



**CHERNIHIVKA SETTLEMENT COUNCIL
OF THE BERDIANSK RAION OF THE ZAPORIZHZHIA OBLAST**

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**Secretary General
Union of the Baltic Cities
Pawel ZABOKLICKI**

About establishing friendships and partnerships

Dear Mr. Zhaboklicki!

The Chernihivka settlement council of the Berdiansk Raion of the Zaporizhzhia Oblast, represented by its head Vitalii Manych, expresses the great respect to you and offers to establish friendly and partnership relations.

The Chernihivka settlement territorial community is located in the central part of the Zaporizhzhia Oblast in the southern steppe zone of Ukraine. The administrative center of the territorial community is the town-type settlement of Chernihivka, founded in 1783 by immigrants from the Chernihiv Voivodeship (Crown of the Kingdom of Poland 1569 - 1795), hence the name. The Chernihivka community is rich in one of the largest deposits of granites in the Zaporizhzhia Oblast. There are also deposits of apatite, which are raw materials for the production of phosphate fertilizers. These deposits are among the largest in Europe. Along with apatites, deposits of uranium ores have been explored.

The community is agricultural. The largest specific weight in this structure was given to the agrarian sector, which specializes in the following industries: crop production (wheat, barley and sunflower) and livestock production (cattle, pig and sheep breeding). The community has a developed transport infrastructure, including railways and roads. The industrial enterprise "Nova Poltavka Granite Quarry" operates here. The Chernihivka community is famous for its natural and historical sights. Among them are Tokmak-Mohyla (Blue Mountain) and Oba-Tash Mountain, St. Michael's Convent, Mennonite estates. The region also attracts tourists with its recreational opportunities. To date, there are 245 historical and cultural monuments on the territory of the community, of which 205 are of archaeological heritage, 38 are of history, and 2 are of monumental art. There are also green tourism facilities.

The Chernihivka community has significant potential for development, in particular, favorable conditions for the development of agriculture, industry, tourism and recreation. Realization of this potential will create new jobs in the community, improve infrastructure and raise the standard of living of the population.

Today, the Chernihivka community has more than 15,000 residents. Since February 26, 2022, due to the full-scale Russian invasion into Ukraine, the territory of the Chernihivka community has been under temporary occupation. Today, a significant part of the population has been evacuated to the territory controlled by the Ukrainian authorities. The leadership of the Chernihivka community has been relocated to the city of Zaporizhzhia, where more than 1,500 residents (more than 657 families) of the Chernihivka community are currently registered as internally displaced persons.

In the city of Zaporizhzhia, the leadership and residents of the community set up a humanitarian hub for people escaping from the temporarily occupied territories. The main activity of the community is:

- Finding and uniting like-minded people who are ready to conduct joint activities contributing to the achievement of the community's goals.
- Establishment of permanent connections, exchange of experience and various forms of cooperation with other local, all-Ukrainian, international and foreign public organizations.
- Provision of necessary support in the needs of internally displaced persons.
- Assistance to the Armed Forces of Ukraine.
- Organization of trainings, seminars and educational projects for community residents and internally displaced persons.
- Training of local government representatives in planning and implementation of reconstruction and recovery of the community after its deoccupation.

The purpose of this partnership is to create and improve favorable conditions for the further development and prosperity of friendly and economic relations between communities. We will be happy to create new partnership and friendly relations with the Union of the Baltic Cities for the time being and after our victory, for the sake of post-war recovery and further development of the Chernihivka community.

We hope to find common interest among the partner cities and with the Union of the Baltic Cities in establishing partnership intermunicipal relations. We believe that such cooperation will be mutually beneficial and will have the potential for further comprehensive development.

With great respect and gratitude, on behalf of the Chernihivka community.

The head of community



Vitalii MANYCH