



Peace Boat 117th Global Voyage Ukraine Youth Ambassadors

In 2024, Peace Boat will organize a three-and-a-half-month programme “Ukraine Youth Ambassadors” onboard its 117th Global Voyage, which will circumnavigate the globe, departing from Japan in April and visiting approximately 20 countries around the world in Asia, the Indian Ocean, Africa, Europe, Scandinavia and North America before returning to Japan in July. Young Ukrainian students and professionals living in Japan will come together as Ukraine Youth Ambassadors to join the entire voyage. They will share their perspectives on the current situation in Ukraine, give testimonies about their experiences of witnessing the full-scale Russian military invasion of Ukraine firsthand, fleeing their homeland and starting new lives as displaced persons in Japan onboard the ship as well as to local stakeholders at various ports of call. In addition, they will hold events related to Ukrainian culture, traditions and festivals on the cruise to introduce their country.

Goal 16 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), “Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions” serves as the foundation of the Ukraine Youth Ambassadors programme. Its aims are, first and foremost, to raise awareness of the ongoing invasion of Ukrainian territory by Russia and create a platform where people from diverse regions can come together to learn how the lives of Ukrainian citizens are being impacted during times of conflict. Furthermore, underpinning the programme is youth empowerment: how can Ukrainian youth based in Japan create initiatives to support Ukraine? How can Ukrainian youth and people from Japan and other countries collaborate to envision a brighter and better future for Ukraine? Throughout the programme, participants will meet with those seeking peace around the world, broaden their horizons, and become forces for driving the future of Ukraine, as well as become bridges connecting Japan and Ukraine.

Overview

Dates








Saturday, 13 April, 2024 – Friday, 26 July, 2024

About Peace Boat

Peace Boat is a Japan-based international non-governmental organization established in 1983 holding a Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations (UN) working to promote peace, human rights and sustainability. Every year it organizes three Global Voyages around the world as well as shorter regional cruises. Peace Boat’s Global Voyages offer a unique programme of activities such as lectures, workshops, experiential learning and intercultural communication onboard as well as in the countries visited. Approximately 1,800 participants from Japan and other countries join each full voyage. With over 40 years of experience, Peace Boat has launched more than 110 around-the-world cruises, visiting more than 200 ports in 80 countries and carrying over 80, 000 passengers to date.



~ Profile of the Ukraine Youth Ambassadors ~

| Name | Bio | Photo |
|---------------------------|--|---|
| Yuliia CHEKHOVSKA | <p>Yuliia was born in a small town in western part of Ukraine and lived and studied in Belgium, Germany and Japan. After graduating from Chiba University, she engaged with intercultural organizations in Chiba as a public speaker representing Ukraine. Her hobbies are cycling, singing and traveling.</p> |  |
| Antonina KOROTENKO | <p>Antonina is a professional film and theater actress from Kyiv, now living in Saitama. She came to Japan because of her strong interest in Japanese language and culture. Now she works with elementary school students and introduces them to the culture of Ukraine. Antonina loves creative activities such as singing, drawing and performing. She also likes to spend time in nature and is fond of astronomy.</p> |  |
| Mariia BORZYKH | <p>Mariia is from Kharkiv, Ukraine. She graduated with a degree in International Relations in 2017 and went on to do internships at the European Parliament, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Ukraine and the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Kyiv. Right now, she is studying to obtain her second degree at Yaroslav Mudryi National Law University in Ukraine via distance learning. Currently, her occupation is an interpreter. In the future, she wants to develop her career in an international organization. In her free time, she loves traveling, reading books, pole dancing and practicing yoga and acroyoga. In addition, she is studying Chinese and Italian.</p> |  |
| Tetiana VAZHYNKA | <p>Tetiana is a professional graphic and web designer, born and raised in Kharkiv. She studied ballet for 10 years in her childhood. In adulthood she worked in Kyiv as a sports uniform designer and later moved to Tokyo to continue her career there. She enjoys learning languages, drawing illustrations and manga, traveling, running and practicing yoga.</p> |  |
| Natalia MAKOHON | <p>Natalia was born and raised in the eastern part of Ukraine, in the Donetsk region. As a young and driven journalist, she gained valuable experience in TV and broadcasting both in Ukraine and Japan. She loves traveling and exploring this world and has already visited 25 countries. She also enjoys creating content, public speaking and cooking.</p> |  |
| Sofiia DEMYDENKO | <p>Sofiia was born and raised in Kharkiv, Ukraine. Over the past four years, she has visited 12 countries and studied in various university programs in France, Spain, Germany and Japan (Keio University). Her major is business management, administration and mediation. In her free time, she enjoys baking, watching movies, and growing plants.</p> |  |
| Adelina LYSENKO | <p>Adelina was born in Zaporizhzhia, Ukraine and moved to Tokyo, Japan when she was 6 years old. She is currently studying Political Philosophy and Economics at Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. Although she grew up in Japan, she is passionate about Ukrainian culture and traditions. She loves horses, nature, traveling, sports, dancing, singing and cooking. Adelina is a native Japanese speaker, so please don't hesitate to talk to her in Japanese!</p> |  |