

100th Anniversary of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine



The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) of Ukraine was founded on November 27, 1918 in Kyiv. It was the oldest republican academy in the former Soviet Union. It consisted of three research departments: History and Philology, Physics and Mathematics, and Social Sciences, which included three institutes, 15 commissions, and a national library. Today, the NAS of Ukraine has three sections, 14 departments, and some 170 institutes, which employ 16,000 researchers. The first president of the Academy was the prominent mineralogist and geochemist Volodymyr Vernadsky. Consecutive presidents were Mykola Vasylenko (1921-1922), Orest Levytsky (1922), Volodymyr Lipsky (1922-1928), Danylo Zabolotny (1928-1929), Oleksandr Bogomolets (1930-1946), and Oleksandr Palladin (1946-1962). Since 1962, the Academy is headed by Borys Paton.

The 27th of November 2018 marked the 100th anniversary of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine. A ceremony to celebrate this event took place on December 6-7 in Kyiv.

The celebrations included an anniversary session of the General Assembly of the NAS of Ukraine and an exhibition showing scientific and technical achievements of the different institutes of the NAS of Ukraine. On this occasion, 70 academic institutions presented over 600 scientific results in a wide range of fields, from information technologies to new plant varieties.

Solemn meetings were also held at the regional and local levels. On November 19, the Western Scientific Center of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine and the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine organized a meeting for the scientific community of eight regions of western Ukraine: actual members (academicians) and corresponding members of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, heads of academic institutes and universities, researchers and pedagogues, representatives of state authorities, local governments, and industries. Zinovy Nazarchuk, head of the Western Scientific Center, praised the achievements of the scientists of the western part of Ukraine and expressed his wishes for strength and enthusiasm to continue and develop the traditions of Ukrainian science.

The 100 years of activity of the Academy are the evidence that the fundamental principles established by Volodymyr Vernadsky successfully passed the test of time. The high level of education and public spiritedness of the academicians should cause not only respect and admiration, but inspire progress in science, research, and education.

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