

# The Nicosia Convention and the Protection of Cultural Heritage of Ukraine in times of war / 2023

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#### Challenges

- Military invasion of Russia will continue for 2023 at least, with all the threats for the Cultural Heritage of Ukraine and its people
- Growing scarcity of financial and other resources while the state (and its partners) must be focused on defence and capacities of the Armed Forces
- Depletion of resource base of regions that are in / near zone of combat operations which is combined with the uneven flow of aid and / or the possibility of its use
- Growing lack of specialists on sites (totally ruined or heavily damaged cities and villages are unsuitable for life and work; a number of professionals are relocated inside the country because of Russian occupation; many professionals are still abroad; many professionals are in the army now)
- Growing damages and loss of tangible cultural heritage, risks of irreversible changes due to blackouts, limited resources for providing the regular conditions, restoration etc
- Growing risks of loss of traditional environments and the weakening or severing of connections necessary for intangible cultural heritage practices

### **Damaged and Lost**





- Damages of dozens of archaeological objects were recorded since the February 2022, but real scale of damages of archaeological heritage of Ukraine is still invisible due to
- 623 cultural heritage objects with an official protection status are recorded as damaged of ruined as of May 15, 2023 by the regional authorities

## Damages of archaeological heritage as a result of the Russian aggression, including the Kakhovka dam blow



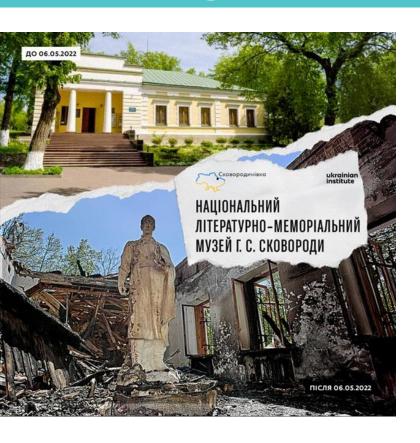
 Damages of dozens of archaeological objects were recorded since the February 2022, but real scale of damages of archaeological heritage of Ukraine is still invisible due to military operations, mining etc





Photos by K. Liberov and The Khortytsya National Reserve

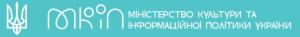
#### Challenges



- Dozens of the museums and archives damaged or ruined
- According to the preliminary calculations more than 30 000 of museum objects were stolen or illegally transported from the Ukrainian museums

### Resilience and international cooperation [for future development]

- Legislation: integration of cultural heritage protection into the national security system,
   management with an understanding of the wartime and postwar challenges
- Development of the national risks preparedness and emergency response system
- Damage assessment, war crimes evidences documentation (standards, field work, coordination on a regular basis), prevention of illicit traffic of cultural properties and effective international cooperation
- Digital transformation (national platforms on tangible heritage and museum collections of Ukraine)
- Capacity building, professional education etc



### Thank you for your attention!

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