



## Ukrainian translation companies

Transliteration is always a bit of a strange thing, yet it's especially complicated in Ukraine, where roughly one-sixth of the population is ethnic Russian, speaking Russian, and another sixth are ethnic Ukrainian, but speak Russian too. It's become especially difficult recently, numerous with the protesters from the capital are Ukrainian-speaking, taking towards the streets last November when President Viktor Yanukovich - a Russian-speaker from Ukraine's east - beaten down from E.U. membership toward an arrangement with Russia's Eurasian Union.

Given a medical history of Russian domination, both throughout the Soviet period and before, it's understandable that language has developed into a big issue in the country. One obvious demonstration of this is actually the Western practice of discussing the continent as "the Ukraine" instead of "Ukraine." There are myriad reasons this is wrong and offensive, but perhaps the most convincing is the word Ukraine arises from the Old Slavic word "Ukraina," which roughly meant "borderland." Many Ukrainians believe the "the" implies they are merely a part of Russia - "little Russia," as is also sometimes known by their neighbors - rather than a true country. The Western habit of using "the Ukraine" to consult the nation - even by those sympathetic to the protesters, for example Senator John McCain- can be considered ignorant at the best.

On the outside, the Kiev/Kyiv debate seems similar, though it is far less heated. The official language of the united states is Ukrainian. The location, within the predominantly Ukrainian-speaking west of the nation, had its name standardized to Kyiv in Roman letters through the Ukrainian government way back in 1995, just 4 years once they formally asked the entire world to please stop saying 'the Ukraine.' The world listened, to a extent - the U.S. Board on Geographic Names (BGN) approved the spelling 'Kyiv' in 2006 following a request by the Ukrainian government (and subsequent endorsement by the State Department).

It's not that simple, however. For one thing, over the years there's been many different different spellings with the English names to the city; Wikipedia lists a minimum of nine. Last 1995, Andrew Gregorovich from the FORUM Ukrainian Review argued that as "Kiev" took it's origin from a well used Ukrainian-language name for the city, understanding that Kyiv and also

other potential Roman transliterations - like Kyjiv and Kyyiv - were confusing for English speakers, Kiev was simply fine. The BGN still allows Kiev to be utilized, arguing that 'Kyiv' is simply a "an exception towards the BGN-approved romanization system which is used on Ukrainian geographic names in Ukrainian Cyrillic script."

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