Annexe to Poland’s contribution: cultural rights and migration

Summary of the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage’ activities: **Culture for Ukraine**

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## ****Assistance in securing collections in Ukraine****

The Ministerial Team for Assistance for Ukraine in the Field of Culture with the participation of the National Heritage Institute organise and coordinate assistance from Polish museum and cultural institutions for Ukraine and war refugees**.**

**T**he Polish Support Center for Culture in Ukraine coordinates (domestic and foreign) initiatives to save Ukraine's cultural resources. It cooperates with national cultural institutions, museums, state archives and libraries, i.e. the National Institute for Polish Cultural Heritage Abroad (POLONIKA), the Ossoliński National Institute, the Cultural Heritage Foundation, the Polish National Foundation, the Government Agency for Strategic Reserves and assists over 100 Ukrainian cultural institutions. Dozens of material consignments have been sent to Ukraine to secure archival materials, monuments and exhibits. Subsequent transports are being organised in coordination with the Ukrainian side. **The POLONIKA Institute organised the protection of over 200 historic objects and performed a scanning of several dozen historic objects in Ukraine, including wooden churches from the UNESCO World Heritage List.**

**The e**vacuation of Ukrainian cultural property depends solely on the sovereign decision of the Ukrainian government. If such a decision is made, Poland is ready to help secure Ukraine's cultural heritage.

## Multidimensional support from cultural institutions and state archives

National Institute of Museum and Collection Protection

The National Institute of Museums and Collections Protection (NIMOZ) launched a contact point for helping Ukrainian museologists, which resulted in 326 initiatives supporting Ukraine, implemented by 146 Polish museums. Assistance for museum institutions in Ukraine were offered ia by providing materials to secure Ukrainian collections as well as internships and scholarships to Ukrainian museologists.

In almost all state museums, donation collections have been organised and materials have been donated to keep the collections secure. Citizens of Ukraine have been given free admission to museums as well as free participation in educational activities, and many institutions have made their guest rooms available to Ukrainian citizens, ia 36 artists from Ukraine have taken part in artistic residences.

National Library

Since the outbreak of the war, the National Library has been in contact with the National Library of Ukraine in Kiev, in Kharkiv and Lviv. It monitors the condition of these institutions, collects information on the losses suffered and provides the assistance through the Polish Support Center for Culture in Ukraine.

State Archives

Special contact points for archivists coming to Poland from Ukraine have been launched within the State Archives in Przemyśl and the Chełm Branch of the State Archives in Lublin. Support in finding employment is being provided to archivists from Kharkov, Kiev, Mykolaiv and Rivne. The Polish State Archives have donated to the Central State Historical Archives of Ukraine in Lviv the fire-fighting equipment and materials to secure archival materials. The Archive of New Files coordinates the "Mum, I do not want war!!!" project. A bilingual exhibition with contemporary drawings by Ukrainian children was presented in 33 Polish cities, where the main offices of the State Archives are located. The exhibition was also presented in most diplomatic missions of Poland and opened at the UN headquarters in New York, October 24. The National Digital Archives secure on its servers the digital documentation of collections belonging to the Lviv social organisation "Centre for Historical Memory", threatened with destruction.

Zbigniew Raszewski Theatre Institute

During the first days of the war, the Institute launched an information point for the theatre community from Ukraine (<https://www.instytut-teatralny.pl/2022/03/17/infopoint-ua>) to exchange information and monitor current needs and resources offered by Polish theatres and organisations. In the sult of a program of residencies for artists and employees of theatres in Ukraine the Institute organised, 51 refugees from Ukraine found shelter in 28 theatrical institutions throughout Poland. The annual event "The end of summer in Jazdów" in 2022 was devoted to cultural cooperation of Poland and Ukraine, with performances and debates including Ukrainian audience and artists (residents) from Ukraine.

National Institute of Music and Dance

NIMiT has been running the "We support UKRAINE” Programme providing assistance to Ukrainian citizens, especially refugee artists, who came to Poland on or after February 24, offering three types of support (Residency, Creative Scholarship, Creative Stay) from 1 to 3 months. The creative stay received 33 people and the creative scholarship was awarded to 19 persons. NIMiT participated also in the art therapy project for refugee children accommodated in a conference centre near Rawa Mazowiecka, staging an opera performance "Zaporozhye beyond the Danube", involving Ukrainian children and art instructors. NIMiT has also promoted concerts of the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine that took place in Warsaw and in Katowice, in October 2022.

National Centre for Culture (NCK)

The National Cultural Centre (NCK) organised an exhibition entitled "The Ukrainian World of Maria Prymachenko". Th**e works were saved from the Museum of Local History in Ivankov, which burned down as a result of a Russian attack on February 27. The Kordegarda Gallery hosted an exhibition presenting the works of three Ukrainian artists: Oleh Kapustyak, Nikita Tsoy and Vasyl Savchenko. The Gaude Polonia scholarships were awarded in 2022 to 21 artists from Ukraine and the Polish-Ukrainian youth exchange supported 43 projects reaching 1305 children.**

National Philharmonic in Warsaw

Thanks to the cooperation of the National Philharmonic in Warsaw, the National Institute of Music and Dance and the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, a group of over 100 musicians, employees of the Kyiv Symphony Orchestra and their families came to Poland in April 2022, to prepare for concerts of the European concert tour of the Orchestra, which began with a performance in Warsaw, on April 21.

The Great Theatre - Polish National Opera

The Metropolitan Opera in New York and the Teatr Wielki - Polish National Opera in Warsaw have created the Ukrainian Freedom Orchestra, whith Ukrainian instrumentalists associated with the Kiev National Opera, the National Symphony Orchestra of Ukraine, the Lviv Philharmonic Orchestra, the Kharkiv Opera and foreign ensembles. **The concert inaugurating the tour took place on 28 July at the Grand Theatre – National Opera in Warsaw.** Organisational costs and accommodation for musicians in Warsaw have been financed by the Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage. The orchestra has also performed in Europe, at New York's Lincoln Centre and the Kennedy Centre in Washington.

The Pilecki Institute

The Pilecki Institute has established the Rafał Lemkin Centre for Documenting Russian Crimes in Ukraine to collect individual, eyewitness testimonies of the civilian population in the form of signalling surveys prepared on the basis of international law, in order to record accounts of crimes committed by Russian troops on Ukrainian territory creating an archive developed by scientists. The Pilecki Institute has also launched a fundraiser and used the collected funds to purchase external drives and pendrives for two regional archives in Ukraine – in Ternopil and in Ivano-Frankivsk.

Polish Radio

Since 24 February 2022 Polish Radio has introduced the broadcasting of special news services "News in Ukrainian", on the Polish Radio 1. News in Ukrainian is broadcast three times a day, seven days a week.

On 17 March, the project "Polish Radio for Ukraine" was launched. It is a radio station addressed to people coming from Ukraine as well as Ukrainians permanently resident in Poland.

**Assistance from art schools and colleges**

After Russia's aggression against Ukraine, the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, in cooperation with the Lviv National Academy of Arts, has picked up nearly 100 female students from the Polish-Ukrainian border. Accommodated at the Open-Air House in Dłużewo and provided with shelter and food, they were relocated to other art universities in the country and in Europe. Polish Universities have offered places in their faculties, most students will continue their education at the Warsaw Academy of Fine Arts and Karol Lipiński Academy of Music in Wrocław. Ukrainian pupils and students receive free psychological and pedagogical care in Poland, at the request of a legal guardian, students of art schools may be exempt from tuition fees at Polish art schools. Free places have also been made available in boarding schools and dormitories of art schools, Ukrainian students can also use the instruments and practice rooms free of charge. Students of art and ballet schools complete layettes for Ukrainian colleagues (including what is called the "dancer's layette") and teachers provide artistic consultation. Aid groups are being set up for students and employees of Ukrainian drama schools and cultural institutions. Many Polish institutions have conducted a recruitment procedure for students of Ukrainian art schools. In art schools and universities, charity concerts and auctions of works by art school students are being held and the funds obtained are being transferred to help refugees.

## [Strengthening NGOs active in assisting refugees](#_Toc117508996)

Mateusz Morawiecki Prime Minister of Poland has launched, from his own reserve, two tranches of "ad hoc" aid for NGOs – a total of PLN 20 million for organisations involved in providing aid and support for refugees (130 beneficiaries).These funds are used to meet the most important needs of non-governmental organisations that provide assistance to refugees, including most of the grant applications concerning the second stage of assistance, i.e. supporting integration activities and processes (work counselling, psychological and therapeutic assistance, language and sports classes etc.).

A call for proposals has been made throughout Poland as part of the Government's Priority 1 of the Citizens Initiatives Fund, which is managed by the Council of the National Institute of Freedom – Centre for Civil Society Development. Local operators of the Programme allocate funds for the implementation of local activities. The applications, which include support for refugees from Ukraine, have received additional points. In 2022, a competition was held under the Government’s Priority 5 Programme for the Development of Civil Organisations. As a result of the competition open to organisations seeking funds to cover the costs of aid activities for refugees from Ukraine, 222 projects were co-financed to carry out tasks related to the refugee crisis in Ukraine, worth a total of over PLN 2 million.