Ukraine. Democratization, Corruption and the New Russian Imperialism

A Book-Launch Event with

Dr. Taras Kuzio, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (University of Alberta)

Chased down by a Ukrainian oligarch and then dumped by a Canadian publisher, Taras Kuzio's 620-page book was published by U.S. publisher Praeger this summer.

Ukraine dominated international headlines as the Euromaidan protests engulfed the country in winter 2013-2014 and Russia invaded the Crimea and the Donbas, igniting a new Cold War. Written from an insider's perspective by a leading expert on Ukraine who has followed the country for three decades, this book analyzes key domestic and external developments and provides an understanding as to why the Ukrainian nation's future is central to European security. Dr. Kuzio provides a contemporary perspective that integrates the late Soviet and post-Soviet eras. The book's survey of the nation's history begins in 1953, when Soviet leader Joseph Stalin died during the Cold War, and carries the story to the present day, showing the roots of a complicated transition from communism and the weight of history on its relations with Russia; in other words, from the Soviet era Cold War to modern day Cold War. The book then examines in depth key aspects of Soviet and post-Soviet Ukrainian politics, the drive to independence, Orange Revolution and Euromaidan, national identity, regionalism and separatism, economics, oligarchs, rule of law and corruption, and foreign and military policies.

Taras Kuzio is a senior research associate at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, senior research fellow at the Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Toronto, and a non-resident fellow at the Center for Transatlantic Relations at the School of Advanced International Relations, Johns Hopkins University. His previous positions have been at the University of Birmingham, the University of Toronto, The George Washington University, Johns Hopkins University, and Hokkaido University. He has published extensively as a scholar and public intellectual on contemporary Ukraine, post-communist politics, democratization, nationalism, and European security. A noted international expert on Ukraine, Kuzio is the author of Praeger's Dilemmas of State-Led Nation Building in Ukraine, named an "Outstanding Title" by Choice in 2003.

Thursday, October 8, 2015
Voesar Conference Room, Suite 412
4:00pm – 5:30pm
1957 E Street NW
Please RSVP at http://go.gwu.edu/ukrainebook