of Poland, Germany, and France (in course of a working visit to the EU countries on June 20-26, 2023).





In 2023, Head of the Office of the President of Ukraine Andriy Yermak chaired three meetings at the level of diplomatic and security advisors of heads of state (including high-ranking representatives of African and Middle Eastern countries) regarding the implementation of

Peace Formula

June 25-26
Denmark

August 5-6
Saudi Arabia

October 28-29
Malta

In particular, the representatives of Bahrain, Zambia, Qatar, Kenya, UAE, South Africa, and Saudi Arabia took part in the 3rd meeting in Valletta (Malta).

40 countries from Africa and the Middle East

supported the UN GA Resolution “Principles of the Charter of the United Nations underlying a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in Ukraine” on February 23, 2023.

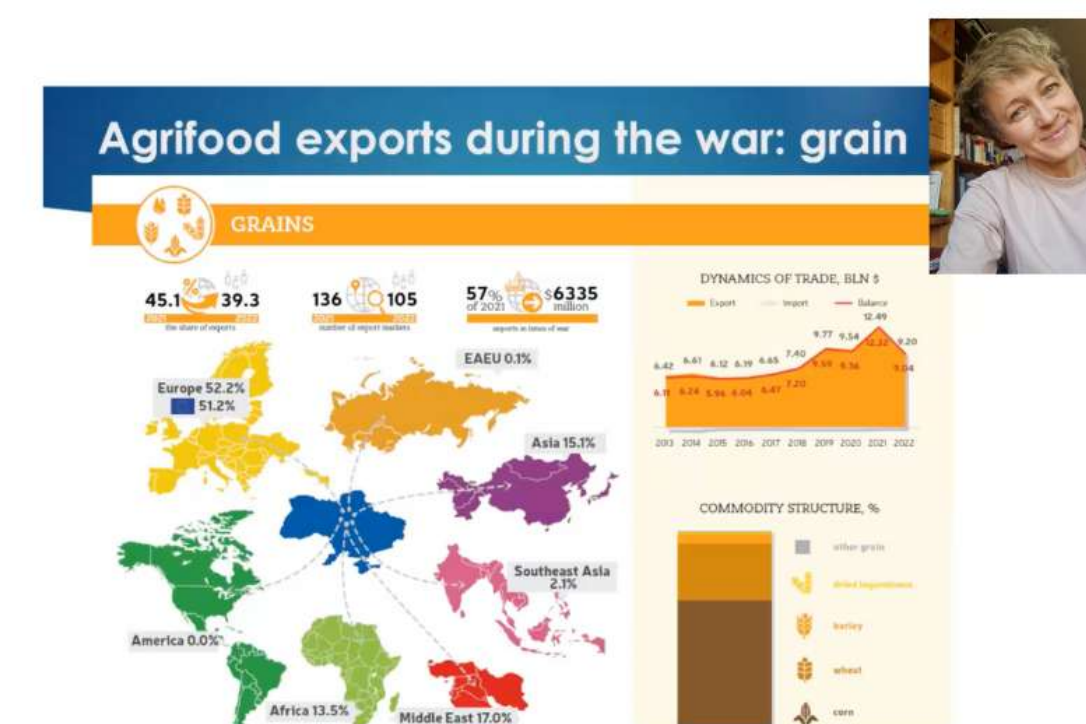


In November 2023, Special Representative of Ukraine for the Middle East and Africa Maksym Subkh paid a working visit to New York, where he had meetings with the permanent representatives of Arab and African countries to the UN, as well as with the Deputies of the Secretary General of the UN on the Middle East and Africa.

Pro-Ukrainian narratives were actively promoted. The Diplomatic Academy of Ukraine launched a series of seminars for African diplomats. In February and April 2023, two training courses "Security and diplomacy in wartime. Ukrainian experience" were attended by:

over
200
current and
future
diplomats

from
16
African countries
(South Africa, Botswana,
Mozambique, Nigeria, Côte
d'Ivoire, Senegal, Somalia,
Uganda, Ethiopia, Tanzania,
Guinea, Gambia, Zambia,
Mauritius, Madagascar, Liberia)



Communication outreach in Africa

Several information projects for the countries of Sub-Saharan Africa (South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria, Kenya) #JustPeaceForUkraine

A series of online discussions about a just peace for Ukraine was organized in South Africa with the participation of local opinion leaders, influential public figures (Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Desmond&Leah Tutu Legacy Foundation, UAZA), as well as more than 50 students from 4 South African universities and 3 Ukrainian universities.

Cultural diplomacy event "We Stand For Freedom" - contemporary dance of Ukrainian and African artists in support of Ukraine (Cape Town, South Africa).

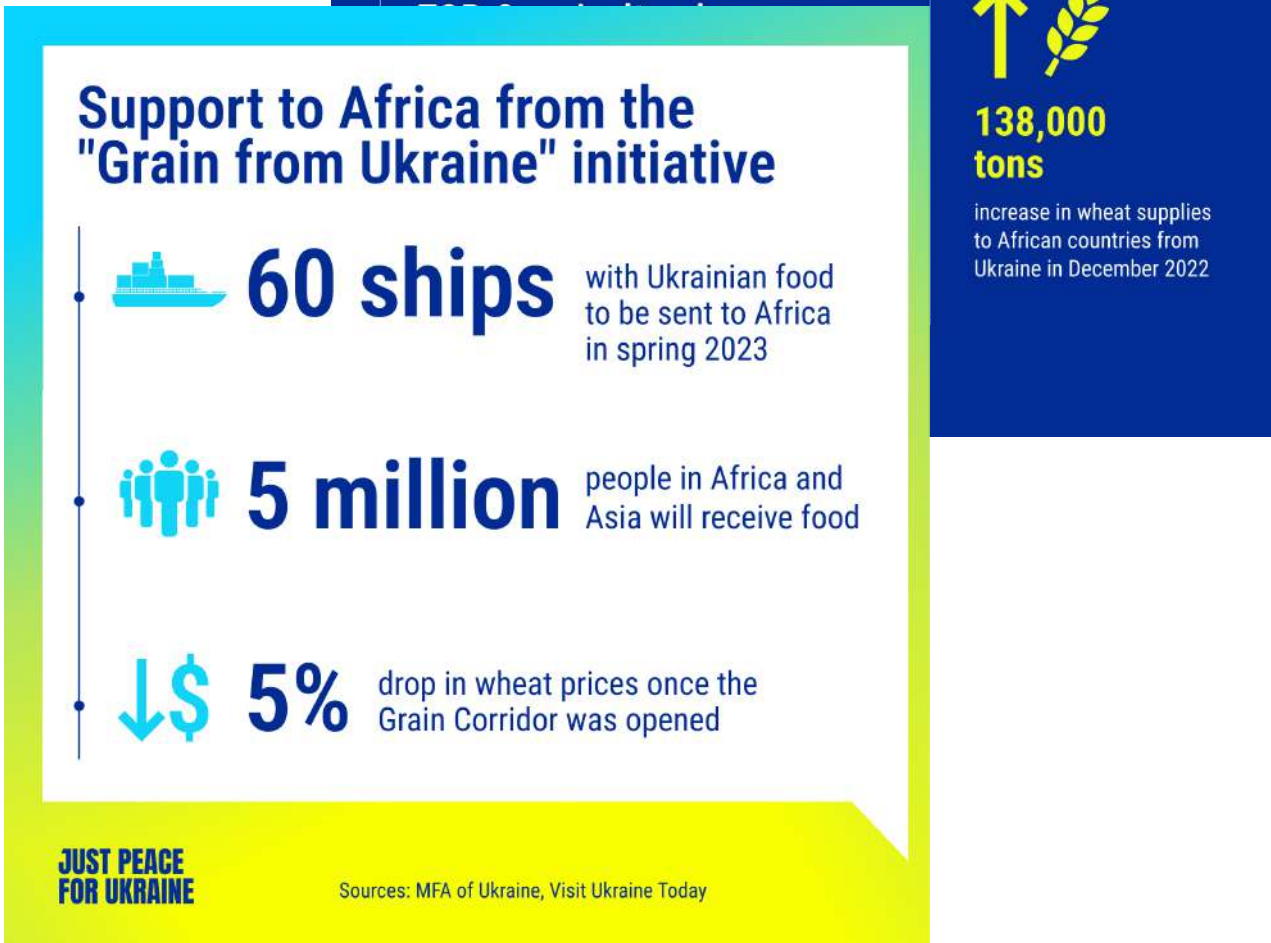
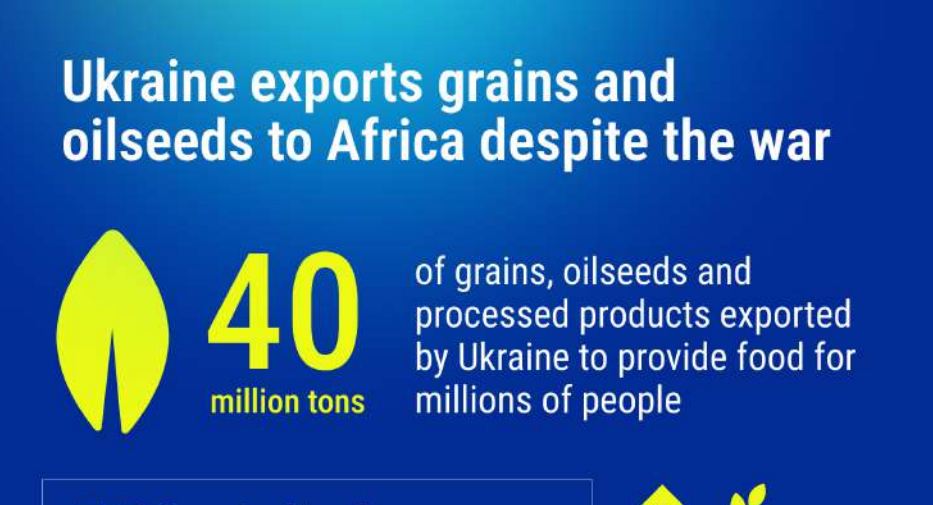
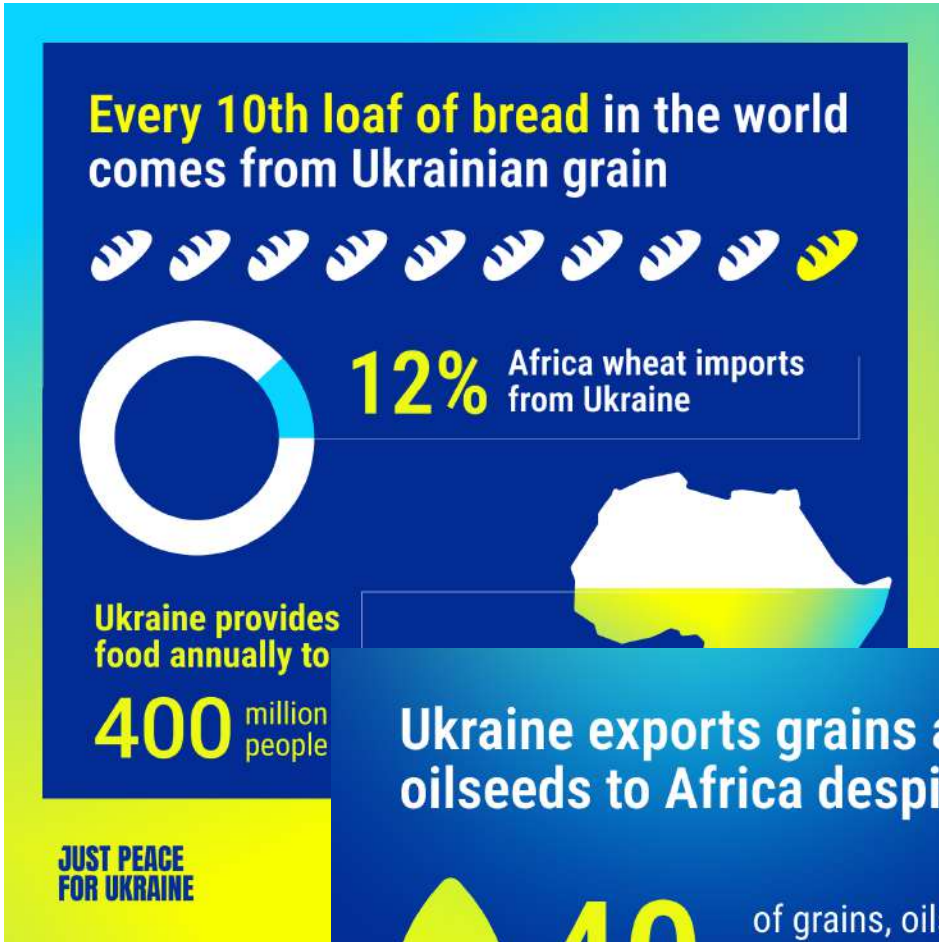
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information campaigns

34

unique SMM publications in support of Ukraine

in the social networks of South Africa, Nigeria, Kenya, and Ghana (January-March and December 2023), as well as 16 unique interviews (online and printed)



Ukraine actively developed inter-parliamentary contacts with the countries of Africa and the Middle East. On March 10-15 and October 23-27, 2023, the Ukrainian delegations led by First Deputy Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Oleksandr Korniyenko took part in the 146th and 147th Assemblies of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (in Manama, Bahrain and Luanda, Angola, respectively). During these events, the Ukrainian parliamentarians met with delegations of African and Middle Eastern states.

In October 2023, members of the Parliament of Ukraine, delegates of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine to the 147th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union visited Tanzania.

In March and October 2023 First Deputy Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Oleksandr Korniyenko made working visits to Qatar and Kenya.

In June 2023 Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Ruslan Stefanchuk had a telephone call with Speaker of the Knesset of the State of Israel Amir Ohana

In September 2023 they met in Ireland on the sidelines of the European Conference of the Heads of Parliaments.

On April 29 - May 3, 2023 A delegation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine led by Deputy Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Olena Kondratiuk paid a working visit to Israel.



Visit of African journalists to Ukraine in November 2023

11-17 листопада 2023 р. МЗС організувало історичний візит провідних африканських медіа до України:

15

journalists

10

African countries

Angola, Ethiopia, Kenya, Morocco, Nigeria, South Africa, Botswana, Zambia, Senegal, Tunisia

As a follow-up to this visit

100

were published

more than

70

of them in African countries



The journalists met with President V.Zelenskyy, First Lady O.Zelenska, Prime Minister D.Shmyhal, Speaker R.Stefanchuk, Foreign Minister D. Kuleba, as well as visited Bucha, Hostomel, Irpin, the Odesa Port and the city of Odesa.



According to the decision of the President of Ukraine and the relevant decrees of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine carried out measures to expand the diplomatic presence of our state in Africa and the Gulf.

Ukraine continues its dialogue with few other countries to obtain consent for the opening of Ukrainian diplomatic missions in these countries.

By the end of 2023, the

Ukrainian embassy
in the Republic of
Ghana began its
operation



The process of opening the embassies in

- The Republic of Rwanda
- The Democratic Republic of the Congo
- The Republic of Côte d'Ivoire
- The Republic of Mozambique
- The Sultanate of Oman
- The Republic of Botswana
- The Islamic Republic of Mauritania
- The United Republic of Tanzania

Two groups of strategic experts, including 2 communication specialists for African nations, were established at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Foreign Ministry developed the project of the first-ever Ukraine-African States Communication Strategy for 2024-2026.

A new format of cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the "African Council in Ukraine", which includes well-known influencers of the African diaspora in Ukraine from Guinea, Burkina Faso, Nigeria, DR Congo, Algeria, and other African countries, was inaugurated.

To support direct dialogue with the Arab community in Ukraine, the Special Representative of Ukraine for the Middle East and Africa held the first coordination meeting with the heads of diasporas of Arab countries in Ukraine in June 2023 to involve them in promoting the interests of our country.



An expert discussion on the priorities of interaction and communication between Ukraine and African countries was organized. Special Representative of Ukraine for the Middle East and Africa M. Subkh, Deputy Foreign Minister I. Borovets, 34 leading experts from African countries, representatives of public organizations and media participated in the discussion.



Ukraine is a reliable guarantor of food security in Africa. Under the “Initiative for safe transportation of agricultural products across the Black Sea” (Grain Corridor), almost 4 million tons of agricultural products were sent to the countries of the region (Libya, Algeria, Egypt, Kenya, Sudan, Tunisia, Ethiopia, Somalia, Morocco) in 2022-2023.

almost

4 MILN

tons of agricultural products in 2022-2023

Soon, as part of the mentioned program, Ukraine will send ships with agricultural products to more African countries facing food shortages.

Following the decision of the leadership of Ukraine, measures are being taken to open representative offices of the "Ukraine - Africa" Trade House in a number of African capitals. The Ukrainian side is also working on creating logistics hubs for the transshipment and storage of grain and food products in countries on the continent. In January 2023, Minister of Agrarian Policy and Food of Ukraine M.Solskyi visited Nigeria, Ghana, and Senegal, while his deputy visited Kenya

Under the "Grain from Ukraine" program

7 195K

ships with

tons of grains were sent to Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia, Nigeria, and Yemen

Somalia
25K tons

Kenya
25K tons

Nigeria
25K tons

Yemen
30K tons

Ethiopia
90K tons



In connection with the escalation of hostilities in the Gaza Strip, Ukrainian citizens were evacuated both from Israel and the Gaza Strip. In total, the Ukrainian side managed to evacuate

313 people

304 citizens of Ukraine
9 citizens of Moldova



A total of 199 citizens of Ukraine were taken to Ukraine by evacuation flights, the rest of the evacuees stayed in Egypt or European countries of their choice.

Also, more than

500

 citizens of Ukraine were evacuated directly from Israel.

In 2023, Ukraine continued dialogue to receive the allocated humanitarian aid and secure additional volumes of assistance:

 United Arab Emirates
In October 2022

USD 100 MLN

 Саудівська Аравія
In October 2022

USD 400 MLN

In March 2023

USD 4 MLN

for children, who suffered from Russia's aggression against Ukraine

 Qatar
In July 2023

USD 100 MLN

Qatar also assisted in the return to Ukraine of

13
Ukrainian children, who were forcibly deported by Russia.





We need further consolidation and increasing support for the countries of Africa and the Middle East in countering the Russian aggression, first of all, in the implementation of the Peace Formula of the President of Ukraine.

It is time to expand our diplomatic presence in Africa to a level that will allow seamless and effective interaction with African capitals. Systematic work on expanding the export of Ukrainian goods and services to Africa and the Middle East is no less important.