

Ukraine

Interim cultural policy profile

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1. Facts and figures

Political system: According to the Constitution, “Ukraine is a sovereign and independent, democratic, social, law-based, unitary state. Ukraine is a republic. The people are the bearers of sovereignty and the only source of power in Ukraine”. Since 2004, the commonly used term was president-parliamentary republic; since 2014 it is known as a parliamentary-presidential republic.

Official language(s): The state language of Ukraine is the Ukrainian language.

	Latest available data	Latest available data minus 5 years
<i>Population on January 1st</i>	<i>38 000 000 (according to other sources, 33 000 000), including replaced abroad</i>	<i>42 365 (without Crimea, according to the State Statistics of Ukraine)</i>
<i>GDP in million EUR</i>	<i>145 688</i>	<i>118 758</i>
<i>GDP per capita in PPS Index (EU27_2020 = 100)</i>	<i>27 (the value is approx. based on related data from open sources)</i>	<i>23 (the value is approx. based on related data from open sources)</i>

¹ Acknowledgement to Valentyna Demian (Development Centre “Democracy through Culture”/Institute for Cultural Research, National Academy of Arts of Ukraine), Vitaliy Babenko (Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Humanitarian and Information Policy).

<i>General government expenditure (in % of GDP)</i>	52.12 <i>(according to the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine)</i>	27.70 <i>(according to the Ministry of Finance of Ukraine)</i>
<i>Public cultural expenditure</i>	18 971.90 mln UAH / 474.27 mln EUR <i>(according to the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) Committee on Humanitarian and Information Policy)</i>	17 976.90 mln UAH / 449.4 mln EUR <i>(according to the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) Committee on Humanitarian and Information Policy)</i>
<i>Public cultural expenditure as % of GDP</i>	0.3655	0.5049
<i>Public cultural expenditure per Capita</i>	UAH 33.2 / 0.83 EUR <i>(the data is not exact because of the large number of internally displaced persons)</i>	UAH 35.2 / 0.88 EUR
<i>Share of cultural employment of total employment</i>	2.8 <i>(including information and media)</i>	3.2 <i>(including information and media)</i>

2. Cultural policy system

2.1 Objectives

During the last 8 years, cultural policy in Ukraine has undergone several main changes affecting the governance system, administrative structure, and objectives. After the “Revolution of Dignity” and complete reform of the government in 2014, the Ministry of Culture has started the restructuring in response to emerging challenges. Now, it is called the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine (MCIP), reflecting the two main spheres of its commitment: cultural and media (information and publishing). The main factors determining a set of priority cultural policy objectives were social and political upheavals which Ukraine has faced during the last 10 years: the Russian occupation of Crimea and parts of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts (administrative-territorial units of Ukraine covering 24 oblasts), with a consecutive impact on cultural and humanitarian domains; the COVID-19 pandemic affecting cultural events and cultural activities; the full-scale Russian aggressive war against Ukraine unleashed on February 24, 2022, resulting in the destruction of cities and towns with cultural monuments and institutions, the death of thousands of Ukrainian citizens, the removal of millions of Ukrainians as displaced persons or refugees to other parts of the country or abroad. This continuing war is directed, above all, against the cultural values identifying modern Ukraine which consists of 130 national minorities and three indigenous peoples. Thus, at the top of the cultural policy objectives is the overriding goal to include cultural tasks into the national security policy as issues of high importance during the war and for postwar resilience and renovation. Among the current cultural policy objectives, we can highlight, as they have been defined by the Ukrainian Government (Cabinet of Ministers) in 2020, the following:

- Cultural heritage, cultural values and national memory;
- Arts and creative industries;
- Tourism;
- Information policy and security.

Due to the war situation, the MCIP has added to its activities more objectives like:

- Comprehensive digitalization of cultural heritage;

- Assessment of losses in culture and cultural heritage in relation to social, ecological, urban development and economic spheres for elaborating a strategy of renovation;
- Inclusiveness and barrier-free policy in culture and with culture.

2.2 Main features

Ukraine's cultural policy is based on the provisions of the Constitution of Ukraine and existing respective laws. It is developed by the Government (Cabinet of Ministers), with wide participation of independent experts and non-governmental organizations; approved by Verkhovna Rada (Parliament), with possible public discussion, and in some cases by Presidential Decrees; and implemented on the national level by the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine, which is, according to the Ministry, "the principal body within the system of central executive authorities responsible for shaping and implementing state policies in the fields of culture, state language policy, promoting Ukraine worldwide, state foreign-language broadcasting, information sovereignty of Ukraine, information security, as well as for shaping and implementing state policies in the areas of restoring and preserving national memory, arts, cultural heritage protection, museum affairs, export, import, and return of cultural values".

The decentralization reform, which started in Ukraine in 2014, has embraced various domains, including culture to provide high quality cultural services and products for the population at local level. Now, oblast and municipal authorities can shape their cultural development strategies in conformity with their grassroots demands, needs and possibilities. It has led not only to the redistribution of assignments and budget allocations but also to the transformation of the cultural infrastructure, in terms of libraries, museums, clubs or houses of culture, and cultural and art centres. In some cases, such experience has a positive effect, while in others less so, but the war has interrupted the process. As the Prime Minister of Ukraine, D. Shmyhal, said, the continuation of decentralization reform remains a priority for the country. It is very important for the cultural sphere, since local communities could use their cultural, creative and information resources efficiently for the postwar renovation.

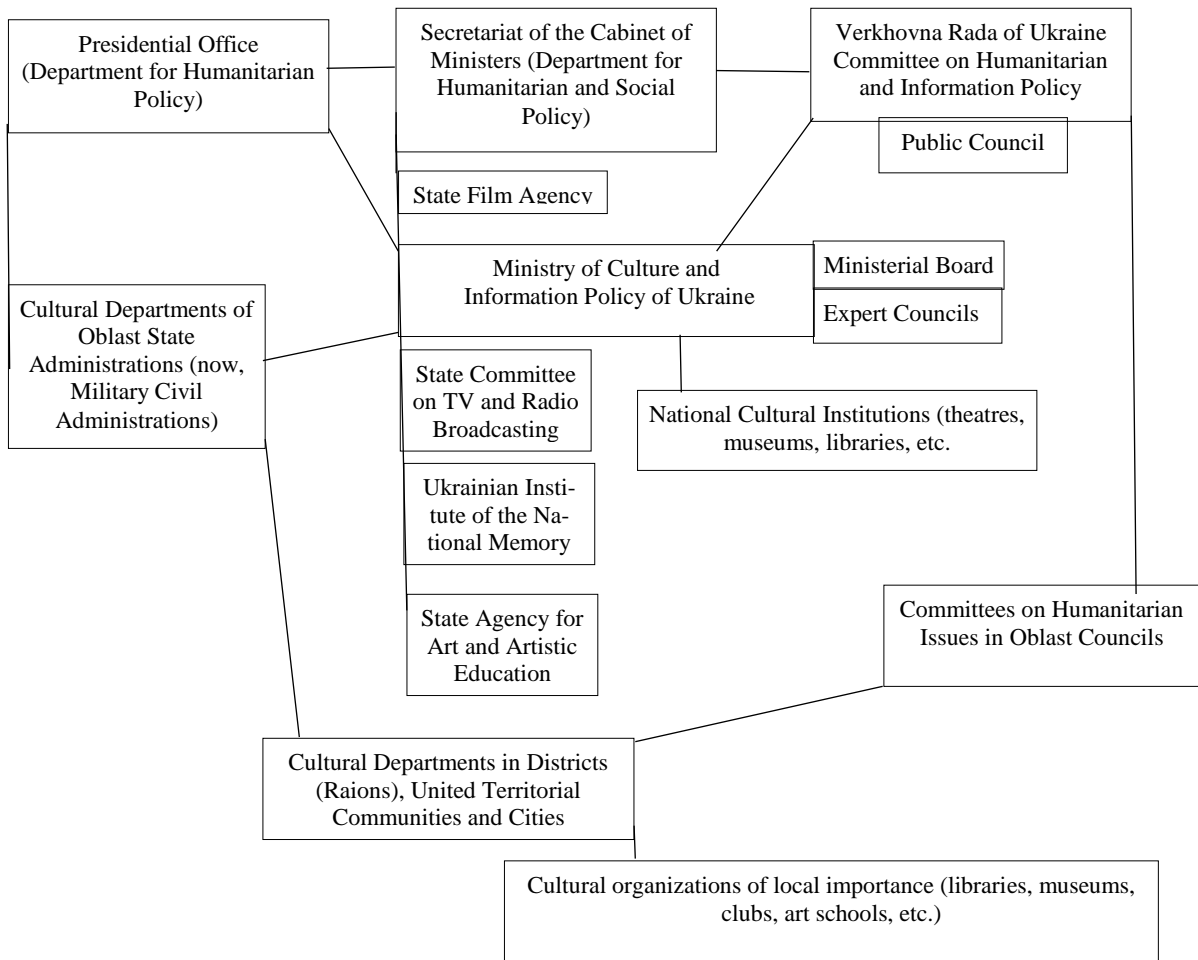
The budget for culture is a part of the consolidated budget (state budget and budget for local (oblast) authorities), which is developed by the Ministry of Finance

of Ukraine, discussed by all central agencies at the governmental level, approved by Verkhovna Rada and signed by the President. In 2022, the state budget for culture constituted UAH 4,288 mln (107 mln Euro) against UAH 14,693 mln (367,325 mln Euro) of local budgets; in 2023 – UAH 4,504 mln (112,6 mln Euro) against UAH 17,894 mln (447,34 mln Euro), respectively (see also: Chapter 5).

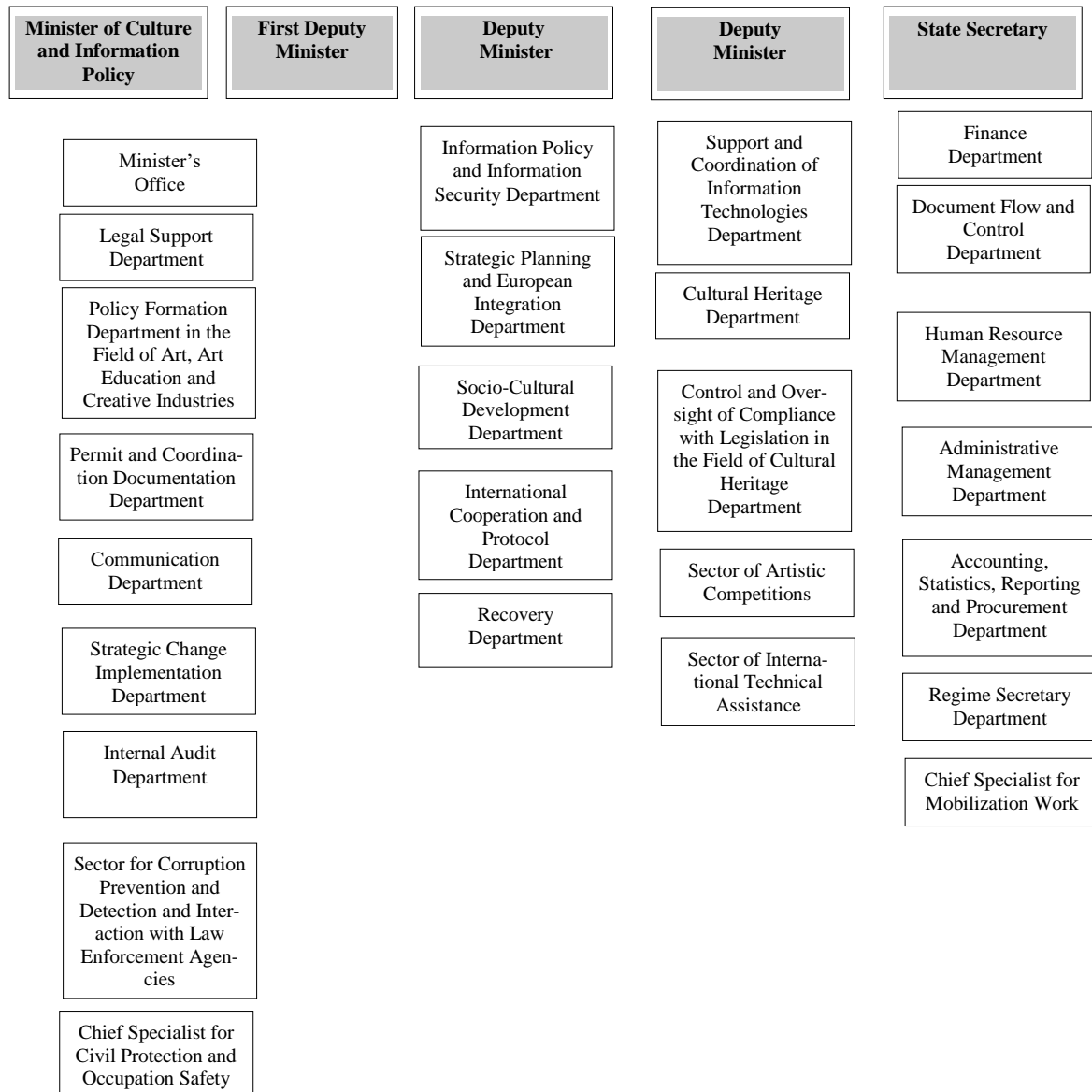
Another important recent trend of cultural policy development in Ukraine is the active involvement of non-governmental and entrepreneurial sectors not only in policy discussions but in decision-making and policy implementation. It is explained, firstly, by the activity of the unique state investor in culture, *Ukrainian Cultural Endowment*, established in 2018 by a special law and designated to promote the realization of public policy in culture and arts by engaging all stakeholders, including non-governmental and entrepreneurial units on the national and local level. The Supervisory Board of the Cultural Endowment consists of 2 persons determined by the President of Ukraine, 2 by the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine, 2 representatives of cultural institutions, 2 representatives of civil society organizations, and a head of the endowment assigned separately. The second reason for the above mentioned trend is that starting from 2014, and especially during the war, the non-governmental sector, including cultural organizations and independent artists, has taken an active part in a volunteer movement to protect and preserve cultural values, raise the spirit of soldiers and civilians, strengthen the resilience of adults and children with art, and in such ways moving the forefront in realizing priority cultural policy objectives.

2.3 Governance system: Organisational Organigram

The general scheme of cultural policymaking in Ukraine is presented in the organigram below. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine is one of the active players in cultural policymaking formulating international cultural policy and the cultural image of Ukraine, especially through the activities of The National Committee of Ukraine for UNESCO; missions of Ukraine to the EU, Council of Europe, and UN; and the state established “Ukrainian Institute” for promoting Ukraine abroad. Among other important players are: The Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine (culture promotion and digitalisation), The Ministry for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine (cultural development on local level), and The Ministry of Defense (protection of cultural values).



Organigram of the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine (as for December 2023; since July 28, 2023, the former First Deputy Minister, Mr. R. Karandiev, appointed as an Acting Minister, has united both positions until the next Minister assignments)



2.4 Background

Shortly after the Second World War, the Soviet regime tried to put an end to each and all critical, dissent or self-driving attitudes either inside (Ukraine, Lithuania) or abroad (Hungary) using military and repressive forces. The culture became the most important sphere for political leverage and brainwashing: the strong system of subordinated ministerial agencies was created all over the Soviet territory. The

Ministry of Culture of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic was established in 1953, within the Council of Ministers of Ukrainian SSR but affiliated to the Ministry of Culture of USSR. During the decade, the centralist policy strengthened. Cultural institutions acted as intermediaries between the official state/soviet ideology and society. All artists' associations and unions (writers, painters, theatre workers, and architects) were administrated by the state through respective party units operating within these institutions. The state also controlled all amateur arts, popular and other nonprofessional or voluntary organizations in the cultural field.

In the 1960-s, during the so called “Khrushchov’s thaw”, the generation of the 60s – Sixtiers – developed in Ukraine - in literature, especially poetry - asserting an identity of Ukrainian culture. Ukrainian cinematography amazed the world with magical realist cinema starting with S. Parajanov’s work “Shadows of Our Ancestors “, also known in English as “Wild Horses of Fire”. However, in 1967, the Fifth department in the structure of State Security Committee (KGB) was created to fight “ideological sabotage”.

During the 1970's and the beginning of 1980's, the centralized power strengthened its control and censorship constraining independent cultural development if it was not approved from Moscow. Ukrainian writers, artists and scientists expressing independent, national-oriented or critical views, were arrested and exiled (I. Svitlychny, I. Dziuba, V. Stus, Ie. Sverstiuk, M. Osadchy and other). Almost all publications, theatre and cinema production, art exhibitions and cultural events had to be approved by special boards or commissions. The centralized cultural policy, completely permeated with ideology, supported and awarded mainly obedient cultural activists and collectives.

On the 24 August, 1991, Ukraine became an independent national state, signified by the Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) approval of the Declaration of Independence of Ukraine. This Act coupled with the results of the All-Ukrainian Referendum of 1 December 1991, when more than 92% of the citizens voted for independence, putting an end to ideological dictatorship and creating the conditions necessary for the comprehensive development of a national culture. There was, however, a drastic decrease in public support for culture due to political instability, the economic crisis, and contradictions between democratic goals and market conditions. The lack of a clear medium-term and long-term cultural development strategy resulted in the creation of ad hoc policies at the central and local levels.

The Presidential Edict of 24 November 2005, N 1647/2005, proclaimed that "ensuring the enrichment and development of culture and spiritual heritage of the Ukrainian society is one of the high-priority tasks of the Cabinet of Ministers". One of the first laws signed by the President V. Yuschenko was the *Law of Ukraine on the Conceptual Framework of the Public Cultural Policy of Ukraine* (2005) which proclaimed that the main outcome of the Conceptual Framework implementation should be the recognition of culture as a key factor of social and economic development on the national and local level, and cultural policy as a strategic priority direction of the overall state policy.

Social and political confrontation in Ukraine started in November 2013, which led to the "Revolution of Dignity", and complete reform of the government, including the Ministry of Culture. This ministerial reforming has passed several phases in search of the better configuration for cultural development, and now, it is called the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine, since 2020. In February 2016, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved the Long-term Development Strategy of Ukrainian Culture (Strategy of Reforms) based on extensive cultural research by public and non-governmental organizations. The Strategy "determines the main activities which should take culture out of the margins" and lays a reliable foundation for sustainable innovative and cultural development of Ukraine.

The COVID-19 pandemic and later Russian military full-scale intervention have put new challenges before culture (See Chapter 3.1 and 3.2). In 2020, the Government (Cabinet of Ministers) approved the Action Programme where the tasks of the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine are outlined as follows:

- Intercultural unity, ethnic and religious diversity, support of national minorities and indigenous peoples;
- Self-sufficiency of culture, promoting diversity of cultural expression;
- Accessibility of cultural services, support of innovative and investment projects;
- State support and promotion of philanthropy;
- Promotion of Ukrainian culture in the world;
- Wide social dialogue, support of public and civil initiatives.

3. Current cultural affairs

3.1 Key developments

Summarizing cultural policy development in 2020–2022, the former Minister of Culture, Mr. O. Tkachenko, highlighted, among others:

- Ratification by Ukraine in June 2020, of the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and the inscription of 175 objects of immovable heritage in occupied Crimea in the State Register. After the beginning of Russian aggression, however, the Ministry was strongly criticized for the lack of a timely developed strategy for evacuation of museum and other collection values, which has led to their loss in many cases, or destroyed or stolen, because of brutal violation by Russia of all international norms, including the Hague Protocol's provision (Art.15) that "Any person commits an offence within the meaning of this Protocol if that person intentionally and in violation of the Convention or this Protocol commits any of the following acts: (e) theft, pillage or misappropriation of, or acts of vandalism directed against cultural property protected under the Convention".
- Support to cultural and creative industries in time of pandemic through special ministerial programmes and grant opportunities offered by the Cultural Endowment. Special financial aid was addressed to the programme for reading promotion and translation through the Institute of Books of Ukraine. It has developed the Strategy for reading development up to 2032 "Reading as a life-long strategy" and a Concept for the development of the National E-Library of Ukraine.
- The project "Great Restoration" launched at the beginning of 2021 and designed to restore about 150 cultural monuments of Ukraine, was halted because of the war. However, even earlier it was sharply criticized by cultural activists for financial mismanagement.

From the very start of the Russian full-scale intervention, the Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine has collected and documented all crimes against culture by occupants (See: <https://mcip.gov.ua/news/cherez-rosijsku-agresiyu-v-ukrayini-postrazhdaly-872-pamyatky-kulturnoyi-spadshhyny/> (in Ukrainian, accessed on 10.01.2024).

Besides, at the beginning of 2023, the Ministry changed the Expert Council on the intangible cultural heritage which has activated its work with communities and bearers in emergencies: during 2022–2023, the National Register of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Ukraine has been replenished up to 88 elements comparing to 26 inscribed during 2012–2022 (See: <https://mcip.gov.ua/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/naczionalnyj-perelik-elementiv-nematerialnoyi-kulturnoyi-spadshhyny-ukrayiny-9.pdf>).

Assessing cultural achievements by the end of 2023, the Acting Minister of Culture, R. Karandiev, also highlighted the continuation of the process of de-communization and de-russification of the physical and intangible space of Ukraine. This process which has bottom-up energy and top-down confirmation, is based on the Law of Ukraine *On condemnation and prohibition of propaganda for Russian imperial policy in Ukraine and decolonization of toponymy* signed by the President of Ukraine on 21 March 2023 (see also chapter 6.1). During the last years, many toponyms, urbanonyms, names of streets, sites, and organizations all over Ukraine were restored (putting the historical record straight) or changed (commemorating new heroes, events, or values). Most of the monuments commemorating political and cultural figures from the Soviet and Russian empire epoch were removed from streets and squares all over the country. One of the symbolic acts was the removal of the Soviet coat of arms, a hammer and sickle, at the shield of the huge monument of Motherland, in Kyiv, in 2023, and replaced with the Ukrainian trident. Similar changes occurred also in cultural and spiritual spheres, such as the names and content (expositions, repertoire, collections) of museums, theatres, libraries, music performances (as classic as modern), and book production. The split between Orthodox churches in Ukraine (there are about 30 million Orthodox believers divided among the Ukrainian Orthodox Church under the Moscow Patriarchate [UOC-MP] and two other Orthodox churches, including the Orthodox Church of Ukraine [OCU]) became aggravated as a result of the Russian war. This led to the transfer of more than 700 parishes from the UOC-MP to the OCU in the past 20 months, including Ukrainianization of the sacred Kyiv Pechersk Lavra. It has also led to a switch to a revised Julian calendar – which is aligned with the Gregorian calendar used in the secular world – as of September 1, 2023. As the OCU's head, Metropolitan Epifaniy said, this move was “vitally necessary”.

3.2 *Key themes*

After the start of the full-scale war against Ukraine unleashed by Russia, the Ukrainian cultural sector has met new and urgent challenges which have impacted cultural policy priorities. In July 2022, the Working Group “Culture and information policy”, of the National Council for the Recovery of Ukraine from the War, developed a Draft Plan which defined the following objectives:

- creation of high-quality cultural product providing cultural and educational services through sustainable (renewed) capability of cultural and educational institutions destroyed or damaged by the war;
- raising access to cultural and art education services, enlargement of audiences;
- culture funding for renovations and introduction of new funding mechanisms, including international and private funds;
- wider presentation of Ukrainian cultural product in the world;

According to the survey of culture activists conducted by the Cultural Endowment of Ukraine in September 2023, 7 top directions in need of major support were defined:

- protection and safeguarding of cultural heritage (62.3% of respondents);
- creation of quality Ukrainian product (57.7%);
- counteraction against information and the cultural component of Russian military aggression (46.9%);
- renovation of damaged cultural infrastructure objects (41.2%);
- preservation of the national memory and memorization of heroes, defenders of Ukraine (40.7%);
- integration of Ukrainian culture into the global cultural space (40.6%);
- raising the level of cultural sphere digitalization (34.1%).

Among other priority tasks identified by the Acting Minister of Culture and information policy of Ukraine are: the next reorganization of the ministry to improve its work matching actual challenges and complying with current legislation; the launch of the project “Free-barrier culture” developing the national free-barrier policy aimed at overall inclusion; preparation of a set of measures on the de-occupied territories forming culture management bodies.

In 2024, the Parliamentary Committee on Humanitarian and Information Policy of Ukraine envisages, among other priority issues, the development of draft laws on the use of the English language, mandatory for civil servants, and on the ban of religious organizations controlled by Russia. Both bills have passed already the first reading, announced by the vice head of the Committee, Ye. Kravchuk.

An important priority for culture now, in terms of interministerial and intersectoral cooperation, is the development of methodology for assessing the culture and cultural heritage losses caused by Russian aggression. It envisages the close interaction between different ministries and services, including security, forensic examination, prosecutor office, civil and culture organizations, since it deals with human rights, cultural rights, identity, crimes against humanity and should be used after the war as documented evidence of war crimes against culture.

3.3 *International Cultural Cooperation*

In December 2023, the European Council agreed to open negotiations with Ukraine over its accession to the European Union, having designated the country as a candidate for membership of the EU in June 2022, shortly after Russia's full-scale invasion. Such a situation demands the acceleration of steps to implement integration policy matching European norms and principles, including in the cultural sphere. In 2023, the EU project "Restoring Ukraine together: building an inclusive platform for Ukraine's revival" was launched to work on plans for Ukraine's postwar reconstruction as well as effective processes of interaction between all interested parties, including state and local authorities, international donors and partners, expert and professional communities, and civil society representatives. The project has embraced three main directions: water and sea transport; culture; and financial monitoring.

On October 4, 2023, the 'Restoring Ukraine together' project presented the analysis of the adoption of Ukrainian legislation and the state management system in the field of culture to EU standards, created by projects' expert Linda Bçrziòda (Latvia). The analysis provides recommendations for effective EU cultural integration:

- cultural diversity shall be one of the main principles relating to EU integration, and it is closely related to protection and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

- appropriate policy outcomes and performance indicators that complement the EU objectives in the cultural area shall be elaborated to deliver a long-term, stable and open policy;
- cultural mapping may be advised as it gives a clear view of institutional and organisational management of culture at national, regional and local levels;
- creating a legitimate platform for policy discussion between the cultural sector, municipalities, businesses, NGOs, universities, informal groups and other actors;
- cross-sectoral activities shall be promoted and strongly encouraged;
- cultural networking shall be strongly promoted at all levels of cooperation - local, national and international;
- raising the level of interest in culture through different means and concerning all subsectors of culture;
- the digitalisation of culture is an inevitable task, necessary for cultural preservation and accessibility. However, the data protection and legal rights shall stand at the core of the digitalisation.

The Vice Minister of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine, Taras Shevchenko, noted that the report is extremely important for the Ministry to elaborate the Strategy for Culture Development in 2024.

In September 2023, Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine made amendments to the Law of Ukraine “On National Minorities” which has been criticized previously by the Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission), the Council of Europe's advisory body on constitutional matters. Now, it seems that all requirements concerning national minorities' rights, especially linguistic, are complied with. Besides, the Government has developed the State Targeted National Cultural Programme “Unity in Diversity” for 2024–2034, with projected funding, for creating sustainable institutional conditions on the national and regional level to satisfy the needs and rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples in Ukraine.

The global and European solidarity with Ukrainian culture negatively impacted by the Russian military intervention, has manifested in continuation and activation of international programmes in which Ukraine participated previously, such as Creative Europe (with new opportunities for Ukrainian artists, cultural workers and groups: e.g., ZMINA: Rebuilding), House of Europe, EU4Culture, Culture Bridges,

European Cultural Foundation, international professional programmes, like ICCROM, European Festival Association (with the new instrument – Twinning Festivals, developed specially for Ukrainian festivals and artists). Besides this, a number of project initiatives has emerged after the war beginning with “Restoring Ukraine together: building an inclusive platform for Ukraine’s revival”, Museum Crisis Centre, Culture Helps, etc. In March 2022, UNESCO organized a special meeting with Ukrainian cultural officials and activists, together with experts and representatives from neighbouring countries, to define priorities for urgent actions and projects. One such project, “Supporting the resilience of Ukrainian school children through enhancing awareness of their living heritage” supported by the UNESCO Heritage Emergency Fund, uniting culture with education was realized in 2022–2023 by the Development Centre “Democracy through Culture”.

International cultural cooperation after the beginning of the war is developed by different public and non-governmental organizations working directly with their counterparts in European countries. For example, the photo exhibition “Meanwhile in Mariupol” of the National Museum of History of Ukraine in the Second World War presented in partner museums, Swedish Museum of War (Stockholm) and Museum of Air Forces (Linköping); Kharkiv Music Fest has taken part in the festival trio with Usedom Music Festival (Germany) and KlaraFestival (Belgium). Many cultural events, concerts, art exhibitions, theatre performances, public discussions were organized by Ukrainian cultural organizations and cultural activists but taking place in other countries – in Berlin, Warsaw, Prague, Paris, Riga, Vilnius. Among the active players in international cultural cooperation, important actors are the state-owned Ukrainian Institute, with its mission to strengthen Ukraine internationally and domestically using the tools of cultural diplomacy, developing cultural relations between Ukraine and other countries; IZOLYATSIA Foundation (non-profit Platform for Cultural Initiatives in Donetsk), The Art Centre “Totem” (in Kherson), The Centre for Cultural Management (Lviv), Development Centre “Democracy through Culture” (Kyiv) and others.

4. Cultural Institutions

4.1 Overview

The main goal of cultural decentralization in Ukraine, which started as a part of general process of social and political decentralization in 2014, is to provide citizens with good-quality and accessible cultural services at local level. This policy led to a reorganization of the administrative infrastructure to transfer public cultural organisations like houses of culture/clubs, most of the libraries, museums and theatres under the management of local governments, redistributing not only the cultural budget but also budgetary authority. If at first, there were cases of local governments' attempts to reduce the cultural infrastructure or even to close down some institutions to save funds, this changed so that most of the local governments tried to learn how to use cultural resources for community development.

In May 2023, the MCIP issued an Order "On approval of Methodological recommendations for developing strategic and policy documents concerning the development of culture on regional and local level". These recommendations along with similar documents developed by the Ministry for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine and practical trainings organized by respective NGOs or active public organizations, with support by international programmes, like Creative Europe, USAID, Culture Helps, UNDP, have stimulated local governments and cultural activists to work out innovative approaches based on cultural and creative resources for local development involving all stakeholders – public, private and civil society. Good examples could assist such cities as Odesa, Kharkiv, Vinnytsia, Lutsk, Rivne, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk.

The work of public and non-governmental or private cultural organizations under war conditions requires additional care and security measures. On 28 June 2023, the MCIP issued an Order # 349 "On approval of Methodological recommendations referred to the work of cultural institutions on the territory controlled by Ukraine with safety of visitors in mind" demanding to provide necessary conditions for safety, including shelter, informed and trained staff, on conducting cultural events. In many cases shelters of educational and cultural establishments have been transformed into cultural venues or exhibition halls with artistically painted walls and modern equipment.

Under the war condition, much information related to the number and details of culture, cultural heritage and media organizations, especially in occupied or dangerous and close to frontline localities is not accessible, feasible, well-documented or are even closed for security reasons.

4.2 Data on selected public and private cultural institutions

Table 1: Cultural institutions, by sector and domain

Domain	Cultural Institution (Sub-domain)	Public Sector		Private Sector	
		Number (2023)	Number (2017)	Number (2023)	Number (2017)
Cultural Heritage	<i>Cultural heritage sites (recognised)</i>	52	64	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
	<i>Archaeological sites</i>	<i>n/a</i>	872	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Museums	<i>Museum institutions</i>	482	574	<i>n/a</i>	1100
Archives	<i>Archive institutions</i>	874	874	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Visual arts	<i>Public art galleries / exhibition halls</i>	App. 130	204	148	<i>n/a</i>
Performing arts	<i>Scenic and stable spaces for theatre</i>	App. 80	113	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
	<i>Concert houses</i>	App. 54	76	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
	<i>Theatre companies</i>	<i>n/a</i>	45	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
	<i>Dance and ballet companies</i>	7	7	-	-
	<i>Symphonic orchestras</i>	54	85	-	-
Libraries	<i>Libraries</i>	11 975	16 800	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Audiovisual	<i>Cinemas of mixed ownership with private capital</i>			198	176
	<i>Broadcasting organisations of mixed ownership with private capital</i>	903 (licensed)	1 245 (licensed)		
Interdisciplinary	<i>Socio-cultural centres / cultural houses</i>	17 100	15 900	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>

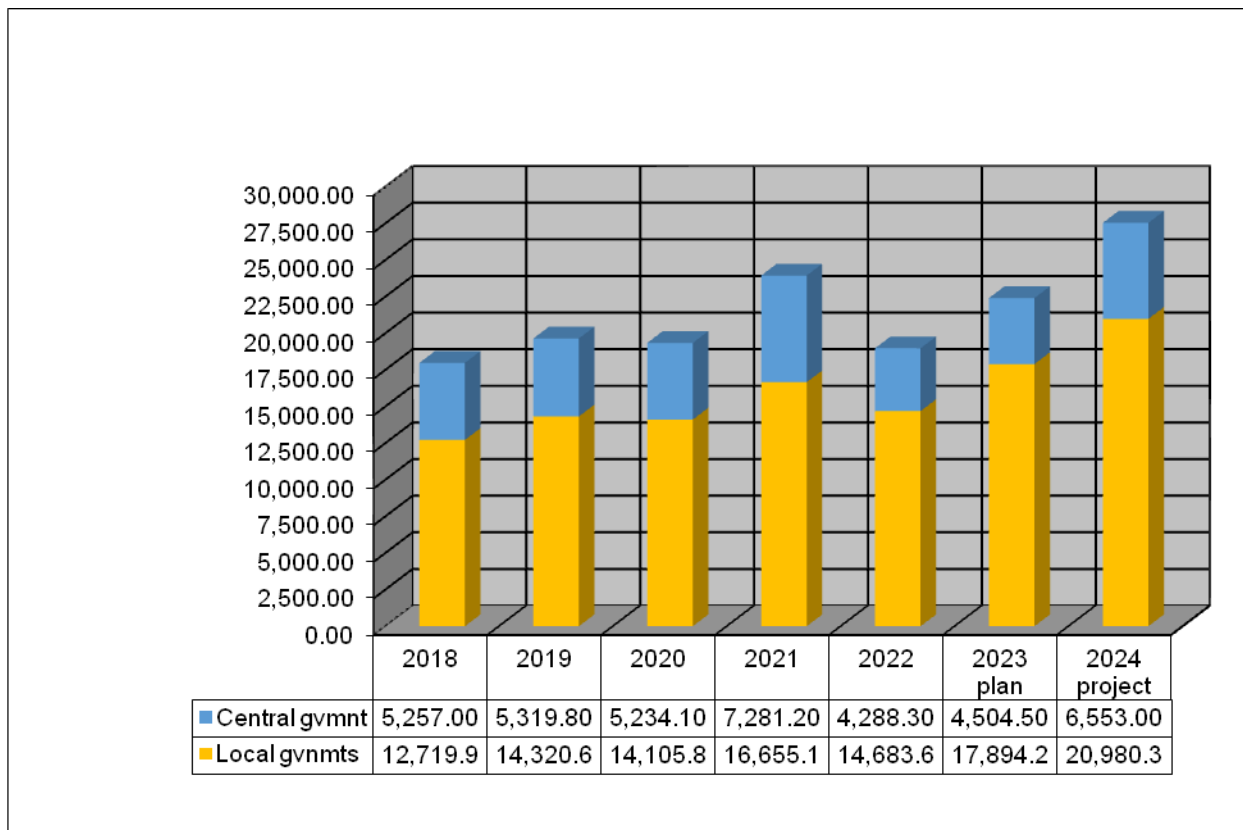
Sources: State Statistics, Ministry of Culture and Information Policy, State Archive Service, Media Business Reports, National Council of Ukraine on Television and Radio Broadcasting

5. Cultural Funding

5.1 Overview

The war in Ukraine has impacted significantly on cultural funding which is explained by the rise in expenditure for defence, which constituted 42.2% of the state budget in 2022, compared to 8.6% in 2021. The central government share in cultural funding decreased from 0.51% in 2018 to 0.16%, in 2022; while the share of local governments increased from 2.23% in 2018 to 3.01% in 2022, demonstrating that local governments understand the importance of culture and cultural heritage during and after the war. The graph below presents the dynamics in cultural funding from different levels of government.

Graph 1: Consolidated budget of Ukraine (central and local governments) for culture, UAH million



Source: Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Humanitarian and Information Policy, Secretariat, 2023

It should be noted, however, that the lion's share of cultural funding was addressed to regular expenditures, including wages, utilities expenses, etc., and less

than 5% - to development. At the same time, during the last 5 years, wages in culture were lower than the average wage in the economy (by 25.6% in 2022, according to the Report by Linda Bērziņa, 2023 – See Chapter 3.2).

The issue of private cultural funding and public-private-partnership is very important, especially thinking on the postwar renovation. Thus, the Parliament approved in the first reading (September 2023) the Draft Law “On amendments to some legislative acts of Ukraine for improving the attraction framework of private investments with the mechanism of public private partnership to accelerate the renovation of objects destroyed by the war and the building of new objects related to the postwar reconstruction of the Ukrainian economy”. Among others, this draft law is based on the Draft Law of 2021, “On amendments to some laws of Ukraine for creating conditions in realizing projects aimed at developing cultural facilities and managing cultural heritage within the frames of public private partnership”. It is difficult to assess the volume of private funding in culture now when most private investments are directed to defence. But it is worth noting that many successful private cultural practices are continuing despite the war conditions, for example, the Korsaks’ Museum of Contemporary Ukrainian Art located in the city of Lutsk (Volyn’ region), on the territory of the Adrenalin City cultural and entertainment center, founded by Korsaks family in 2018 (<https://msumk.com/en/>); or the Center for Ethnographic Green Tourism and Family Leisure “Frumushika Nova”, Odesa region, founded in 2006 by Palariievs family (<https://frumushika.com/>). According to expert assessments, in 2022, international grants covered 22% of budget revenues, which were addressed in the cultural sector, mainly, to support artists and their projects, rebuild museums and other facilities damaged by the war: https://lb.ua/blog/tetiana_bohdan/545981_vikonannya_byudzhetu2022_golovni.html

5.2 Public cultural expenditure by level of government

Table 2: Public cultural expenditure by level of government, in UAH and in EUR, 2018 and 2022

Level of government	Total cultural expenditure 2022			Total cultural expenditure 2018		
	in million UAH*	in million EUR	% share of total	in million UAH*	in million EUR*	% share of total
State (central, federal)	4 288.30	107.21	0.16	5 257.00	167.69	0.53
Local (municipal, incl. counties)	14 683.60	367.08	3.01	12 719.90	405.74	2.23
TOTAL	18 971.90	474.29	3.17	17 976.90	573.43	2.76

Source: Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Humanitarian and Information Policy, Secretariat, 2023

Note: * At the date of expenditure

5.3 Public cultural expenditure per sector

Below is the table, along with two graphs, representing the total expenditure (consolidated budget) for culture in 2023 comparing to 2018, according to the budget items structure in Ukraine. In addition, it should be taken into account that most expenditures for libraries, houses of culture, museums and theatres are executed on the local level. The expenditures for archives are assigned as a separate budget item; we can compare here such expenditures of 2017 with 2022, according to the governmental report. Expenditures for international cooperation are included in all cultural activities, however, there is a special organization, the Ukrainian Institute, which has the mission of cultural cooperation and cultural diplomacy. In 2022, this Institute received the amount of UAH 74 516,9 thou (that is, 1 862,9 thou EUR) through the budget programme “Financial support for ensuring the positive image of Ukraine in the world, activities of the Ukrainian Institute and measures for supporting relations with Ukrainians living abroad”. The decrease in cinematography financing is explained by placing this expenditure in a separate item, out of the Ministry's budget.

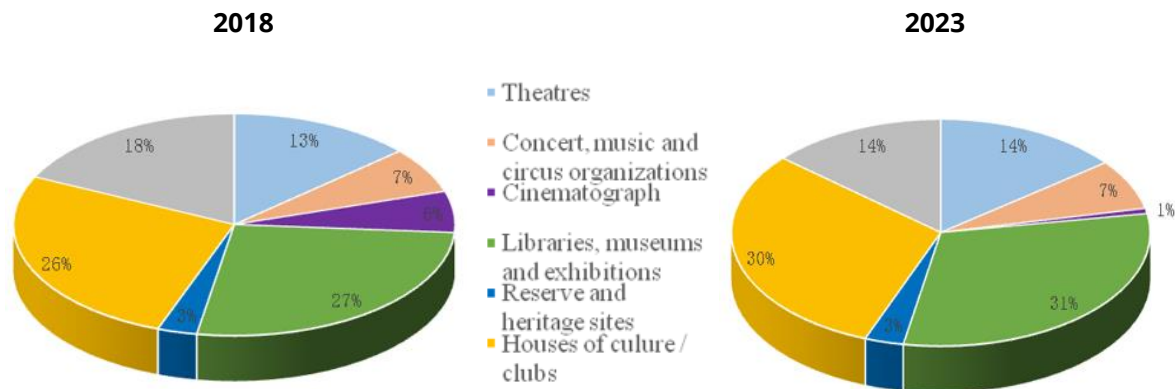
Table 3: Public cultural expenditure: by sector, in UAH and in EUR, 2022 and 2018

Field / Domain	Total cultural expenditure 2022			Total cultural expenditure 2018		
	in million UAH	in million EUR	% share of total	in million UAH	in million EUR*	% share of total
Libraries, museums and exhibitions	6 838.20	170.96	31	4 773.40	151.30	27
Houses of culture / clubs	6 838.00	170.95	30.5	4 758.70	151.79	26
Archives	24.51			25.89		
Theatres	3 229.60	80.74	14	2 421.50	77.24	13
Concert, music and circus organizations	1 602.10	40.05	7	1 201.00	38.39	7
Cinematograph	169.60	4.24	0.5	1 080.10	34.45	6
Reserve and heritage sites	673.20	16,83	3	520.50	16.60	3
Other organizations, creative associations	3 047.90	75,18	14	3 221.50	102.76	18
TOTAL (without archives, media and some other institutions like Cultural Endowment, Institute of Book, Ukrainian Institute, etc.)	22 398.60	559.97	100%	17 976.70	543.42	100%

Source: Verkhovna Rada Committee on Humanitarian and Information Policy, MCIP, State Archive Service. Ukrainian Institute

Note: * At the date of expenditure

Graph 2: Cultural expenditures in consolidated budget of Ukraine in 2018 and 2023



Source: Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Humanitarian and Information Policy, Secretariat

6. Legislation on Culture

6.1 Overview national cultural legislation

The basic Law of Ukraine, The Constitution, has special articles and provisions concerning culture. The Constitution proclaims that:

- the state provides the framework for the consolidation and development of the Ukrainian nation, its historical awareness, traditions and culture and guarantees the free ethnic, cultural, linguistic and religious development of all indigenous nations and national minorities of the Ukraine (Article 11);
- Ukraine takes care of cultural and language needs of Ukrainians living abroad (Article 12);
- the freedom of literary, artistic, scientific, and technical creativity is guaranteed, intellectual ownership, authors' rights, moral and material interests related to different kinds of intellectual ownership are protected (Article 54); and
- "Cultural heritage shall be protected by law" (part 4, Article 54); "The State shall ensure the preservation of historical monuments and other objects of cultural value..." (part 5, Article 54); "Everyone shall be obliged not to harm nature or cultural heritage, and to compensate for any damage he / she inflicts (Article 66)".

According to the *Law of Ukraine on Culture* (2011), with amendments of 2021-2023, reflecting political, social and economic changes, the legislative framework of the cultural sector of the Ukraine consists of the *Constitution of Ukraine*, the *Law on Culture*, other laws regulating activities in culture, international agreements on culture issues adopted by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, and other by-laws.

The culture sector is regulated also by:

- decrees of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Ukraine;
- Presidential Edicts, decrees, resolutions and instructions of the corresponding ministries and government agencies; and
- resolutions of local governments.

In general, the body of laws concerning culture embraces all cultural sectors and related issues, with amendments which have been done recently in response to new challenges and realities: *Law on Libraries and Librarianship*, *Law on Museum and Museum Activities*, *Law on the National Archive Fund and Archive Institutions*, *Law on Copyright and Neighbouring Rights*, *Law on Professional Artists and Artists Unions*, *Law on Governmental Support to Book Publishing in Ukraine*, *Law on Cinematography*, *Law on Theatres and Performing Arts Activities*, *Law on Protection of Cultural Heritage*, *Law on Export, Import and Restitution of Cultural Goods*, *Law on the List of Cultural Heritage Monuments Prohibited from Privatisation* and other. Besides, there are laws regulating financial, economic, social issues related to culture.

However, new challenges which Ukraine has faced, in particular the integration to EU line, require to rethink, improve existing legislative norms, or adopt new ones. On adopting the *Law on Media* (December 2022) and the *Law on Advertising* (July 2023) Ukraine ensures the compliance with the Audiovisual Media Service Directive. With the new *Law on Copyright and Related Rights* (December 2022, with amendments of April 2023) Ukraine has met the EU requirements concerning the protection of copyright and related rights relevant to society that fosters and invests in creativity. The *Law on National Minorities (Communities) of Ukraine* with all necessary amendments adopted in December 2023 has put an end to all critical attacks, especially from Hungary, in this question.

At the same time, not only the course toward the European integration impacts on Ukrainian legislation in culture. Destruction, losses, damages, looting, as a sequence of Russian aggression, require improving heritage protection laws. MCIP

and the Parliament Committee have started the development of laws on tangible, intangible and movable heritage, including the electronic cataloguing and registration. Among new laws adopted recently should be mentioned, in these terms, the *Law on Main Principles of Public Policy in Assertion of Ukrainian National and Civic Identity* (December 2022), which defines the scope of tasks for cultural sphere; the *Law on condemnation and prohibition of propaganda for Russian imperial policy in Ukraine and decolonization of toponymy* (March 2023) which puts the foundation for transforming physical and intangible space; the amendments to the *Law on Protecting the functioning of the Ukrainian language as the State language* (2023) which defines the principles of linguistic policy. Also, the draft laws which have passed the first reading in the Parliament, on the use of English language, mandatory for the civil servants, and on the ban for the religious organizations controlled by Russia, could be important for the future cultural strategy (see also Chapter 3.1).

6.2 Overview of international cultural legislation

Ukraine is a member of such international organisations as the Council of Europe, UNESCO, Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation, taking part in different international programmes and projects at official level, e.g., Creative Europe, Eurimages, European Cultural Foundation, House of Europe, Erasmus.

Ukraine (as independent state) has ratified UNESCO Conventions *On safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage* (2008) and *On Diversity of Cultural Expressions* (2010); the Council of Europe Framework Convention on the *Value of Cultural Heritage for Society* (Faro Convention)(2013); UNIDROIT Convention on *Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects*; Brussels Convention Relating to the *Distribution of Programme-Carrying Signals Transmitted by Satellite*, Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. In 2020, Ukraine ratified the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (see also Chapters 3.1 and 3.2).

Since February 2022, Ukrainian artists and culture experts, public and non-governmental organizations have taken part regularly in multinational and bilateral projects, cultural events and professional discussions invited by host countries and institutions as an evidence of their strong solidarity with Ukrainian culture.