

# Cambridge Elements

Elements in Soviet and Post-Soviet History

edited by

Mark Edele

*University of Melbourne*

Rebecca Friedman

*Florida International University*

## UKRAINIAN LITERATURE

*A Wartime Guide for  
Anglophone Readers*

Marko Pavlyshyn

*Monash University*



CAMBRIDGE  
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Cambridge University Press & Assessment  
978-1-009-55907-2 — Ukrainian Literature  
Marko Pavlyshyn  
Frontmatter  
[More Information](#)



Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge CB2 8EA, United Kingdom  
One Liberty Plaza, 20th Floor, New York, NY 10006, USA  
477 Williamstown Road, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Australia  
314–321, 3rd Floor, Plot 3, Splendor Forum, Jasola District Centre,  
New Delhi – 110025, India  
103 Penang Road, #05–06/07, Visioncrest Commercial, Singapore 238467

Cambridge University Press is part of Cambridge University Press & Assessment,  
a department of the University of Cambridge.

We share the University's mission to contribute to society through the pursuit of  
education, learning and research at the highest international levels of excellence.

[www.cambridge.org](http://www.cambridge.org)  
Information on this title: [www.cambridge.org/9781009559072](http://www.cambridge.org/9781009559072)

DOI: 10.1017/9781009559089

© Marko Pavlyshyn 2025

This publication is in copyright. Subject to statutory exception and to the provisions  
of relevant collective licensing agreements, no reproduction of any part may take  
place without the written permission of Cambridge University Press & Assessment.

When citing this work, please include a reference to the DOI 10.1017/9781009559089

First published 2025

*A catalogue record for this publication is available from the British Library*

ISBN 978-1-009-55907-2 Hardback  
ISBN 978-1-009-55906-5 Paperback  
ISSN 2753-5290 (online)  
ISSN 2753-5282 (print)

Cambridge University Press & Assessment has no responsibility for the persistence  
or accuracy of URLs for external or third-party internet websites referred to in this  
publication and does not guarantee that any content on such websites is, or will  
remain, accurate or appropriate.

For EU product safety concerns, contact us at Calle de José Abascal, 56, 1º, 28003  
Madrid, Spain, or email [eugpsr@cambridge.org](mailto:eugpsr@cambridge.org)

## Ukrainian Literature

### A Wartime Guide for Anglophone Readers

Elements in Soviet and Post-Soviet History

DOI: 10.1017/9781009559089  
First published online: April 2025

Marko Pavlyshyn  
*Monash University*

**Author for correspondence:** Marko Pavlyshyn, [marko.pavlyshyn@monash.edu](mailto:marko.pavlyshyn@monash.edu)

**Abstract:** *Ukrainian Literature: A Wartime Guide for Anglophone Readers* is an introduction for general readers and students to Ukrainian literature in English translation. It takes as its starting point the responses of Ukrainian poets and prose writers to Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022 and the preceding eight-year war. Each of the Element's ten sections describes a key event in Ukrainian cultural history in its literary context, surveying related works and their authors, Ukrainian and international literary and intellectual movements, and developments in political and social life. The Element gives pre-eminent attention to a theme that the war has foregrounded: the enduringly fraught relationship of Ukraine and Russia. While focussing mainly on texts in Ukrainian, the Element refers to other literary cultures – Polish, Russian, Jewish and Crimean Tatar, among others – whose participants were active on the territory of today's Ukraine.

**Keywords:** Ukraine, Ukrainian literature, postcolonial literature, war literature, Ukrainian literature in English

© Marko Pavlyshyn 2025

ISBNs: 9781009559072 (HB), 9781009559065 (PB), 9781009559089 (OC)  
ISSNs: 2753-5290 (online), 2753-5282 (print)

## Contents

Foreword	1
2023: Invasion and Defiance	3
1992: Independence Established, Enjoyed and Explored	12
1965: Dissenting from the Party-State	20
1933: Death and Life with Totalitarianism	28
1918: The National Revolution	37
1876: Empires Endured	47
1847: From People to Nation	51
1798: The New Ukrainian Literature Begins	60
1610: Early Modern Multifariousness	66
1185: The Presence of the Medieval Past	69
Afterword	72
List of Abbreviations	74
References	76