EMERGENCY

RED LIST OF CULTURAL OBJECTS AT RISK
UKRAINE

RedList
Червоний Список
ICOM
The purpose of this Emergency Red List of Cultural Objects at Risk - Ukraine is to contribute to the protection of cultural heritage by identifying the types of objects that are most at risk. Museums, auction houses, art dealers and collectors are urged not to acquire objects similar to those presented in this Emergency Red List, without having carefully and thoroughly researched their origin and all relevant legal documentation. Any cultural artefact that could have originated from Ukraine – before and after the invasion – should be subject to detailed scrutiny and precautionary measures before any transaction is concluded.

In cooperation with ICOM Ukraine and a dedicated team of Ukrainian specialists, ICOM has published this Emergency Red List of Cultural Objects at Risk - Ukraine thanks to the support of the ICOM Foundation.

Should you suspect that a cultural object originating from Ukraine may be stolen, looted or illegally exported, contact your local authorities. Should you require further information or assistance, please contact:

International Council of Museums (ICOM)
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IMPORTANT NOTE

A Red List is NOT a list of actual stolen objects.

The cultural goods depicted are inventoried objects within the collections of recognised institutions. They serve to illustrate the categories of cultural goods protected by legislation which are most vulnerable to illicit traffic.
Main regulations protecting cultural heritage from Ukraine

This list is non-exhaustive. All instruments and regulations should be read to include eventual amendments and/or implementation acts.

INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS

   Ratification 6 February 1957
First Protocol of 14 May 1954
   Ratification 6 February 1957
Second Protocol of 26 March 1999
   Ratification 30 June 2020
   Ratification 28 April 1988
UNESCO Convention of 16 November 1972 concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage.
   Ratification 12 October 1988
   Ratification 27 December 2006

EUROPEAN INSTRUMENT

   Ratification 26 February 2004

NATIONAL LEGISLATION


ICOM wishes to thank all of the museums and institutions who so generously provided the photographs presented in this Emergency Red List of Cultural Objects at Risk - Ukraine.

All institutions are credited in the captions with their full names or acronyms. Please see their full institutional names and acronyms in the following list:

Institute of Archeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
   Lviv Museum of the History of Religion
   Museum of Book and Printing of Ukraine
   National Art Museum of Ukraine (NAMU)
   National Center of Folk Culture – Ivan Honchar Museum
   National Museum of the History of Ukraine, Kyiv (MIST)
   National Museum of Ukrainian Folk and Decorative Art (NMUNDM)
   National Preserve “Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra”
   National Reserve “Ancient Halych”
   Taras Shevchenko University Archaeological Museum
   V. I. Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine (NBUV)
Documents, manuscripts, books

Manuscripts and miniatures, rare books, incunabula and early printed books; on paper or parchment; woodcut, gilding, engraving; handwritten and printed; in Arabic, Cyrillic, Greek, Hebrew or Latin script. Some books are also the first printed works of the new Ukrainian literature written in the popular language.

Manuscripts, miniatures and rare books

1. Orsha Gospel Book, language: Church Slavonic in Belarusian or Ukrainian variant, 142 folios, parchment, Orsha, 13th c. AD, 4°, 19.4 x 26.4 cm. © NBUV

2. Aeneid, Ivan Kotliarevskyi, language: Ukrainian, 8°, 1798, 20 x 13 cm. © NBUV

3. Pinkas of the Talmud Torah, Religious School in Kopychintsy, language: Hebrew, 8 folios, 1873-1889, 37 x 24 cm. © NBUV

Early printed books

4. First complete printed edition of the Bible in Church Slavonic language, paper, printing, woodcuts, leather binding, Ostroh, 1581, 2°, 32 x 20 x 10 cm. © Museum of Book and Printing of Ukraine

5. Pateryk ili Otechnik Pecherskyi [Kyiv–Pecherskyi Pateryk], language: Church Slavonic, first edition, paper, engraving, printing, woodcuts, leather binding, Pechersk Monastery, Kyiv, 1661, 2°, 28.5 x 17.5 x 6 cm. © Museum of Book and Printing of Ukraine

6. Theological text, manuscript on paper, Bakhchisaray, Crimea, 18th c. AD, 22 x 17 cm. © Lviv Museum of the History of Religion

7. The Altar Gospel, Pechersk printing house, silver, wood, paper, embossing, gilding, printing, engraving, 1707 (metal cover, 1658), 41 x 26 x 8 cm. © National Preserve “Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra”

Icons

Icons featuring figures (religious inspired art) painted on canvas or wood; oil and/or tempera; gilding and/or silvering.

8. “Saint Nicholas with scenes from his life” (oil, tempera, gilding, silvering on gesso-grounded two-piece lime-wood panel, relief, carving), Slobozhanshyna, 1680-1685 AD, 125 x 81 x 1.7 cm (frame: 144 x 119 x 19 cm). © NAMU

9. “Christ the Vigilant Eye, Christ is the Grape vine, John the Baptist”, oil on canvas, Kyiv region, 1853, 58 x 120 cm. © NAMU

10. “Exaltation of the Holy Cross of the Lord, the Virgin and Child, St. Nicholas, Yuri the Dragon Fighter, Crucifixion”, oil on wood, folk icon, Bukovyna region, late 19th c. AD, 57.2 x 97.5 cm. © National Center of Folk Culture - Ivan Honchar Museum
Fine arts

Drawings, engravings, paintings and folk art; in oil, pencil or watercolour; on canvas or paper. Ukrainian national schools of realism, avant-garde, and postwar (social realism) and naïve art.

Paintings and graphics

11. “On the river”, oil on canvas, by Mykola Pymonenko, Ukrainian arts, late 19th-early 20th c. AD, 80.5 x 109 cm. © NAMU
12. “High rises”, oil on canvas, by Chepyk Mychailo, Ukrainian postwar art (social realism), 1960, 207 x 314 cm. © NAMU
13. “Bridge Sevres”, oil on canvas, by Oleksandra Ekster, Ukrainian avant-garde, 1912, 145 x 115 cm. © NAMU
14. “Market”, black pencil on gray paper, by Oleksandr Bohomazov, 1914, 39.9 x 30.3 cm. © NAMU
15. “Black beast”, watercolor on paper, by Maria Prymachenko, naive art, 1936, 29 x 40 cm. © NMUNDM

Widespread artworks by folk painters of the 19th – first half of the 20th c. in central Ukraine

16. “Kozak-Mamai”, oil on canvas, folk painting, Poltava Region, 18th c. AD, 86.5 x 66 cm. © National Center of Folk Culture – Ivan Honchar Museum
17. “Portrait of a girl in wreath”, oil on canvas, by Panas Yarmolenko, Kyiv Region, early 20th c. AD, 68 x 67.7 cm. © National Center of Folk Culture – Ivan Honchar Museum

Religious artefacts

Service artefacts and sculptures; silver and wood; engraving, embossing, gilding and/or silvering.

18. Discos (silver, engraving, minting, gilding), Kyiv region, early 18th c. AD, 8.8 x 28.8 x 20.7 cm. © National Preserve “Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra”
19. Altar Cross (silver, embossing, engraving), Cherkasy region, end of 17th c. AD, 37.1 x 18.3 x 0.9 cm. © National Preserve “Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra”
20. Khatases [decorations for the Torah], (silver, repoussé and chasing), Crimea, 19th c. AD. © National Reserve “Ancient Halych”
21. Bakhurst [cassolette], silver, Crimea, 18th-19th c. AD, 28 x Ø 25.3 cm. © MIST
22. Angel (wood, oil, gilding), Temopil region, 18th c. AD, 131 x 60 x 44 cm. © NAMU
23. Mark the Evangelist (wood, carving, gilding), Kyiv region, 18th c. AD, 47 x 34 x 20 cm. © NAMU
Applied arts

Vessels and decoration, textiles (including folk art) and costumes, jewellery of the 19th-20th c.

Vessels and decoration

24. “Bear” vessel (blown coloured glass), Lubny, Poltava region, 18th c. AD, 21.2 cm. © NMUNDM

25. Vase (faience, relief, color glaze), Mezhigirya faience factory, Kyiv region, 1833, 19.5 cm. © NMUNDM

26. Decorated ceramic tile (clay, engobes, molding, decoration), Kosiv, Ivano-Frankivsk region, 1849, 23 x 20 x 6.5 cm. © National Centre of Folk Culture – Ivan Honchar Museum

Textiles and costumes (including folk art)

27. Crimean Tatar Fes [woman’s headdress], Crimea, last quarter 19th-early 20th c. AD, 17 x 18 cm. © MIST

28. Crimean Tatar Yipishli kushak [women’s belt] (fabric, silver, skan, grain, gilding), Crimea, last quarter 19th-early 20th c. AD. © MIST

29. Carpet (wool, hand-weaving), Podillia area, 19th c. AD, 155 x 410 cm. © NMUNDM

30. Ritual towel (home-spun hemp cloth, hand-embroidery), Cherkasy region, late 19th-early 20th c. AD, 285 x 44 cm. © National Centre of Folk Culture – Ivan Honchar Museum

31. Woman’s wedding dress (linen cloth, cotton, wool, hand embroidery, weaving), Ternopil region, early 20th c. AD. © National Centre of Folk Culture – Ivan Honchar Museum

Jewellery

32. Women’s “Dukach” jewellery (gilded metal, blue enamel, casting), Vertbiivka, Chernihiv region, late 19th c. AD, 10 x 6 cm. © National Centre of Folk Culture – Ivan Honchar Museum

33. Women’s “Dukach” [pendant with bow] (silver, brass, copper, glass, casting, minting, engraving), Veremiyivka, Cherkasy region, first half of the 19th c. AD, 10.3 x 6.5 x 1 cm x Ø 3.7 cm. © National Center of Folk Culture – Ivan Honchar Museum

Numismatics

34. Scythian ring with Panticapaeum stater, 4th c. BC, Ø 2 cm. © MIST

35. Hryvnia (silver ingots used as money in that period), so-called Chernihiv type, 12th-13th c. AD, 15.1 x 4.7 cm. © MIST

36. Gold coin, Kyivan Rus, Volodymyr, 972-1015 AD, 1.9 cm. © MIST

37. Silver denarius (small coin), Kyivan Principality, Volodymyr Olherdovych, 1363-1394 AD, 0.9 cm. © MIST
Archaeological artefacts

Vessels and containers, sculptures and figurines, weapons, jewels and personal items, tools and accessories; plain and decorated; in terracotta, clay, bone, bronze, iron or gold; from various civilizations and eras (including Scythian objects).

Vessels and containers

38. Binocular vessel, ceramic, Trypillia, 5th-4th c. BC, 18.8 x 26.5 x 11.5 cm. © MIST
39. Ceramic pot, Catacomb culture, late 3rd-early 2nd millennium BC, Luhansk region, Ukraine, 18 x Ø max. 21.5 cm. © Taras Shevchenko University Archaeological Museum
40. Ceramic Cassolette, Catacomb culture, Luhansk region, end 3rd-beginning 2nd millennium BC, 7 x Ø max. 17.7 cm. © Taras Shevchenko University Archaeological Museum

Sculptures and figurines

41. Female figurine, ceramic, Oselivka, 4th-3rd c. BC, 17 x 4.2 x 2.8 cm. © MIST
42. Ancient Greek Terracotta, Crimea, 3rd c. AD, 11.6 x 8.5 x 3 cm. © MIST

Weapons

43. Scythian arrowheads, 4th c. BC. © Institute of Archeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
44. Iron sword and dagger, Cherkasy region, 7th-5th c. BC, 40 cm, 73 cm. © MIST
45. Bronze battle axe, Khudlove, 14th-12th c. BC, 26.2 x 5.6 cm. © MIST

Jewels and personal items

46. Bronze temporal pendant, Kyiv, 1st half of 2nd millennium BC, 8.4 x 3.9 cm. © MIST
47. Silver buckle with image of eagle, Crimea, 7th c. AD, 19.6 cm. © MIST
48. Gold rjasna with “kolt” [headdress pendant], Kyiv, 12th c. AD, 7.6 x 2.8 x 3.1 cm. © MIST
49. Bronze mirror, Romny district, 7th-6th c. BC, 31 x 17.5 cm. © MIST

Tools and accessories

50. Bone cheek-pieces, Vovkivtsi, 7th-6th c. BC, approx. 16.7-19.3 cm each. © MIST
51. Scythian horse bridle decorations, 4th c. BC, individual elements approx. 16 x 14 mm, 25 x 20 mm, 20 x 18 mm. © Institute of Archaeology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine
52. Bronze plaques, Cherkasy, Kirovograd, Kherson regions, 5th-4th c. BC, approx. 7 x 5 cm each. © MIST
53. Bronze poletop, Vovkivtsi, 5th c. BC, 28 cm. © MIST
The International Council of Museums (ICOM) was established in 1946 to represent museums and museum professionals worldwide. ICOM is committed to the promotion and protection of natural and cultural heritage, present and future, tangible and intangible. With a unique network of over 45,000 members in 123 countries and territories (2021), ICOM is active in a wide range of museum and heritage related disciplines.

ICOM maintains formal relations with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and has a consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) as an expert in the fight against illicit traffic in cultural goods. ICOM also works in collaboration with organisations such as INTERPOL, the World Customs Organization (WCO) and UNIDROIT to carry out some of its international public service missions.

The protection of heritage in the event of natural disaster or armed conflict is also at the core of ICOM’s work, supported by its members, and its national and international committees and through its strong involvement in the Blue Shield, of which it is a founding member. In the event of a crisis, ICOM can mobilise its network of experts in the field of cultural heritage from all over the world.

In 2013, ICOM also created the first International Observatory on Illicit Traffic in Cultural Goods in order to reinforce its actions in fighting illicit traffic with a database of resources on the subject available online (https://www.obs-traffic.museum/).

The Red Lists have been designed as practical tools to fight the illegal trade in cultural objects. ICOM is grateful for the unwavering commitment of the experts and institutions who generously contribute to the success of the Red Lists.

All the Red Lists are available on the ICOM website: https://icom.museum/en/

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