



[Records on U.S. Recognition of Ukraine](#)

FOIA Number: 2000-1198-F

Scope and Content Note:

The materials in FOIA 2000-1198-F are a selective, not necessarily all inclusive, body of documents responsive to the topic of the FOIA. Researchers should consult the archivist about related materials. 2000-1198-F 1 FOIA 2000-1198-F contains material related to the United State's interaction with Ukraine during and after the dissolution of the Soviet Union and the Ukrainian referendum on independence. With the deterioration of the political strength of the Soviet Union, the republics of the USSR began seeking more independence from Moscow. As early as July 16, 1990, the Ukrainian parliament declared the Ukrainian republic to be a sovereign state. After the unsuccessful August coup attempt the following year, Ukraine declared itself an independent nation. On December 1, 1991, an overwhelming majority of Ukrainians voted for independence and elected Leonid Kravchuk as the first president of Ukraine. On Christmas Day 1991, the United States announced its formal recognition of Ukraine as a sovereign nation. This FOIA request specifically sought all documents related to the Bush administration's discussions in the fall of 1991 concerning recognition of Ukraine as an independent country. However, few documents were located that dealt directly with the issue of recognition. The majority of folders pertaining to Ukraine in no way relates to such discussions, and therefore remains unprocessed. Those files that were processed contained a broad array of documents related to Ukraine and its transformation from a republic of the Soviet Union to an independent country with full diplomatic ties to the United States. The Staff and Office Files contain basic background and historical information about Ukraine, cables and reports on the evolving political, military, and economic situation, and profiles of the current and potential leaders. Press releases, head-of-state correspondence, and memoranda of conversations between Ukrainian and American officials record the evolving relationship between the two states. Of particular concern to the Bush administration during this period was the position of Ukraine on military matters, particularly the presence of large numbers of nuclear weapons on its soil and the Ukrainian position on the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty (CFE) and the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START). Other issues include Ukrainian participation in the United Nations, the development of a democratic system of government and the transformation to a market economy, and Ukrainian relations with other European countries and former Soviet republics, particularly with Russia.

Processed by: Staff Archivists, August 2001. Previously restricted materials are added as they are released.

[Records of the National Security Council \(George H. W. Bush Administration\)](#)

Craig Chellis' Subject Files

Container List

Container ID CF01581

[CFE \[Conventional Forces in Europe\] - Ukraine](#)

NAID: 470436600

Local ID: CF01581-027

Record Type(s):

Textual Records

Availability

On Site

John A. Gordon Subject Files

Container List

Container ID CF01656

[Ukraine, December 1991](#)

NAID: 470438809

Local ID: CF01656-031

Record Type(s):

Textual Records

Availability

On Site

Nicholas R. Burns and Ed Hewett Subject Files

Container List

Container ID CF01536

[4.4.0 - U.S. Relations with Russia; Relations with Ukraine](#)

NAID: 453247816

Local ID: CF01536-016

Record Type(s):

Textual Records

Availability

On Site

Container ID CF01613

[1.2.0 - Political Situation; Ukraine](#)

NAID: 453247543

Local ID: CF01613-021

Record Type(s):

Textual Records

Availability

On Site

Nicholas R. Burns' Subject Files

Container List

Container ID CF01487

[Ukraine](#)

NAID: 453248012

Local ID: CF01487-007

Record Type(s):

Textual Records

Availability

On Site

[State Briefing Book on Ukraine](#)

NAID: 453248024

Local ID: CF01487-019

Record Type(s):

Textual Records

Availability

On Site

Container List

Container ID CF01957

[CIS \[Commonwealth of Independent States\] - Recognition](#)

NAID: 470432379

Local ID: CF01957-001

Record Type(s):

Textual Records

Availability

On Site