

# Ukraine

**The reason Ukrainians have surprised  
and inspired so much of the world  
— themselves not the least —  
since Russia's invasion  
isn't simply that they have fought.  
It's that they have things worth fighting for:  
civil rights and an elected government;  
a news media that holds leaders to account;  
a culture of innovation and enterprise;  
a spirit of kinship, compassion and  
obligation for fellow citizens  
caught in the maw of war.**

**Bret Stephens,  
New York Times, September 13, 2023**