

Priorities and cooperation framework

The unprovoked war of aggression of Russia against Ukraine followed by a full scale invasion on the 24 February 2022 continues to have a significantly negative impact over the diversity and richness of culture and cultural heritage in Ukraine. From February 24, 2022, to May, 2024, Russia destroyed or damaged 1062 cultural heritage sites in 18 regions. Among them, there are 123 of national importance, 864 of local importance, and 75 newly discovered cultural heritage sites. In addition, 1987 cultural institutions (including cultural institutions subordinated to MCIP and other central executive bodies) suffered damage. Among these, 324 were fully destroyed (16.3%). The cultural sector also suffered significant outflow of human capital (almost 165,000 employees). About 4 thousand institutions ceased operations, while 162 cultural institutions were relocated to other regions.

FLAGSHIPS

In times of war, it is strategically important to mobilize international support for reforms, recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine. In the context of more than two years of Russia's active aggression against Ukrainian history, cultural heritage and language, the issue of enhanced preservation and protection of Ukrainian culture is emerging. Russia does not recognize Ukraine's independence and violates the country's territorial integrity, making culture, which is the main feature of national identity, a strategically important area that needs to be protected from attack and destruction.

Ukrainian culture is an integral part of world culture. By losing Ukraine's cultural heritage, Europe loses a part of world culture, its historical memory, heritage and cultural achievements. The MCIP has identified flagship projects:

1. **Creating security conditions for museum exhibits: building storage facilities and depositories.**

During the war, Ukraine's museum artifacts are in constant danger, as the enemy is constantly shelling the territory of our country. Many collections have already been lost or stolen. For example, the total museum fund of Ukraine until 2014 included about 12,000,000 exhibits. Since 2014, more than 1,700,000 exhibits have been taken away/damaged/destroyed. Approximately 250,000 exhibits have been evacuated (the evacuation is still ongoing).

The preservation of museum exhibits on the territory of Ukraine as national historical heritage is possible in the case of the creation of specially equipped premises - storage facilities, which provide special conditions for the preservation of artifacts in proper conditions.

The premises are offered in two types:

A national depository is a specially constructed underground building with an area of 2-3 thousand m² that will ensure the maintenance of an appropriate level of humidity, temperature, and light conditions and that, in addition to storage conditions, will create conditions for a range of works: restoration, conservation, scientific, and research. Ukraine needs to build 3-5 national museum depositories.

Local storage of museum objects in museums - equipped underground/ground storage facilities in existing premises to create proper storage conditions for museum artifacts. It is possible to adapt the basements of other underground premises, where it is proposed to create conditions for the proper storage of valuable historical objects with the provision of light, temperature and appropriate humidity. Urgent need of at least 50 local storage facilities.

2. Revitalization of the National Research and Restoration Center of Ukraine.

The National Research and Restoration Center of Ukraine is the oldest specialized cultural institution in the country, whose activities are aimed at research, preservation, conservation and restoration of museum objects of the Museum Fund of Ukraine. At the same time, the National Restoration Center educates, trains and retrains restorers in various types of work.

The center is the main restoration institution in Ukraine, but it needs a complete renovation of its restoration equipment, as the workload has increased significantly and the existing equipment is morally and physically outdated. The premises of the institution need to be repaired, and the workplaces need to be equipped to meet modern professional requirements. The Center needs to create appropriate conditions for examination, temporary storage and research of museum objects.

3. Educational grant programs for restorers.

Due to massive damage to cultural property of various categories, materials, and objects and a large shortage of highly specialized restoration specialists, Ukraine is currently suffering from a shortage of restorers of movable and immovable heritage.

Special dedicated scholarship programs to be launched for restorers to have the possibility to obtain education in this field and return to work in Ukraine.

4. Create typical projects for cultural hubs (cultural centers)

- multifunctional cultural institutions that should be created on the site of destroyed cultural centers. Cultural hubs are to replace the cultural centers built according to Soviet designs in the deoccupied territories. Cultural centers are proposed to become a magnet for creative youth and an activator of the development of restored and revitalized communities. According to their conceptual model, they should have a modern architectural solution to provide the population with relevant cultural services and a practical art space for organizing workshops and creative projects.

In Ukraine, there is a need to create three types of basic cultural hub projects: for sparsely populated communities, medium-sized cities, and large cities. The main requirements for cultural centers are a convenient location for residents of the territorial community to visit; qualified staff; modern material and technical facilities; the ability to provide a range of cultural services, consulting, information, and assistance; access to premises and equipment for creativity, informal learning, and communication for visitors, taking into account the size, age, gender, national, social, and sectoral composition of the population.

5. Creating Shelters- Art spaces.

In the context of more than two years of active hostilities, the issue of creating safe conditions for people and adapting cultural spaces to war conditions is acute. By 2022, there were 33,520 cultural institutions in Ukraine, 29628 institutions continue to operate, but only 343 have shelters. The main need for residents of the frontline and de-occupied territories is the need for cultural events, which are psychological and social rehabilitation for civilians and the military under constant stress. It is important to preserve human resources and continue to provide art education to support the human resource potential of Ukrainian culture.

Achieving these goals is possible only if artistic spaces are created in the shelter - underground premises that would guarantee safety for cultural events, organization of educational processes, and are supplied with the necessary technical equipment. It is proposed to use such premises after the end of hostilities as art spaces. Before the full-scale invasion, there were 1382 art education institutions in Ukraine, and only 7 institutions have equipped premises in shelters for the educational process. The biggest demand stands with the front line bordering regions (10 regions) with a big number of children residents and relocated from occupied territories - regions like Odesa, Dnipro or Kharkiv etc. Total estimated need is 50 specialized art spaces/country.

Urgent projects and needs proposed by the regions.

Projects were provided with approximate financial estimates.

All listed projects are possible to be implemented before the end of hostilities.

Nº	Project	Cost
1	Reconstruction of the Central House of Culture of Irpin City Council in Bucha district.	6 550 000 USD
2	Restoration and arrangement of a shelter in the Chernihiv Regional Academic Ukrainian Music and Drama Theater named after Taras Shevchenko.	599 231 USD
3	Emergency and urgent conservation works of the monument of architecture and urban planning of national importance "The House where H. S. Skovoroda lived and died" (as part of the memorial complex of philosopher and poet H. S. Skovoroda).	250 000 USD
4	Restoration of the museum complex "The House Where H. S. Skovoroda Lived and Died" (as part of the memorial complex of the philosopher and poet H. S. Skovoroda) and creation of a dual-purpose shelter as a multifunctional modern interactive museum space.	50 000 000 USD
5	Emergency works on the damaged academic buildings and dormitory of the Kharkiv State Academy of Culture and arrangement of a shelter - art space.	481 672 USD
6	Restoration of the roof, structural systems and gilding of the domes of St. Sophia Cathedral (National Conservation Area "St. Sophia of Kyiv").	127 552 USD

Nº	Project	Cost
7	Overhaul of the municipal institution “Vysokopilsky Center for Culture and Leisure”.	1 173 471 USD
8	Creating an art space with an additional purpose: the easiest shelter is in the Vinnytsia Regional Art Museum.	277 777 USD
9	New construction of a bomb shelter with an additional purpose - Art Space - with the improvement of the adjacent territory, Municipal Institution “Kharkiv Higher Professional Art School.”	1 811 225 USD
10	Arrangement of the simplest shelter in the building B-1 of the Taras Shevchenko National Academic Ukrainian Music and Drama Theater in Dnipro.	300 000 USD
11	Creation of a multifunctional cultural center “Modern Museum Space” with the premises of the interregional museum fund of increased protection on the basis of the Chernivtsi Regional Museum of Folk Architecture and Life.	875 000 USD
12	Repair and restoration work on the restoration of the basement of the western building of the Syniavsky castle complex with the construction of the simplest civil defense structure - a shelter.	51 020 USD
13	Installation of a mobile shelter on the territory of the National Museum of Folk Architecture and Rural Life of Ukraine, Kyiv, Academika Tronka Street.	255 102 USD
14	Kremenets-Pochayiv State Historical and Architectural Reserve. Adaptation of premises for a depository.	37 506 USD
15	Assistance of the Mykhailo Boichuk Kyiv State Academy of Decorative and Applied Arts and Design.	714 287 USD
16	Repair works to eliminate damage in the Khortytsia National Reserve.	76 531 USD
17	Emergency works at the Kharkiv National University of Arts named after I. P. Kotlyarevsky.	1 983 018 USD
18	Emergency and urgent conservation works at the architectural monument of national importance - the House of Scientists in Odesa.	109 142 USD
19	Restoration of the damaged building of the Kharkiv State Scientific Library named after V. G. Korolenko.	1 492 044 USD
20	Overhaul of a public building (Dachnenskyi House of Culture of Dachnenskyi Village Council of Odesa Oblast).	1 600 467 USD
21	Supporting art educational institutions by 3000 laptops.	2 495 633 USD
22	Development of technical project documentation for cultural institutions requiring individual projects.	5 477 914 USD