

UKRAINIAN
WEEK IN SPAIN

UNIVERSITY OF
VALENCIA

5TH OF MAY



5 MAY

VENUE: ESPAI VIVES. UNIVERSITY OF VALENCIA. AVE. BLASCO IBAÑEZ, 23 / FACULTY OF PHILOSOPHY & EDUCATIONAL SCIENCES (AULA MAGNA)

11:15 - 11:35 Official opening of the event

Introductory remarks by representatives of the Rectorate of the University of Valencia, the Consulate, and the Ukrainian delegation / Global Coalition of Ukrainian Studies.

Speakers:

Esteban Sanchis — Delegate of the Rector for the FORTHEM Alliance — Fostering Outreach within European Regions, Transnational Higher Education and Mobility, University of Valencia

Jordi Mocholí — Deputy Director-General for Science and Research. Department of Education, Culture, Universities and Employment of the Valencian Community.

Pablo Gil — Honorary Consul of Ukraine in Valencia

Olga Budnyk — Adviser–Commissioner to the President of Ukraine on the Fund of the President of Ukraine for the Support of Education, Science, and Sports

11:35 - 12:00 Presentation by the University of Valencia

Speaker:

Esteban Sanchis — Delegate of the Rector for the FORTHEM Alliance, University of Valencia

12:00 - 12:15 Presentation by the Global Coalition of Ukrainian Studies

Speaker:

Olha Oseredchuk – Head of the Project Office, Global Coalition of Ukrainian Studies; Professor, Lviv Polytechnic National University

Both of the presentations will be delivered in English.

12:15 - 12:35 **Coffee break and Welcome of Additional Institutional Representatives**

Elena Cantarino – Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy & Educational Sciences

Francisco Arenas – Associate Professor (Profesor Titular) of Ethics and Political Philosophy at the Faculty of Philosophy and Education Sciences of the Universitat de València.

12:35 - 13:00 **Open Lecture “National Culture as a Component of Security: The Case of Ukraine”**

The lecture explores how national culture functions as a key element of national security, using Ukraine as a case study. It will address the role of culture in strengthening resilience, preserving identity, and shaping national memory, particularly in the context of war.

Speaker:

Nataliia Kryvda – Head of the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation; Professor, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

Language: Ukrainian with consecutive translation to Spanish

13:00 - 14:30 **Panel Discussion “Contemporary Ukrainian Culture as a Voice of Freedom: Shaping Ukraine’s Narrative in Ukraine and Globally”**

This discussion will bring together leading Ukrainian intellectuals, cultural figures, and experts to reflect on how Ukraine's full-scale war has transformed its cultural landscape and global perception.

The panel will focus on culture as a form of resistance, a tool for preserving memory, and a driver of international communication. Key themes include the rethinking of Ukrainian identity, the decolonisation of the cultural space, and the growing role of cultural diplomacy.

Special attention will be given to how universities and academic communities contribute to shaping and amplifying Ukraine's voice in Europe and globally.

Speakers:

Nataliia Kryvda — Head of the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation; Professor, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

Rena Marutyan — Professor, Department of Global and National Security, Educational and Scientific Institute of Public Administration and Civil Service, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv

Yevhen Nyshchuk — actor, theatre director, and cultural leader; former Minister of Culture of Ukraine, actively engaged in shaping Ukraine's contemporary cultural landscape

Moderator:

Olga Budnyk — Adviser–Commissioner to the President of Ukraine on the Fund of the President of Ukraine for the Support of Education, Science, and Sports

Language: Ukrainian with consecutive translation to Spanish

14:30

Lunch

EVENT PARTICIPANTS



**OLGA
BUDNYK**

Adviser – Commissioner to the President of Ukraine at the Fund of the President of Ukraine for the Support of Education, Science and Sports. Co-launched the Twinning initiative, creating 100+ partnerships between Ukrainian and UK universities, initiated dual-degree programs, helped establish the Global Coalition of Ukrainian Studies, Expert in civic education and public administration.



**OLHA
OSEREDCHUK**

Doctor of Pedagogical Sciences (PhD in History), Head of the Project Office of the Global Coalition of Ukrainian Studies, and Professor at the Department of Practical Psychology and Mental Health, Lviv Polytechnic National University. She has over 16 years of experience in the field of higher education and academic development. Her research focuses on adult education, particularly learning and reintegration of veterans, as well as teaching excellence and professional development of educators.



**NATALIIA
KRYVDA**

Doctor of Philosophy, Professor in the Department of Ukrainian Philosophy and Culture at Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. Academic Director of the MBA programmes at Edinburgh Business School and Chair of the Supervisory Board of the Ukrainian Cultural Foundation.



**RENA
MARUTYAN**

Professor, Department of Global and National Security, Educational and Scientific Institute of Public Administration and Civil Service, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv



**YEVHEN
NYSHCHUK**

Doctor of Arts, Ukrainian theater and film actor, politician, and public figure, the People's Artist of Ukraine. He served as the Minister of Culture of Ukraine in 2014 and again from 2016 to 2019. Currently, he holds the position of General Director and Artistic Director of the Ivan Franko National Academic Drama Theater and serves as the Head of the Committee for the Taras Shevchenko National Prize. With over 15 years of experience in theater and cultural development in Ukraine, he has made significant contributions to this field. After the full-scale invasion, Nyshchuk joined the ranks of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and participated in combat operations. His research focuses on theater studies, particularly monodrama and postcolonial transformations of monodrama in Ukraine. Widely recognized as the Voice of Maidan, Nyshchuk remains a prominent figure in Ukrainian cultural and public life.



**ESTEBAN
SANCHIS**

Doctor Engineer in Electronics, Delegate of the Principal for FORTHEM, Professor at the Department of Electronic Engineering, Escola Tècnica Superior d'Enginyeria, Universitat de València. He has more than 30 years of experience in higher education, encompassing teaching, research and academic management. His research focuses on industrial electronics; he has participated in and led numerous international and national projects, including competitive calls, publicly funded programmes and industry-sponsored initiatives.

EVENT PARTICIPANTS



**CARLOS
POMER**

Head of the International Relations Service at the Universitat de València. He oversees the university's international strategy, including the management of student and staff mobility programmes, institutional partnerships, and participation in European initiatives such as Erasmus+. He holds degrees in Law and Political Science, as well as a Master's degree in Law and New Technologies. With extensive experience in higher education internationalisation, he has contributed to the development and implementation of policies that strengthen global engagement and cooperation. His work focuses on fostering international networks, promoting academic exchange, and enhancing the global visibility of the Universitat de València.



PABLO GIL

Pablo Gil (Madrid, 1975) is a businessman and Honorary Consul of Ukraine in the Valencian Community since 2022. He has developed a public, social and business career linked to the audiovisual and insurance sectors, combined with his advocacy for and support of Ukraine, work for which he has been awarded distinctions by the Ukrainian State.



**CARMEN
CARMONA**

Full Professor (CU), 2025. PhD in Social and Behavioural Sciences from the University of Groningen, Netherlands. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Valencia. She is currently a University Professor in the Department of Research Methods and Diagnosis in Education (MIDE) at the Faculty of Philosophy and Educational Sciences, University of Valencia. She has published articles in international journals on innovative methodologies for addressing diversity, processes of social comparison and burnout among teaching staff, self-efficacy and goals of university students, and in particular on values, acculturation and intercultural competences. She is currently a member of the Institutional Relations Committee of the Inter-University Association for Pedagogical Research (AIDIPE), secretary of the Transdisciplinary Network for Educational Research (RETINDE), the European Educational Research Association (EERA)



**ELENA
CANTARINO**

Dean of the Faculty of Philosophy & Educational Sciences. She is Associate Professor in Moral Philosophy and Political Philosophy in the Department of Philosophy. She holds a Bachelor's degree in Philosophy and Educational Sciences from the University of Valencia, where she also obtained her PhD in Philosophy, and subsequently completed a Master's degree in Educational Psychology. She served as chair of the Universities Committee of the REF (Spanish Philosophy Network, of which she is now a member), is vice-president of the Association of Philosophical Hispanic Studies (AHF), and sits on the board of directors of the Spanish Association of Ethics and Political Philosophy (AEEFP) and the GENET Network for Gender Studies. She is also a member of other philosophy associations (SFPV, SAF) and sits on the editorial boards of various academic journals, as well as on national and regional evaluation committees.



**FRANCISCO
ARENAS**

Associate Professor (Profesor Titular) of Ethics and Political Philosophy at the Faculty of Philosophy and Education Sciences of the Universitat de València. He holds a BA in Ecclesiastical Studies (San Vicente Ferrer Faculty of Theology), a BA in Classical Philology, and both a BA and a PhD in Philosophy (Universitat de València) with an Extraordinary Doctorate Award. Furthermore, he obtained a second PhD in Philosophy from the University of Bologna. His research lines encompass moral, political, and social philosophy, contemporary hermeneutics, the philosophy of the art of living, and the relationship between philosophy and literature, with a particular focus on the figures of Aristotle and Nietzsche. A member of the ETIDEMO (Applied Ethics and Democracy) research group, he has participated in more than ten competitive national and international projects, notably the 2021 Knowledge Generation project on armed conflicts and multidimensional security, as well as two projects within the Prometeo programme.

EVENT PARTICIPANTS



**JORDI
MOCHOLÍ**

Deputy Director-General for Science and Research. Department of Education, Culture, Universities and Employment of the Valencian Community.



**LIUMYLA
ZADOROZHNA**

Representative of the Ukrainian Ombudsman in Spain