



UKRAINE'S PATH TO THE EU in Illustrations, Posters and Artworks













Collection of works dedicated to Ukraine's path to the EU



Authors of works:



Ivan Boyko **Maksym Vityk** Mykola Honcharov **Artem Gusyev Dmytro Dziuba** Victoria Dolhikh Iryna Dunayeva Yurii Kovalyov **Stas Kolotov** Andrii Naumenko **Maksym Stremousov Nikita Titov** Inna Trykila, Sofiia Salata Maryna Yanul Kris Kala Szymon Szymankiewicz **Ogilvy Ukraine Team**

Olha Stefanishyna

Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine -Minister of Justice



Ukraine's European integration is inseparably linked to our fight for independence, national identity and freedom.

Today, as a candidate country, Ukraine has started accession negotiations with the European Union. What recently seemed a distant prospect is now a clear plan for the country's development and transformation. The road to this historic moment has been, more than for anyone else, difficult, full of pain and suffering, but also marked by incredible strength of spirit. Unfortunately, we are still desperately defending our free future.

Back in the days, we were called the dreamers of Europe because we painted European symbols when the trend was to be sceptical about the European project. Many of the works in this exhibition were created at that time. They represent the United Europe as seen by those who truly understand the cost of such familiar values as freedom, democracy, and human rights. At the same time, they illustrate our sense of being an equal part of the free European family.

I am grateful to each of the authors for their artistic works, which encourage us to think and better understand ourselves and what we want.

Ten years ago it was just a dream. Today it is becoming a new reality. It is our generation that is destined to become the bridge between these two points of the great historical process.

This generation is united not by age, but by values. The children of anti-Soviet protesters became the vanguard of the Orange Revolution and the Revolution of Dignity. Those who raised the blue and yellow flag over Independence Square in 1990-1991, 2004-2005 and 2013-2014, later raised it over the liberated cities of Donbas.

Today, this generation is defending Ukraine and its European choice.

For the countries of Central and Eastern Europe, which have experienced first-hand what it was like to live behind the Iron Curtain, European integration is more than common markets, regulations and laws.

For us, it is above all a matter of values.

For us, European integration is about freedom. In all its dimensions, but primarily it is about the freedom to determine our own future.

It is about returning home. To the cultural and historic landscape from which Ukraine - like Poland, Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Romania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary - was once violently torn by Russian imperialism.

Art is a universal language of humanity that speaks our hopes and expectations, helps us overcome fear and despair, inspires and sustains us. We will live in the memories of future generations through art, just as previous generations live within us.

The exhibition 'Ukraine's Path to the EU' is intended to remind us of the key moments of Ukraine's European integration over the past ten years. From Euromaidan to visa-free travel, from war to a candidate status and the start of accession negotiations. To remind us of the great journey that is already behind us and to give us the strength to reach our destination as winners.

The organisers deliberately turned to 'non-monumental' forms. To works that were often created at night, with a torch, between missile attacks. Works that required only a pencil, a few paints, a camera, a laptop - and, of course, the talent of the artist.

Many of the artefacts on display have long since been spread across the internet and merchandising, becoming symbols of the era. Perhaps there is no better tribute.

After all, art is not made for art historians, just as European integration is not made for politicians. Both become meaningful when they go beyond exhibition halls and official documents and become part of our lives.

Which is what history is made of.

IVAN BOYKO

The artist studied art at a number of different schools and has extensive experience as a creative and art director in creative agencies. He now works independently as an artist, designer, and art director across the creative spectrum.



Free Ones Got To Be Together, 2022



Free Ones Got To Be Together 2, 2022









This series of works reflects the pain associated with war and the struggle for freedom, as well as Ukraine's desire and readiness for European integration. Ukraine has not only declared its European future to the world, but has also demonstrated its commitment to democratic values at the cost of thousands of lives.

The bullet holes instead of stars on the European Union flag, the transfusion of «Ukrainian» blood and other images depicted in the works are a metaphor for the price Ukraine is paying for its choice, and also symbolise the destruction of the old order and the need for Europe to transform itself in the face of new challenges.



Free Ones Need Each Other, 2022



Use Ukrainian Superpower, 2022

MYKOLA HONCHAROV













The graphic designer and artist comes from the family of famous artists Prakhov-Honcharov. A member of the National Union of Artists of Ukraine. He works at the National Center of Folk Culture "Ivan Honchar Museum", the National Memorial Complex to the Heavenly Hundred Heroes — Museum of the Revolution of Dignity. The winner of the International Contest "Stop Censorship!" and the art competition "Ukrainian Patriotic Poster". A participant of the International Biennale "Impression-93". A participant of numerous personal and group exhibitions, art and social projects.





OFF, 2013

ON, 2017

The work is dedicated to the termination of the EU-Ukraine Association Agreement on November 21, 2013.

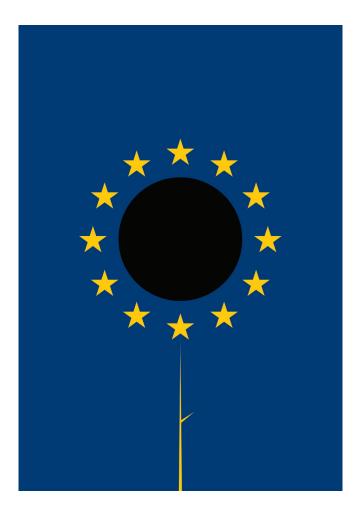
OFF means "switched off". The poster succinctly illustrates this shocking news — the termination of the Association Agreement as a collapse of hopes for democratic transformation in the country. The letter 'O' — a circle of stars — and the deep blue background of the poster evoke a strong association with the flag of the European Union. The artist calls his work a 'short visual shot', giving the viewer an immediate visual message.

On May 17, 2017, the EU-Ukraine visa-free travel agreement was signed in Strasbourg.

ON means 'switch on'. The blue background of the poster, the letter 'O', is made up of stylised stars, easily recognisable as the EU flag, but the stars are already stylised and the textured surface evokes the damage and losses that people have had to go through.

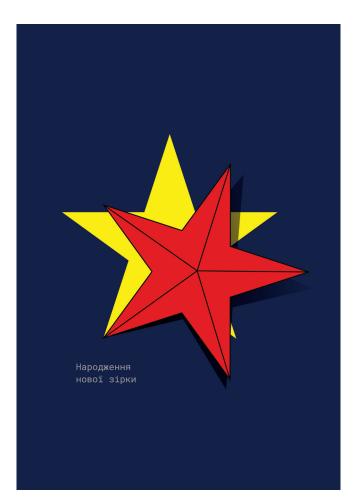
ARTEM GUSYEV

An architect by training, the artist has a lifelong passion for creative pursuits, and a background in design and communication (advertising). With the start of the full-scale invasion, he's been actively creating anti-war and patriotic illustrations. His illustration "Power. Ukrainian Stone" became part of the United24 project and raised UAH 56 million for the Defence Intelligence Service of Ukraine. Runs his own creative agency Gusev Art Lab.





The sunflower is a true Ukrainian symbol — a symbol of the sun, that's why the stars of the EU flag are its petals, reminiscent of rays.



A New Star, 2024

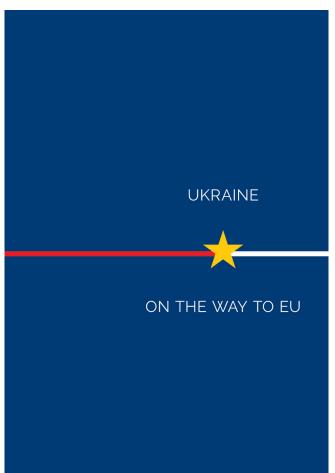
The new star is a symbol that Ukraine is slowly shedding its Soviet stars and aspiring to be another star in the EU.













The Thorny Path to the EU, 2022

The thorny path to the European Union is a visualisation of how we are trying to become part of Europe at the cost of human lives.



A Return Ticket, 2022

The return ticket is a visual metaphor for Russia cutting off our air routes to Europe, where there is a lock with an aeroplane on it but no key in sight.

DMYTRO DZIUBA

The artist, graphic designer, illustrator works for the Aztec Animation studio and school. He has had personal poster exhibitions in Ukraine and Spain, and collective exhibitions in Europe, the USA, the UAE, Colombia, Peru, and others. He creates book illustrations and designs, film posters, and music album covers. His works were included in the book "Ukrainian Posters of Wartime".



Defence, 2022

Dedicated to the defence of Ukraine as the defence of the whole of Europe















DAY OF REVOLUTION OF DIGNITY

Tenth Anniversary, 2023

Dedicated to the 10th anniversary of the Revolution of Dignity.

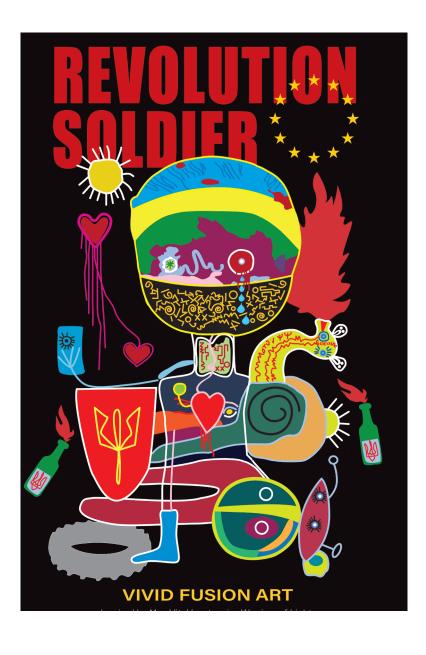
Eleventh Anniversary, 2024

Dedicated to the 11th anniversary of the Revolution of Dignity.

MAKSYM VITYK



Vivid Fusion is a startup art platform founded by Ganna Kryvolap and Max Vityk specializing in high-quality art prints that promote Ukrainian art globally. Project launch is expected in the first part of 2025.



Revolution Soldier, 2024

This striking poster titled "Revolution Soldier" is a Vivid Fusion Art adaptation of Max Vityk's Warriors of Light series, originally Euromaidan inspired by the movement. The artwork blends abstract symbolism and vibrant colors, depicting a stylized soldier elements representing with Ukraine's resilience, history, and European aspirations. A mix of geometric and organic shapes forms a figure, with motifs such as the trident shield, burning Molotov cocktails, and a bleeding heart powerful symbols of resistance and sacrifice. The composition conveys both the chaos and the hope of revolution, merging contemporary digital aesthetics with historical significance.

VICTORIA DOLHIKH













Trained as an interior designer, she works professionally as a graphic designer, but feels most accurately described as a creator. She has extensive experience in the field of graphic and visual design. She is currently a volunteer and art curator at the Ukrainian Club in Zaandam, the Netherlands, building an active Ukrainian diaspora and helping Ukraine.

Can the Family Be Too Big, 2022

The work is about Ukraine becoming a candidate for EU membership and is meant to show that the country is already part of the European family.

IRYNA DUNAYEVA

The artist is a resident at the CUTOUT COLLAGE ART PROJECT. Her works are rooted in the studies of collective memory, cultural traditions and contemporary social processes through the prism of war and global change. She works with various media such as painting, photography, installation, collage and papier-mache, and is inspired by Ukrainian folk heritage and artistic practices. She started her career in art by creating design concepts in Lviv and Kyiv working with famous European brands.

She's also very active in using art for activism. In 2024, she joined the "For the Sake of a Letter" project to raise awareness about violation of rights of prisoners of war, and also participated in the "More Than Buildings" project aimed at preserving architectural heritage.

Christmas Tree from Maidan, 2013

Aluminum wire, insulating tape, fabric, paper, markers, 50x16 cm

In 2014, Ukrainians welcomed the New Year without a traditional Christmas tree. After long and difficult days on Maidan, the festive spirit was overshadowed by the ongoing struggle. That year, the true celebration took place on Maidan, where 2.5 million people stood together, supporting one another in challenging times.

The artist created a replica Christmas tree, adorned with posters that had left the strongest impression on her. She also added posters made by her family and friends to emphasize that our resistance grows stronger with each passing day and that Maidan was destined to prevail.







YURII KOVALYOV





Through the Hole, 2022

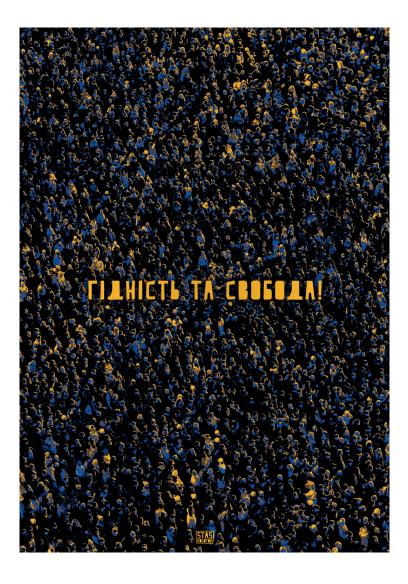
A dangerous and powerful creature can only be stopped if we stand together.

STAS KOLOTOV









The graphic designer and illustrator, musician. He is a conductor and academic singer by training. For years, he wrote his own songs and sang professionally in a well-known choir. He started creating visuals for the choir, which led him to get into graphic design and art.

Since the war started on February 24, 2022, his work has taken a new direction. He's developed his own style, and his antiwar posters are being shared widely online and shown at exhibitions, fundraisers, rallies, and protests supporting Ukraine all over the world.

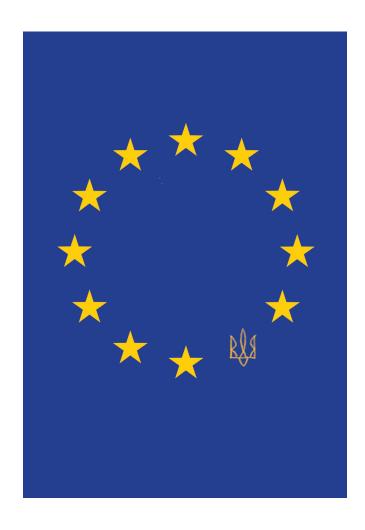
Dignity and Freedom, 2024

The work is dedicated to Euromaidan and the Revolution of Dignity.

ANDRII NAUMENKO



With a strong background as an artist and art director in the gaming world, as well as experience in animation and a deep appreciation for storytelling, he now serves in the military, protecting Ukraine's freedom and independence.





What is There to Think, 2022

The work is dedicated to Ukraine's accession to the European Union.

NIKITA TITOV







Stele, 2014

The poster is dedicated to the anniversary of the beginning of the Maidan, the Day of Dignity.

The author came to the Maidan, the Euromaidan, at the very beginning. Nikita was born and grew up in Estonia, and then often returned home and saw how the republic was transforming from a post-Soviet country into one of the full-fledged European countries. This is what inspired the author to go to Maidan — the belief that everything is real; the belief that Nikita's son, born in Ukraine, will live in a European country, not in a post-Soviet quagmire.

The author saw the Maidan, saw how people under European flags were ready to go to the end for their freedom, dignity, rights and beliefs. People were ready, and they are still fighting for it, and European values are no longer just declarations here, but part of life and a daily and very tragic struggle.

The poster artist created, among others, a series of posters dedicated to the Revolution of Dignity and Russia's war against Ukraine. His works have been included in the permanent collections of museums, used as illustrations during protests in support of Ukraine around the world, in international media, and even are part of the collection of the Library of Congress. The author posts each work on his Facebook page, keeping a kind of diary. The author started working on the posters in 2013, now the series includes more than 1800 works. Over 400 posters were created in the first year of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. His works have been exhibited in

Lithuania, Germany, Canada, Japan, and in the author's homeland of Estonia.

He is an active participant in social and charitable initiatives, in particular in support of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, for which in 2023 the artist received an honorary badge "For Assistance to the Army" from the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and the award of the Commander-in-Chief of the Ukrainian Volunteer Army for supporting the volunteer army. In 2023, according to Ukrayinska Pravda, he was included in the list of 100 wartime leaders.



Locker, 2024

Ukraine is «a lock» on the door of Europe, barely holding back what you wouldn't want to encounter if it's not strengthened. You will see for yourself what will happen, because everything has consequences, especially when you ignore things that are crucial for the future.

NIKITA TITOV







Time for Ukraine, 2024

Since the outbreak of the full-scale war with Russia, many Ukrainians have left for Europe, and those who chose to stay have surprised the world with their courage, strength and heroism.

And those who found themselves far from home are making their mark on the world. Their ability to work, create, and innovate is bringing positive change to the countries where they've sought refuge. Ukrainians aren't known for seeking handouts. They're known for their courage, resilience, determination, and creative spirit.

Every day the war takes lives of Ukrainians — of the best of them, the ones who could change the world. The clock is ticking, but not in our favour and definitely not in yours.



Shahed in the EU, 2024

We all live together in a time of great knowledge accumulated by mankind, incredible technological progress, a time when, for example, my childhood fantasies about the future have already become commonplace, and at the same time, neither civilisation nor religion nor international organisations have been able to save humanity from the primitive savagery and bloody ambitions of dictatorships that have not been fully dismantled.

Until 2014, very few people in Ukraine could believe that war was coming, although there had already been events in Georgia. Most Ukrainians simply did not notice them.

After 2022, despite their support for Ukraine, many Europeans simply do not believe that this is possible on their territory. And who told you that this would not happen. After all, dictatorships have not yet been dismantled.

MAKSYM STREMOUSOV





The illustrator who creates anti-war posters. He helped design creative materials to support Ukraine's campaign to become a candidate for EU membership. He also works as a teacher's assistant in inclusive education. He is involved in charity work and has had personal exhibitions in Ukraine and Europe.

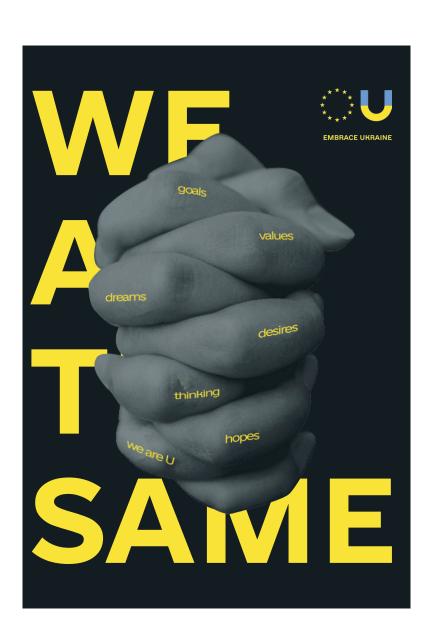
Embrace Ukraine, 2022

The work is dedicated to the European integration of Ukraine.

INNA TRYKILA, SOFIIA SALATA







We Are the Same, 2022

The work symbolizes the unity of the Ukrainian and European peoples rooted in shared values, dreams, and aspirations, embodying the idea of freedom and integration into a unified community.

MARYNA YANUL









An animator and illustrator with a keen eye for the art of movement and visual storytelling, she crafts works that delve into the emotions, atmosphere, and intricate details that make stories come alive.

Strengthen the Union, 2022

Bringing Ukraine into the EU not only makes the Union stronger, but also reinforces the shared values of freedom, solidarity, and working together for a common goal.









A graphic designer who works mostly where sports and culture meet. He has an extensive background in illustration and tattooing. These days, the artist mostly focuses on brand and campaign design for the world of sports and beyond.

KRIS KALA



Stronger Together, 2022

The work was made for the #colorsforukraine campaign. The poster shows a white dove with an olive branch, both symbols of peace. However, this is not about peace with the enemy — it's a blue&yellow peace, a peace brought by the victory of Ukraine. The goal was to raise donations in support of Ukraine.

SZYMON SZYMANKIEWICZ



The graphic designer has received numerous awards and prizes, and his work has been shown at exhibitions in dozens of countries in Europe, Asia, North and South America.

He is one of the most recognized poster designers among the younger generation of Polish artists. His works are characterized by strict minimalism, transformation of well-known symbols and the use of restrained colors. The artist often addresses complex and controversial socio-political topics such as fascism, racism, anti-Semitism, misogyny or homophobia, as well as issues such as abuse of power, authoritarian violence against citizens, or indifference to marginalized groups of people or phenomena.

Sanctions

The poster features a black silhouette of Vladimir Putin against a dark blue background. Stars from the European Union flag are embedded within the figure, symbolizing the sanctions imposed by Europe in response to Russia's brutal invasion of Ukraine.







EU UA

The poster features the well-known flag of the European Union, but with a significant change — its colors have been replaced with those of the Ukrainian flag. The symbolism of this change is clear — it represents Ukraine's aspiration to join the European Union and emphasizes solidarity and support for the Ukrainian people. This design serves as a statement of support and hope, emphasizing core European values — unity, freedom, and solidarity.

EU PEACE

The poster prominently features the flag of the European Union — its characteristic blue background and golden stars arranged in a circle. However, upon closer inspection, the stars are not evenly distributed; instead, they form the shape of the peace symbol. This poster symbolizes the European Union's commitment to peace and unity, while also acknowledging the challenges it faces — such as conflicts on Europe's borders or internal tensions. It delivers a subtle yet powerful message about the values upon which the Union is built.

OGILVY

Ogilvy Ukraine is an international communications agency that creates campaigns for government and non-governmental organisations, as well as the business sector.

Project team:

- Yevheniia Dziubenko, creative director
- Artem Bytsenko, art director
- Platon Zymnytskyi, DTP specialist
- Maria Goldman, copywriter
- Daria Tafintseva, director
- Elena Logvinova, account manager

Empowered With Dignity and a Thirst for Freedom, 2023









A series of posters and visual style for the 10th anniversary of the Revolution of Dignity was created at the request of the Office of the Vice Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration as part of the EU-funded project Association 4U.

10 years since the beginning of the Revolution of Dignity is a path that has defined us. It has taken us through the fire of Maidan and into a long, exhausting war that continues to this day. But we are guided by the main goal — freedom, unity and integration into the European community.

The posters and visual style are rooted in 10 years of struggle — from the barricades to the future of Ukrainians as part of the European community. The logo has three stages: Maidan, war and European integration. A whole system of signs and symbols is formed around them, reflecting the decades in different ways for the whole country.









The collection is part of the exhibition "Ukraine's Path to the EU in Illustrations, Posters and Artworks", organised under the initiative of the Office of the Vice Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine and with the support of the EU-funded project Association 4U.

The acquisition of the collection was supported by the Creative Sich, a charitable foundation and the largest volunteer art community in Ukraine, uniting artists who care from around the world. Since the start of the full-scale invasion, the foundation has been creating posters for rallies, holding regular fundraising events for the armed forces of Ukraine and running its own art projects. The foundation's mission is providing creative backing to those fighting for Ukraine's future





and the 4th Block Association and the PosterTerritory project as part of the international charity event "Stand with Ukraine".

The 4th Block:









PosterTerritory:

