

## Remarks by Ambassador Yovanovitch at USA Pavilion at AGRO 2018

Kyiv

June 6, 2018

**Thanks a lot! I mean how great is that? The first ever US AGRO Pavilion here, and all of you are a part of it.**

We are hoping that it is going to be super successful, because as I've told some of you as I was going around and looked at your booths and talked about your products and services, I just think that the potential for all of you here in Ukraine is practically unlimited.

So we are thrilled that you are taking advantage of this event in the Pavilion.

I think that American companies can obviously play a key role, that's where you guys all come in.



Meeting you firsthand here today really gives us an opportunity to share with you why we think it's prime time to work with Ukraine, and why it's time to work with Ukraine now.

Agriculture, I think you know, is the economic engine of Ukraine in many ways. In 2017, Ukrainian agricultural output—which is the country's largest export industry—represented over 12 percent of GDP.

So it is no surprise that capital investments in agriculture are growing.

And that Ukraine is pivoting to new markets – both in terms of exports and in terms of imports, so that touches pretty much everybody in this room. You've got opportunities here.

Some of you have been doing business with Ukraine for many years, while others are new to the market. But those Ukrainians that have been partnering with us for years are also just beginning to fully explore the full range of agricultural technologies and services that companies like yours offer.

We are very proud, as I think probably all of you are, of American technologies. We think that they are the best in the world, whether it's soil and plant nutrition to agricultural machinery and equipment, equipment for dairy, pig, and poultry farms, grain handling and storage solutions, oil crops, processing engineering, and logistics.

All of this, as you have told me yourself, is in great demand in Ukraine, as Ukraine's export-driven agriculture and food processing industry strives to meet higher safety and quality standards, it's also trying to improve efficiency.

So, I'm really hoping that your participation here in the U.S. Pavilion at AGRO will offer the chance to build new relationships and bring U.S. expertise and technologies to Ukrainian farmers, and frankly increase your businesses as well.

I'm hoping that this is a very successful event for all of you.

I was asking somebody when I was going around, and the individual, he said "well, I'm here alone," and what I want to tell you is that you're not here alone, because we've got our team here, Martin and Irina, that want to help you build those partnerships and those profits.



So thank you again for coming here to Ukraine! I think that it's going to be a great experience for you. Thanks a lot!

Source: U.S. Embassy Kyiv