

Fulbright Ukraine & Institute of International Education Kyiv Office present:
PANEL DISCUSSION

Environmental Challenges of the War in Ukraine



MODERATOR

Matthew J Temple

Fulbright U.S. Scholar to Hungary 2007-2008, to Ukraine 2021-2022
(Nazareth University, Richmond, NY, USA)



SPEAKERS

Sergiy Zibtsev

Fulbright Visiting Scholar 2004-2005
(National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine)
Impact of War on Wildfires Regime in the Battle and Occupied Zone



Victor Myroniuk

Fulbright Visiting Scholar 2020-2021
(National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine)
*Remote Sensing-Based Monitoring of Ukraine's Forest
Losses Caused by War*



Kateryna Bystrytska

Fulbright Graduate Student 2020-2022
(Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey, New Brunswick, NJ, USA)
*Green Reconstruction of Ukraine:
Goals, Principals, and the Role of Civil Society*

INTRODUCTION

Jessica Zychowicz

Director of the Fulbright Ukraine &
Institute of International Education Kyiv Office

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<https://cutt.ly/WwkYVD9I>



PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES

Matthew J Temple, Ph.D. is a Professor of Biology at the Nazareth University in Rochester, New York, USA. At Nazareth, he has taught genetics, cell biology, immunology, bioethics and bioinformatics. Research interests include image analysis of three-dimensional microscope specimens, and the relationship between faith and science. He is also an ordained Catholic priest in the Carmelite Order.

Matthew Temple is currently affiliated with the Institute for Ecological and Religious Studies in Uzhhorod, Ukraine. He received his B.S. (Biology) and M.A (Theology) from Catholic University of America and a Ph.D. (Biology) from Georgetown University.

His international activities include two Fulbright awards: the first to Hungary in 2008 to teach genetics in health care, and the second to Ukraine in 2022 in environmental ethics. He has lectured at the Bozok University in Turkey, the Semmelweis University and the Peter Pazmany University in Hungary, the University of Presov in Slovakia, and the Catholic University of Portugal in Porto.

Sergiy Zibtsev, Ph.D. is a Professor at the Department of Silviculture of the Institute of Forestry and Landscape-Park Management of the National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine. Head of the Regional Eastern Europe Fire Monitoring Center (REEFMC).

He is an international expert in the ecology of radiation-contaminated forests. Much of his life's work has been in the exclusion zones surrounding Chornobyl – site of the 1986 nuclear disaster. Since 2018 worked on the regional integrated fire management systems in Chernihiv and Luhansk Oblasts, including fire management issues on territories contaminated by unexploded ordnance and land mines.

Sergiy Zibtsev was a Fulbright Scholar at the Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies in 2004-2005. Laureate, Green Star Award 2013 of the Green Cross International, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). Awarded by the Parliament of Ukraine "For serving to the Ukrainian Nation". Since February 22, 2022, he regularly publishes *Landscape Fires Advisory Bulletin* and is actively involved in projects of OSCE on Environmental Impact Assessment on fire regimes of Russian-Ukrainian war.

Viktor Myroniuk, Ph.D. is a Professor at the Department of Forest Mensuration and Forest Management of the Institute of Forestry and Landscape-Park Management, the National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine. He teaches courses on Remote Sensing and Modeling of Forest Productivity. Research interests are mostly focused on landscape and regional mapping using forest inventory data, predictive modeling, and Google Earth Engine cloud computing technologies. This work utilizes field sampling data and a time series of remotely sensed data for the prediction of forest characteristics at various temporal and spatial domains. Recently co-authored an article on *Uncovering Forest dynamics... (Forest Ecology and Management, 2022)*.

Viktor Myroniuk was a Fulbright Scholar at the USDA Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station, Corvallis, OR in 2021. His current interests are within issues of assessment of war-cased forest losses to support post-war forest management in Ukraine, including environmental damage assessments.

Kateryna Bystrytska, is a PhD Student at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

Graduated from Zhytomyr State University with a major in Ukrainian language and literature. Worked as a journalist and editor in Zhytomyr, then as a PR and Communication specialist in the German organization GIZ, energy-efficiency, and climate cluster.

Kateryna Bystrytska was a Fulbright Graduate Student, and graduated from Montclair State University in 2022, School of Communication and Media. She was also a Research Fellow at Smithsonian Institution and worked with research on the role of social media in the war. From September 2022, she joined the Greenpeace team, who launched a project on green Ukrainian reconstruction and moved back to Kyiv. This fall she starts her Ph.D. at the Rutgers University, focusing on political communication and information warfare.