



# Protecting Ukraine's Cultural Heritage in Times of War







# OUR PHILOSOPHY

💬 Rapid response

🛡️ Protect

🤝 Support

🏠 Safeguard

🏛️ Preserve

📄 Document

🏠 Stabilize

↑ Act



# PLACES SUPPORTED BY THE UAAC

Since March 2022 the Ukraine Art Aid Center (UAAC) has supplied hundreds of metric tons of material and equipment for the 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 two UAAC 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, theaters
- 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



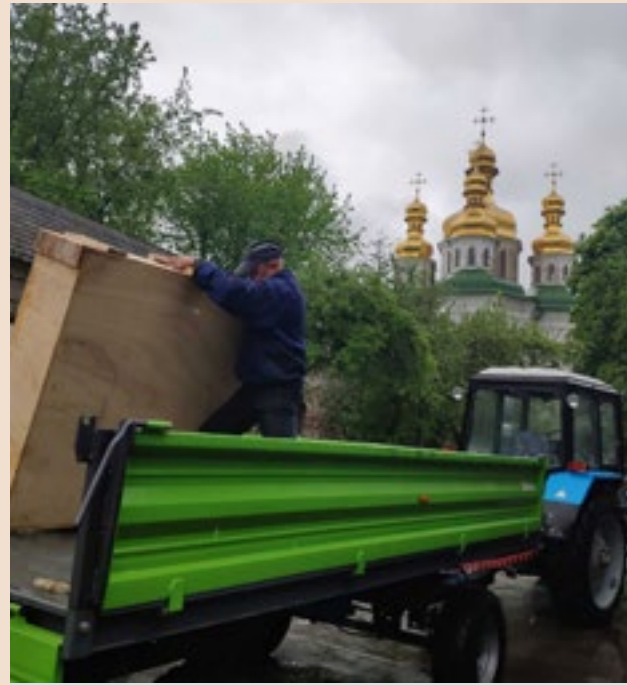
The map shows the locations of institutions supported by the UAAC. To date it has provided aid to over 1000 cultural institutions all over Ukraine.



# MUSEUMS



The UAAC initiated its activities by assisting museums with **packing materials**. Since then, many other supplies – such as **digitization equipment** and **climate and power control** – have been provided to help museums safeguard their invaluable collections.





# THEATERS



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

Thanks to combined donations and the theater team's efforts, it was possible to carry out emergency work – including roof repair, structural work in the grand auditorium, and the installation of windows and doors – 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.



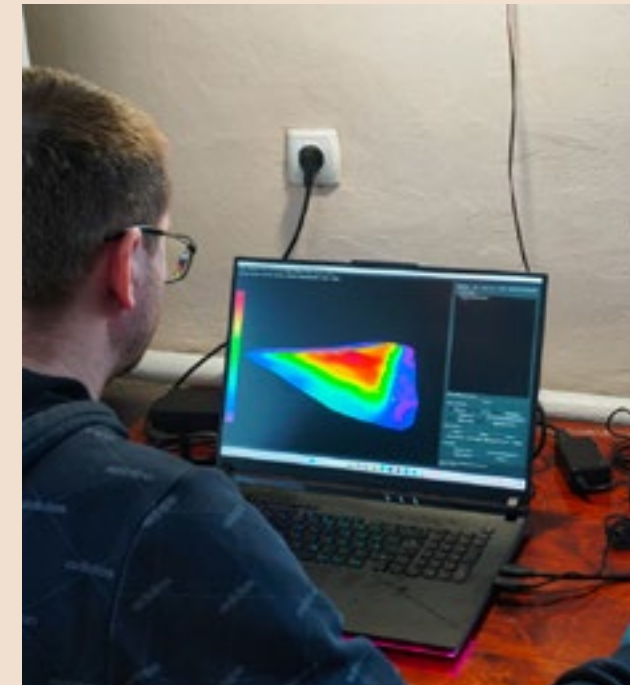


# RESERVES



The **Bilsk Reserve** is one of Europe's most outstanding Scythian sites, and is now at risk amidst the ongoing war.

The UAAC provided the necessary **high-tech equipment** including EMLID GNSS receivers and handheld LiDAR scanners to enable precise surveys, digital modeling, and documentation of this extraordinary archaeological monument.

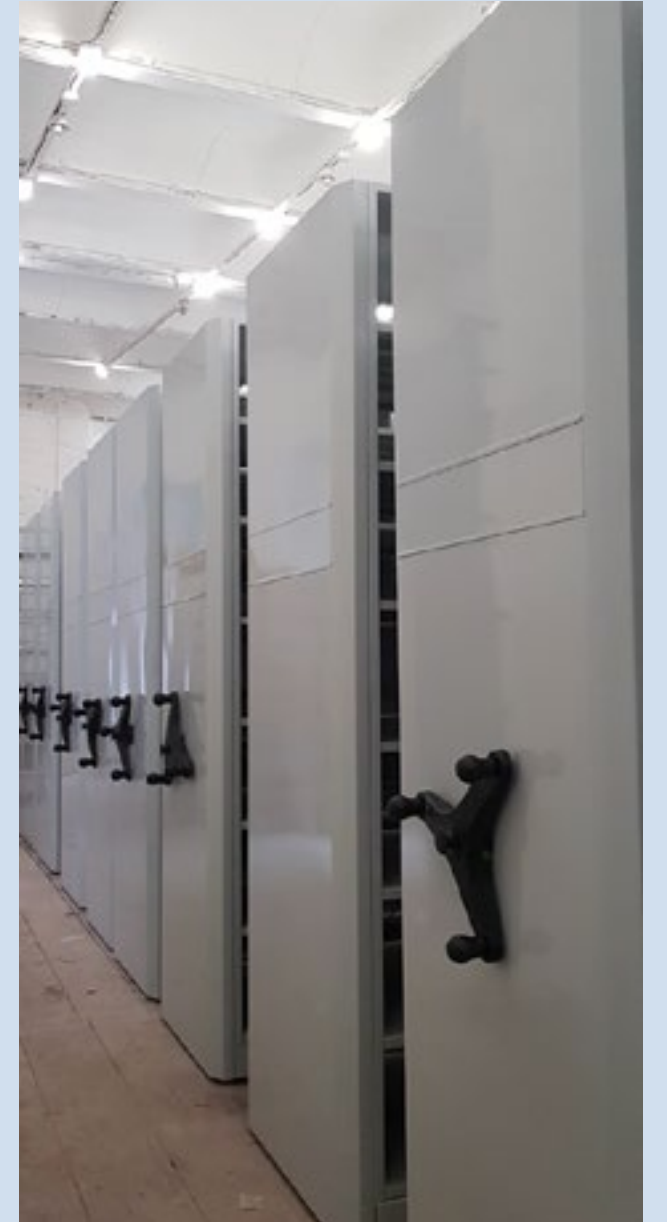
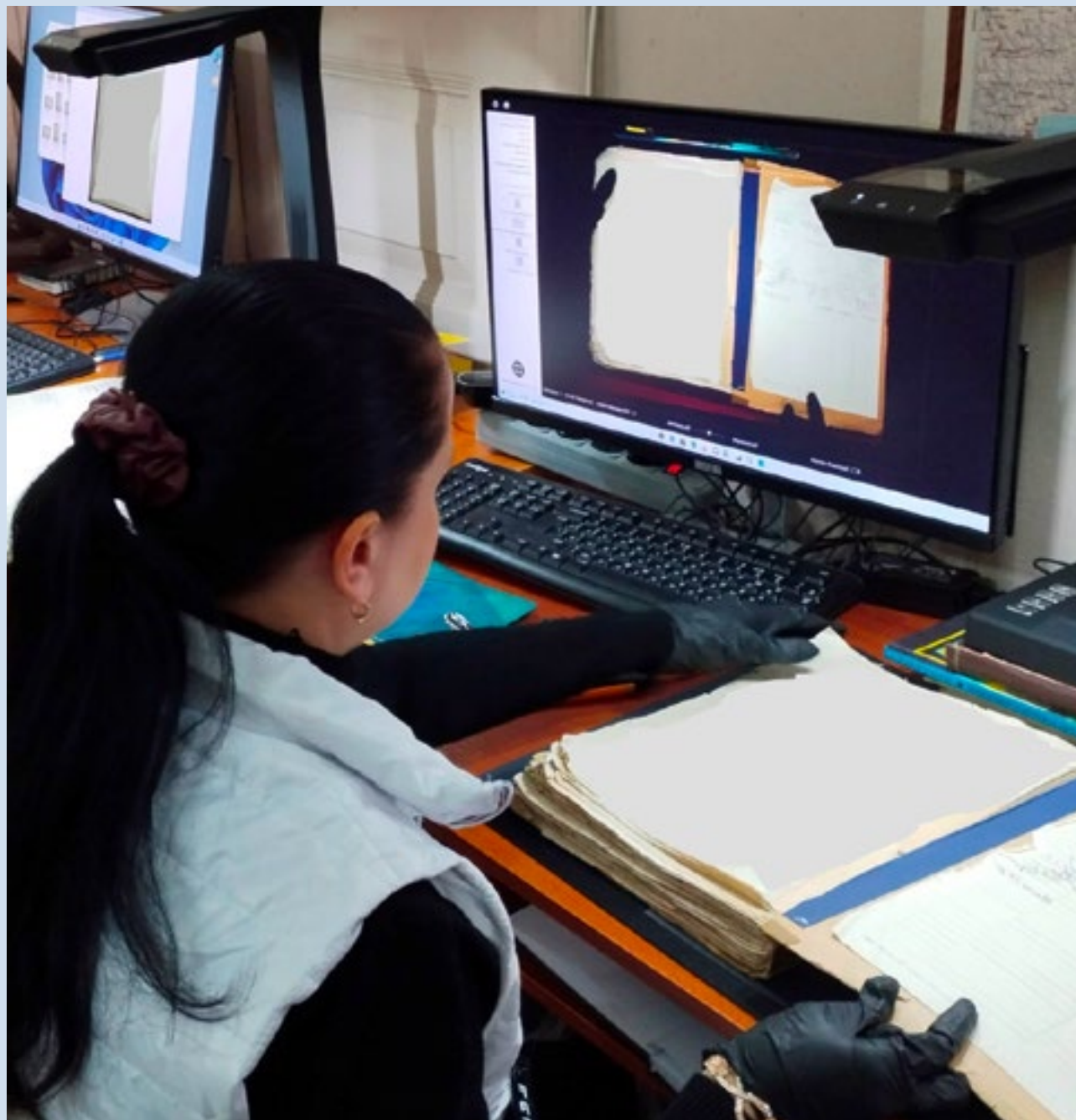




# ARCHIVES



The UAAC supports Ukrainian archives in their mission to **preserve invaluable** historical records by providing materials and equipment to improve storage conditions, digitize collections, and repair 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 front windows, helping the library to protect its collections before the onset of winter.

The UAAC supports many other initiatives for libraries across Ukraine, aiding them in their efforts to maintain access to knowledge, memory, and culture amid the crisis.





# CONSERVATION



The UAAC initiated and coordinated the donation of six state-of-the-art vacuum tables for the 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 and structural consolidations**. The UAAC also organized and funded training for the use of this equipment.





# DIGITIZATION



In 2024 / 2025, the **synagogue wall paintings in the Bukovyna** region were documented using 3D scans funded by the UAAC. This project was 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 Bukovynian Jews. The 3D models and orthogonal images now provide vital data for the conservation and study of this lesser-known facet of Ukraine's rich **cultural heritage**.





# NURTURING NETWORKS



Ever since its establishment in March 2022, the UAAC has run **hubs in Kyiv and Lviv** enabling the distribution of aid to institutions across Ukraine. The UAAC also organizes regular bilingual online meetings with Ukrainian colleagues to discuss ongoing developments and to identify emerging needs. In September 2023, the UAAC further strengthened its network by bringing experts together in Lviv.



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.





# 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 taken by Ukrainian photographers for storage in a Wikibase repository, together with their scientific metadata, a project managed by the Germany Documentation Centre for Art History at the Phillips-University of Marburg and the Leibniz Information Centre for Science and Technology in Hanover;
- 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 Saxon State and University Library, Dresden.



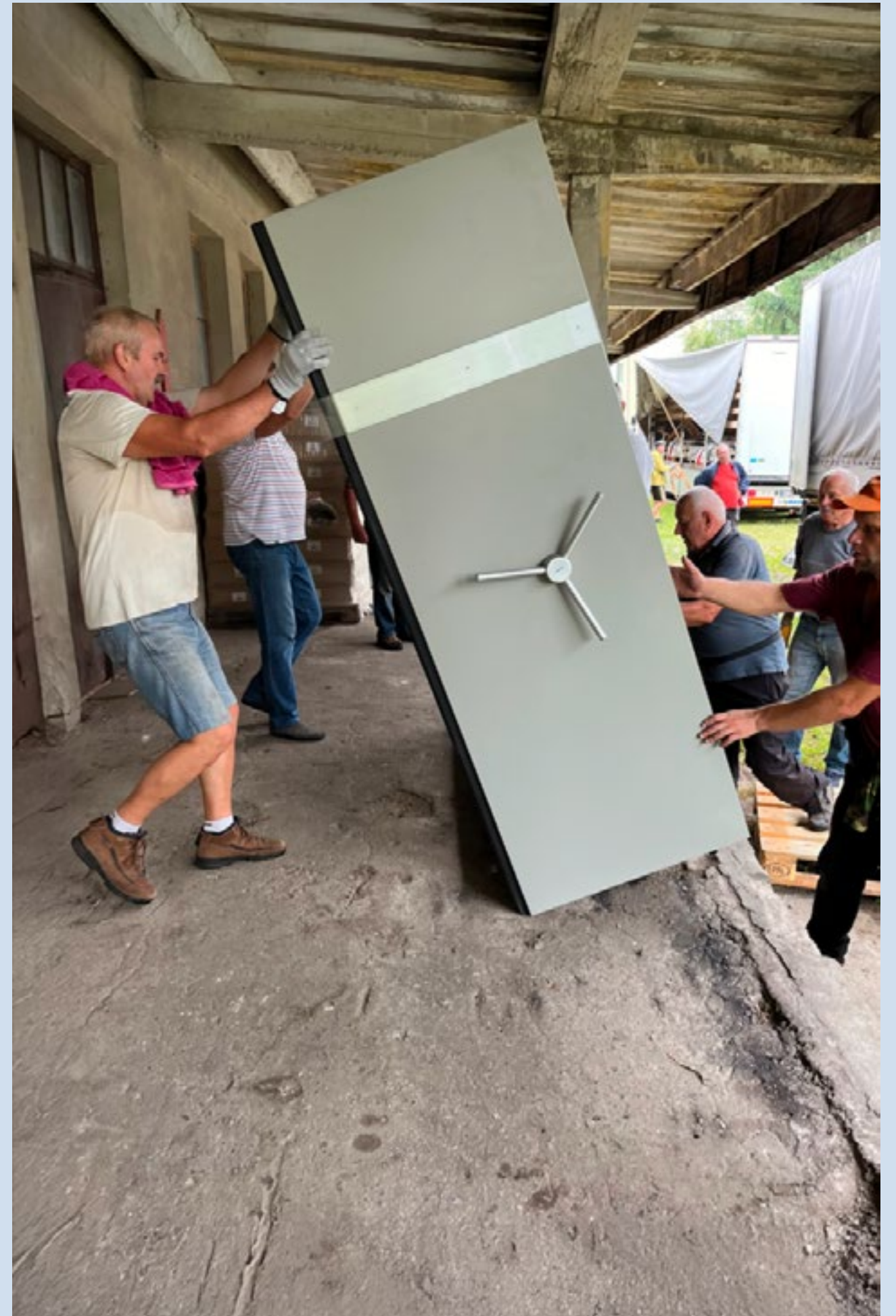
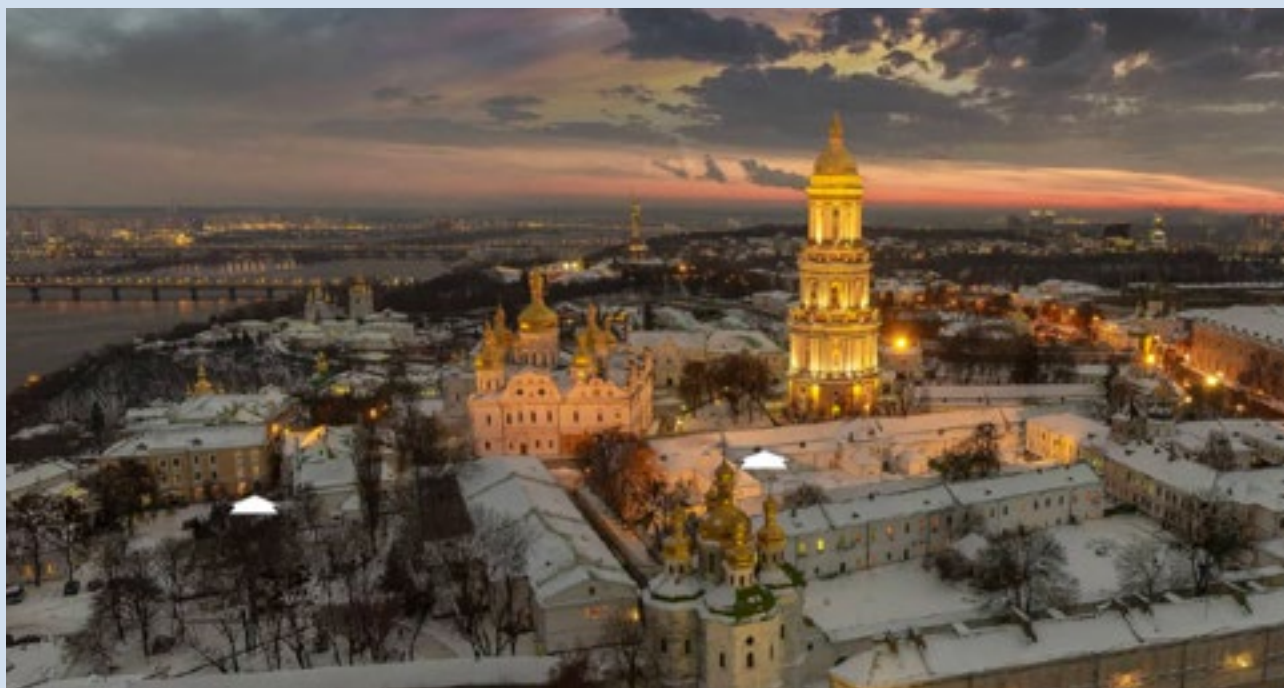


# LASTING EFFECTS



Since its establishment in March 2022, the UAAC has supported a wide variety of initiatives. These include the digitization of historic records in **Ukrainian musical libraries**, the installation of solar panels at the **Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra**, the supply of a 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 exceptional 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



International  
alliance for  
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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.

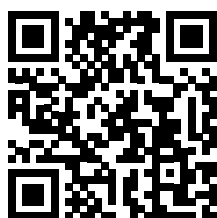
The UAAC supports Ukraine's cultural institutions – museums, reserves, archives, libraries, theatres – by providing quick, carefully targeted emergency funds and supplies of materials and equipment.

# DONATIONS

Berliner Volksbank eG, IBAN:

**DE44 1009 0000 3027 9880 07**

(tax-deductible in Germany)



Please visit our website  
at [ukraineartaidcenter.org](https://ukraineartaidcenter.org)

With cordial thanks to our partners: the Federal Institute for Culture and History of Eastern Europe (BKGE), German-Ukrainian Association for Business and Science, Mainz (DUG-WW e.V.), ICOM Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Schlien & Friends GmbH, Berlin.

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