

**PRESIDENTIAL COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE  
PRESIDENTIAL NEWS DESK**

**OPENING REMARKS BY  
PRESIDENT FERDINAND R. MARCOS JR. AND  
UKRAINE PRESIDENT H.E. VOLODYMYR ZELENSKYY  
AT THE PHILIPPINE-UKRAINE BILATERAL MEETING**

[Delivered at the Malacañan Palace | 3 June 2024]

**PRESIDENT MARCOS:** Thank you very much. We are very happy to welcome you to the Philippines and I'm very happy that despite what I know is a very tight travel schedule --- for both of us, we were unable to find the time while we were both in Singapore.

But I'm happy that --- we're very honored that you found the time to pass by the Philippines. I know that the crisis in your country has occupied all of your attention and all of your time.

And it is a great pleasure to meet with you to discuss some of the issues that are common to our two countries. And hopefully find ways forward for the both of us together.

But once again, I wish it were under better circumstances but I'm happy that you're able to come and visit with us, Mr. President.

**PRESIDENT ZELENSKYY:** Thank you so much, Mr. President [and] your team. Very happy to be [here for] the first time in the Philippines, I'm sure not last.

Thank you for this invitation. And we're very thankful to be in your country and --- which supports Ukraine in our territorial integrity and sovereignty. Thank you so much [for] your big word and clear position with our task about this Russian occupation of our territories.

And thank you on your support in the UN Nations with your resolutions.

Mr. President, I'm happy to hear from you that you participate our basic steps to the peace, the three of [unclear], what really want our people just to bring peace to our homes.

And thank you for participation of Peace Summit --- it's [a] very strong signal, like I said, we have for today more than 100 countries. I think it's --- maybe not the last, again the first very strong step on the way to peace.

And I'm also very happy that this year we will open [an] embassy in Manila, that's very good decision.

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