



## UKRAINE JOINS NATO'S PARTNERSHIP FOR PEACE PLAN

In February 1994, Ukraine became the first country to sign up for NATO's Partnership for Peace Program. Foreign Minister Anatoly Zlenko made it official at the NATO Ministers' Conference in Brussels Feb. 8.

Zlenko welcomed the program of limited association as a "reasonable and pragmatic alternative to partial and selective NATO enlargement." He told NATO ambassadors that accepting more full members now would only weaken security in Europe. "We strongly appreciate the open nature of the ... program and the absence of any intentions to draw new dividing lines in Europe," Zlenko said.

Partnership for Peace is a US-sponsored program of joint exercises aimed at integrating East European countries with NATO, but without offering them a timetable for full membership. Besides Ukraine, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Slovakia and Russia had joined. Bulgaria, the Czech Republic and Albania also joined recently.'

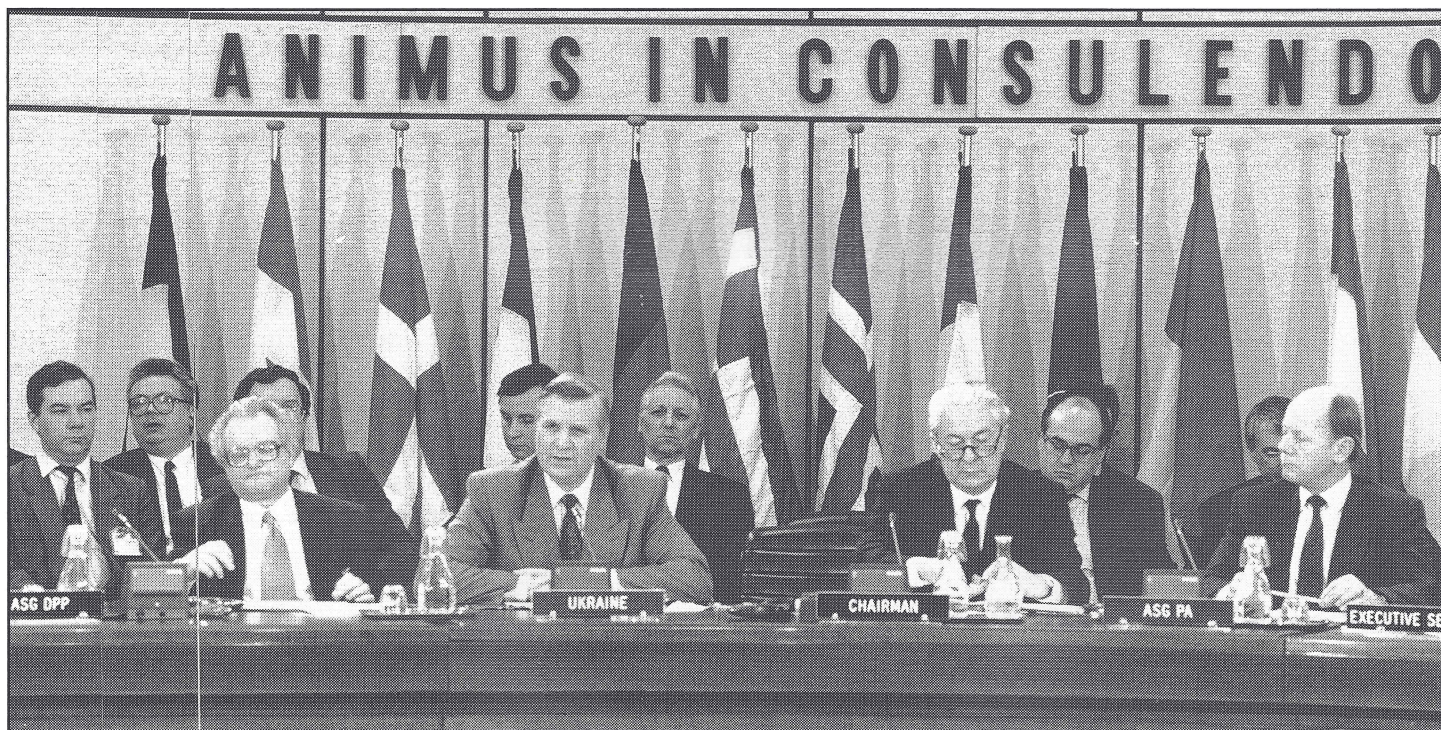
In an address to Parliament, President Leonid Kravchuk noted that "Ukraine's signature on the Partnership for Peace plan will not in any way affect our relations with Russia... When we will all have signed, then there will be real mutual interaction of all countries."

## UKRAINE IN NEW EUROPEAN STABILITY PACT

*Paris, May 28 ...* An agreement was reached at a two-day conference attended by 48 nations to seek negotiated solutions to their internal and border disputes in an effort to avert new Yugoslav-style conflicts. Under the European Union plan, two round tables were approved -- one for the Baltic region and another for Central and Eastern Union. The plan calls for a series of bilateral agreements to be concluded within one year. These accords and existing friendship agreements between Poland and Lithuania, Romania and Germany and Hungary and Ukraine will form part of a broader agreement call the European Stability Pact.

Two of the most difficult questions involve Russian minorities living in the Baltic countries and Hungarian minorities living in Romania and other neighbouring countries. Russia has expressed reservations about the deal and given mixed signals about joining the Baltic round table.

In a final statement, the conference suggested that topics for discussion include regional co-operation; minorities; cultural exchanges, including language training; regional economic co-operation; legal issues, including administrative training, and environmental problems.



Visit to NATO of Ukraine's Foreign Minister Anatoly Zlenko, on February 8, 1994 to sign the Partnership for Peace framework document. Centre-l: Foreign Minister Zlenko, centre-r: Dep. Secretary General Ambassador S.S. Balanzino. (NATO PHOTOS)