A Note about Transliteration

Published by

Adrian Cybriwsky, Roman.

Amsterdam University Press, 2016.
Project MUSE. muse.jhu.edu/book/66620.

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The transliteration of the Ukrainian language to the Roman alphabet follows the Ukrainian national system that was codified in 1996. The exceptions are in cases where people's names are spelled differently because that is how they themselves write them. Thus, I write names that had already been transliterated in the manner in which they appeared in my sources, which in some cases originate with the individuals themselves, and transliterated or transcribed names that I encountered only in Ukrainian or Russian according to the official Ukrainian system. With the exception of “Ukraine,” which is not normally transliterated as Ukraina or Ukrayina, I follow the Ukrainian national system for geographical names. Thus, we have Kyiv instead of the Russian-based Kiev, and Dnipro for Kyiv’s river instead of Dnieper or Dnepr. To the extent that I am capable, I use the same system as well for transliteration of book titles, etc., in the bibliography, and for transliteration and transcription of direct quotations and Ukrainian words in the text.

For those who might be interested, my own family name is Ukrainian and is spelled Tsybrivskyi according to the official system. That is how relatives in Ukraine on my father’s side romanize it. However, I use only Cybriwsky, the way the name was spelled on documents when my parents were registered as “displaced persons” in the wake of World War II and became immigrants to the United States with me and a sister in tow.