



# Protecting Ukraine's Cultural Heritage in Times of War





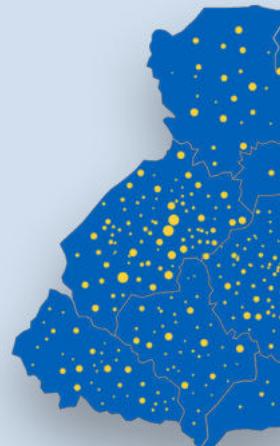
# OUR PHILOSOPHY

-  Rapid response
-  Protect
-  Support
-  Safeguard
-  Preserve
-  Document
-  Stabilize
-  Act

# PLACES SUPPORTED BY UAAC

Since March 2022 the Ukraine Art Aid Center (UAAC) has provided hundreds of metric tons of material and equipment for proper packing and storage of collections, fire protection, climate control, energy management, and the documentation and digitization of cultural heritage.

These goods are provided according to need and distributed through the UAAC's hubs in Kyiv and Lviv.



**The UAAC has also funded dozens of special projects such as**

emergency relief for damaged buildings of museums, archives, libraries, theatres

improvement of storage conditions

digitization of Ukraine's cultural heritage including LiDAR-scanning of archaeological sites and 3D scanning of outstanding monuments

providing high-tech restoration equipment such as vacuum tables

providing energy equipment such as power storage devices or solar panels



The map shows the location of institutions supported by the UAAC. To date it has provided help to over 1000 cultural institutions in Ukraine.

# MUSEUMS



The UAAC began its work by supporting museums with packing materials. Since then, many other supplies – such as equipment for digitization or climate and power control – have been provided to help museums safeguard their invaluable collections.





# THEATERS

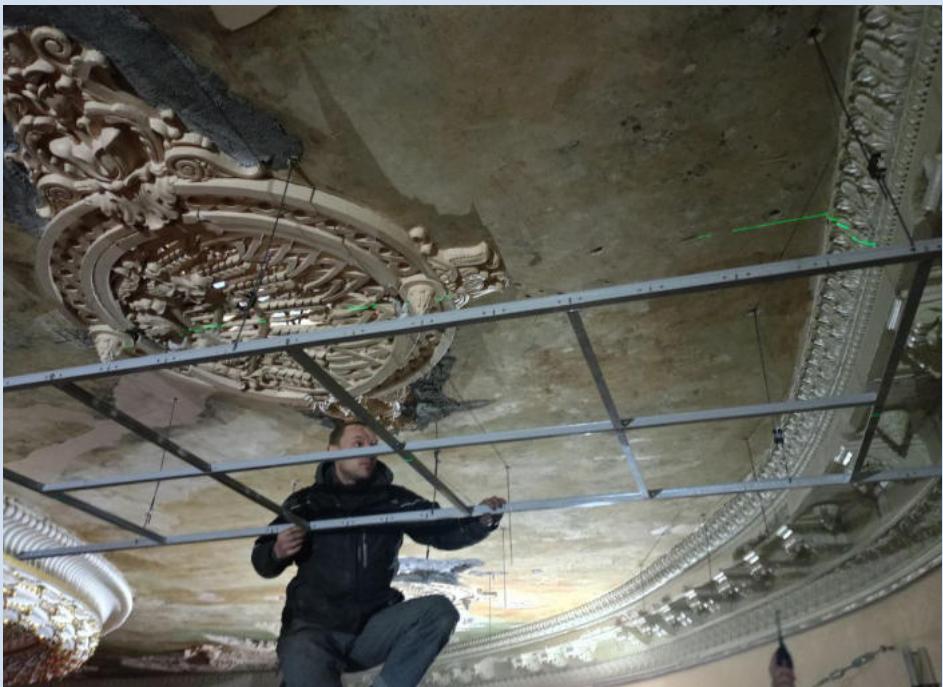


On 19 August 2023, a Russian missile struck the **Shevchenko Music and Drama Theater in Chernihiv**. After the attack the UAAC quickly contacted this institution and other international donors soon followed suit.

Thanks to combined donations and the fantastic efforts by the theatre's team, it was possible to carry out emergency work – including roof repair, structural work in the grand auditorium, installation of windows and doors, etc. – between November 2023 and May 2024.

Already on **3 February 2024** the theater's main auditorium was reopened with a **live performance** – symbolizing the resilience and enduring power of music and drama.





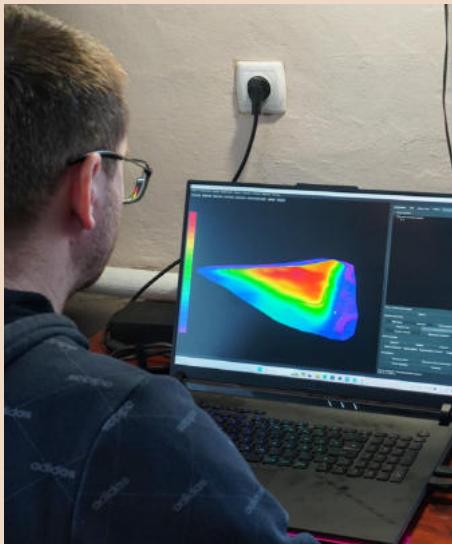
# RESERVES



The **Bilsk Reserve** is one of Europe's most outstanding Scythian sites – now at risk because of the war.

The UAAC provided **high-tech equipment** such as EMLID GNSS receivers and handheld LiDAR scanners to allow for precise surveys, digital modelling, and documentation of this extraordinary archaeological monument.

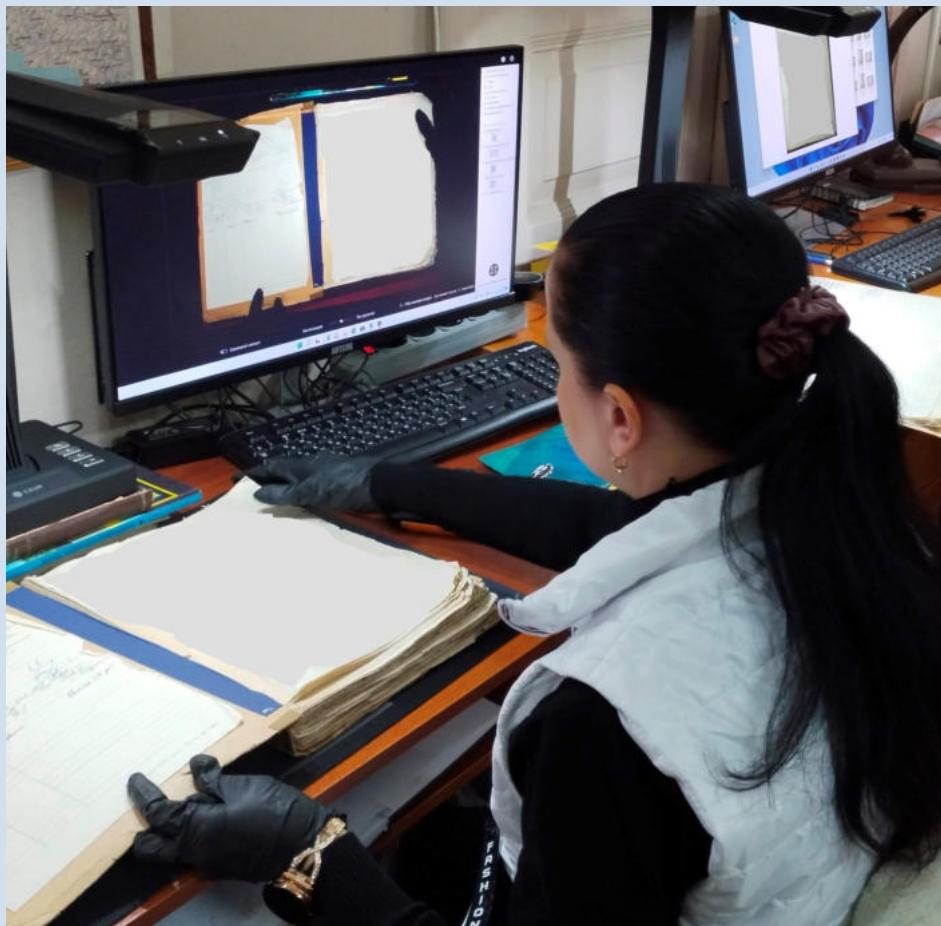




# ARCHIVES



The UAAC supports Ukrainian archives in their quest to **preserve invaluable historical records** by providing material and equipment for the improvement of storage conditions, the digitization of collections, or the repair of buildings damaged by bombing.





# LIBRARIES



In 2024 a missile severely damaged a branch of the **Yaroslav Mudryi National Library in Kyiv**. The UAAC funded the urgent repair of the building's window front, helping the library to protect its collections before the onset of winter.

The UAAC supports many other projects for libraries across Ukraine – helping them to maintain access to knowledge, memory, and culture in times of crisis.





# CONSERVATION



The UAAC initiated and coordinated the donation of six state-of-the-art vacuum tables for treatment of paintings and works on paper.

They enable specialists at institutions in Lviv, Kyiv, and Kharkiv to carry out urgent conservation work such as the **elimination of deformations or structural consolidation**. The UAAC also organized and funded training for the use of this equipment.





# DIGITIZATION



In 2024 / 2025 **synagogue wall paintings in Bukovyna** were documented with UAAC-funded 3D scans carried out by specialists together with students from the Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University, in collaboration with the Chernivtsi Museum of the History and Culture of the Jews of Bukovyna. The 3D models and orthogonal images now provide vital data for the conservation and study of this little-known segment of **Ukraine's rich cultural heritage**.





# NURTURING NETWORKS



From the start in March 2022 the UAAC has operated **hubs in Kyiv and Lviv** to facilitate the distribution of aid to institutions all over Ukraine. The UAAC also convenes regular bilingual online meetings with Ukrainian colleagues to discuss ongoing developments and to identify emerging needs. The UAAC further strengthened its network through a gathering of experts in Lviv in September 2023.





The UAAC co-organized the international conference “The Ukrainian Cultural Sector in Wartimes” held in Kyiv in April 2025 in collaboration with the Goethe Institute Ukraine and the International Alliance for the Protection of Heritage (ALIPH). Attended by dozens of cultural professionals from all over Ukraine, the Kyiv conference resulted in a set of tangible recommendations for the Ukrainian government and international organizations.

 GOETHE INSTITUT

 Ukraine Art Aid Center

**[The Ukrainian Cultural Sector in Wartimes:  
Emergencies – Needs – Measures}**

Conference & Workshop      Mystetskyi Arsenal, Kyiv,  
10-11 April 2025

The conference was organized in a series of 10 sessions, each consisting of a presentation followed by a discussion. The sessions were moderated by experts from various fields, including cultural management, heritage protection, and international cooperation. The discussions were moderated by experienced facilitators who helped participants to identify key issues and develop practical recommendations for addressing them. The sessions were held in a professional and collaborative atmosphere, with participants from different backgrounds and perspectives working together to find solutions to the challenges facing the Ukrainian cultural sector in wartime.

The conference was a significant event for the Ukrainian cultural sector, bringing together key stakeholders and experts from around the world to discuss the challenges and opportunities facing the sector in the current political and social context. The recommendations developed during the conference will be presented to the Ukrainian government and international organizations, with the goal of ensuring that the sector is able to continue to contribute to the cultural and social development of Ukraine in the face of the challenges posed by the war.

# BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS



The UAAC establishes and nurtures **partnerships between Ukrainian organizations and other European institutions** such as:

- the **collecting and transportation of donations** in kind (packing materials, IT equipment, restoration equipment, etc.) from museums in Germany and Switzerland;
- the **acquisition of images of cultural monuments** in Ukraine made by Ukrainian photographers for storage in a Wikibase repository, together with their scientific metadata, a project managed by Germany's Documentation Center for Art History at the University of Marburg and the Leibniz Information Center for Science and Technology in Hannover;
- the **digitization of precious documents** of Ukraine's musical history held at the National Academy of the Arts in Kharkiv and the Vernadskyi National Library in Kyiv, a project managed by the German Musicological Society in collaboration with the State and University Library of Saxony, Dresden.



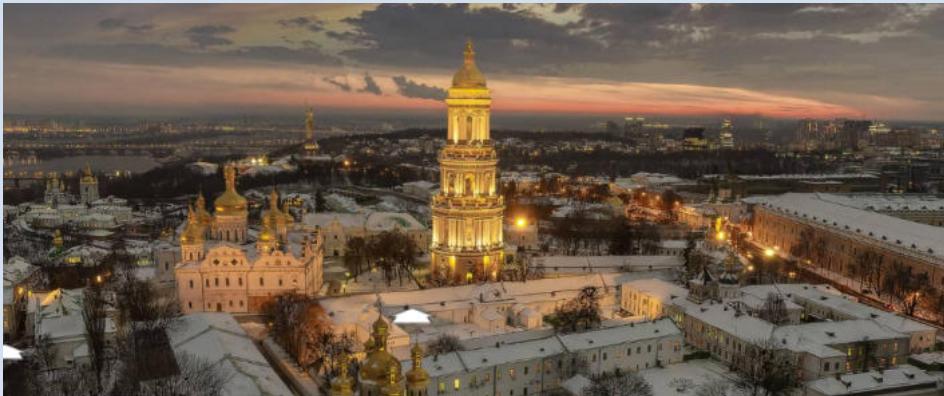


# LASTING EFFECTS

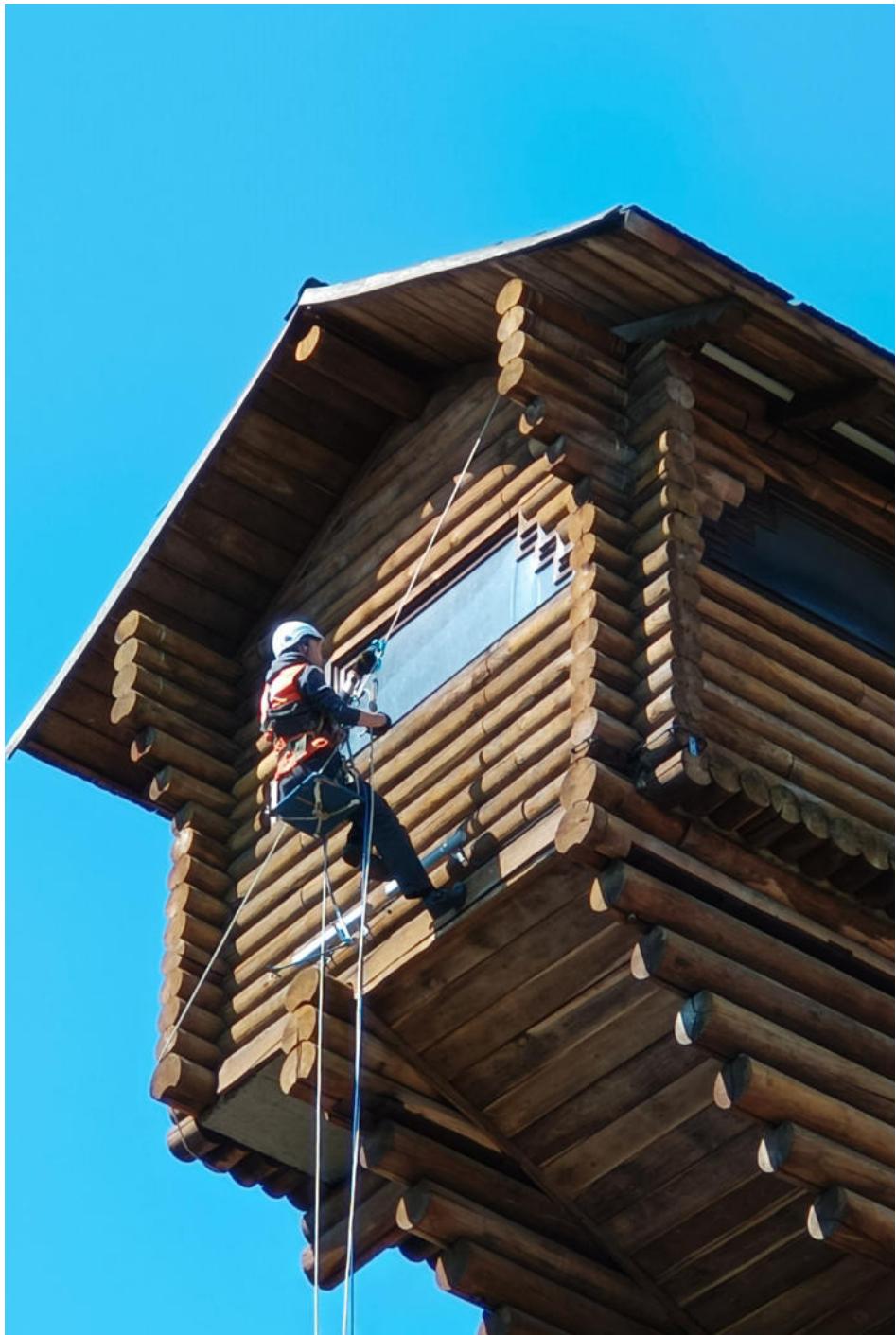


Since its foundation in March 2022, the UAAC has supported a wide variety of initiatives. Among them are the digitization of historic records in **Ukrainian musical libraries**, the installation of solar panels at the **Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra**, the supply of fire-proof varnish for the **Golden Gate in Kyiv**, and many more.

Projects like these are at the core of the UAAC's mission: to safeguard Ukraine's phenomenal cultural heritage in times of war.









# The UAAC cordially thanks its principal public and private donors

Federal Foreign Office,  
Germany



Auswärtiges Amt



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft  
Confédération suisse  
Confederazione Svizzera  
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Office of Culture, Switzerland



The Ernst von Siemens Art Foundation



International  
alliance for  
the protection  
of heritage



The Foundation for Art, Culture and History



The Ukraine Art Aid Center, founded in immediate response to the Russian full-scale invasion in February 2022, is a registered charity committed to the protection and preservation of Ukrainian cultural heritage.

The UAAC supports Ukraine's cultural institutions – museums, reserves, archives, libraries, theatres – by providing quick, carefully targeted emergency funds and supplies of materials and equipment.

# DONATIONS

Berliner Volksbank eG, IBAN:

**DE44 1009 0000 3027 9880 07**

(tax-deductible in Germany)