

## Course Materials

### War in Ukraine: A Ukrainian Lawyer's Perspective Recorded March 9, 2022

Today's speaker, Ukrainian bankruptcy attorney Volodymyr "Wlad" Gurtovy, resided in East Ukraine in 2014, when he found himself in the middle of the [Donbas War](#). He and his family fled to the capital, Kyiv, where, with the help of friends, they started over again. But when Russia invaded in February 2022, he was once again in the middle of war. As an able-bodied male, his obligation was to remain as part of the country's Territorial Defense. He arranged for his family to seek refuge in Poland.

In this program, he speaks of his experiences as a lawyer in a city under attack. His remarks include his observations regarding the prewar state of the legal system in Ukraine. But more importantly, his experiences during war make him a role model for how attorneys can take leadership in time of crisis.

Because of communications difficulties due to the war, the program follows an unusual format. It includes a short video recorded live by Mr. Gurtovy. The bulk of his remarks, however, were submitted in writing, and they will be read, with only very minor edits, by the program moderator.

The New York State Bar Association has a number of resources of interest to attorneys at the following link:

<https://nysba.org/legal-resources-on-the-ukraine-conflict/>

## About the Speakers

Ukrainian attorney Volodymyr Gurtovy is a member of the Bankruptcy Committee of [Національна Асоціація Адвокатів України](#), NAAU, the National Association of Attorneys of Ukraine. He has presented programs for the Association's Higher School of Advocacy, including a 2020 program, [Liability of Arbitration Trustees](#). He resides in Kyiv, where he has remained to resist the Russian invasion. His family is currently in Poland.

Program moderator Richard P. Clem is an attorney and continuing legal education (CLE) provider in Minnesota. He has been in private practice in the Twin Cities for over 30 years. He has a J.D., *cum laude*, from Hamline University School of Law in St. Paul and a B.A. in History from the University of Minnesota. His reported cases include: *Asociacion Nacional de Pescadores a Pequena Escala o Artesanales de Colombia v. Dow Quimica de Colombia*, [988 F.2d 559](#), rehearing denied, 5 F.3d 530 (5th Cir. 1993), cert. denied, 510 U.S. 1041 (1994); *LaMott v. Apple Valley Health Care Center*, [465 N.W.2d 585](#) (Minn. Ct. App. 1991); *Abo el Ela v. State*, [468 N.W.2d 580](#) (Minn. Ct. App. 1991). You can visit his web pages at [RichardClem.com](#) and [w0is.com](#) and his blog at [OneTubeRadio.com](#).