

November 23, 2021

To the Members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in America

What is the forthcoming election really about?

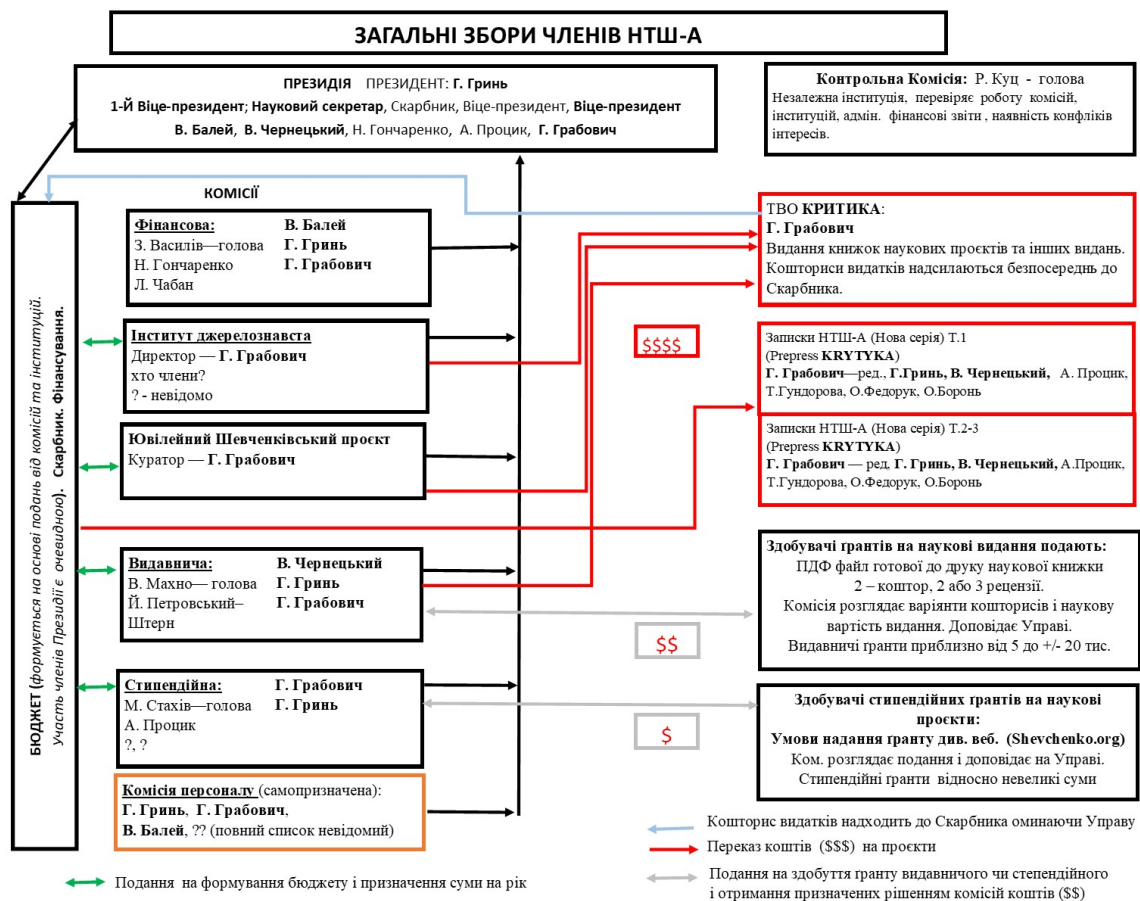
The answer is simple: The independence and identity of the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

Disregard all the verbiage and mudslinging and focus on the essential questions: Who runs NTSh-A and who benefits from NTSh-A resources?

For the last 12 years, the Society has been in the hands of the excellent Shevchenko scholar, Professor George Grabowicz, who has, alas, transformed it into a resource-rich colonial outpost of his *Krytyka* publishing empire.

Ask Professor Grabowicz and the current president, Dr. Halyna Hryn, just how much NTSh-A money has gone to *Krytyka* projects in the last nine years. Also ask them to provide financial reports with detailed breakdowns of direct and indirect expenditures.

This graph says it all:



Professor Grabowicz continues to be in several key leadership positions in the new slate proposed by Dr. Hryn. Will his—and *Krytyka's*—influence diminish or will it stay the same?

It may actually increase. The new Hryn slate contains three prominent scholars—Professor Grabowicz, Professor Serhii Plokhii, and Dr. Oleh Kotsyuba—at the core of the power structure at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. Dr. Kotsyuba is Dr. Hryn's immediate superior at HURI; both Drs. Kotsyuba and Hryn are subordinate to the HURI director, Professor Plokhii; and all three are subordinate to their *pater familias*, Professor Grabowicz.

I wish to emphasize that my slate and I fully and enthusiastically support *Krytyka* and HURI (just as we greatly respect the scholarship of Professors Grabowicz and Plokhii, and of Drs. Hryn and Kotsyuba). *Krytyka* and HURI are important and indispensable mainstays of Ukrainian studies. But we also fully and enthusiastically support the Shevchenko Scientific Society and strongly believe that it can be an important and indispensable mainstay of Ukrainian studies *only if* it remains an independent scholarly institution with its own independent identity. Please read the program we published back in May to learn just what we intend to do to make an independent NTSh-A a reality.

Have a happy Thanksgiving!

Best,

Alexander Motyl