



UKRAINIAN LIBRARIES IN THE WAR TIME

OKSANA BRUI

UKRAINIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

YAROSLAV MUDRYI NATIONAL LIBRARY OF UKRAINE

«University Library at a new stage of social communications development»

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TALK ABOUT

1. Global trends
2. Ukrainian context
3. Ukrainian Libraries in the war. Challenges and opportunities
4. Ukrainian Libraries in the war. Leadership
5. Ukrainian Libraries and Future of Ukraine

1. GLOBAL TRENDS





GLOBAL TRENDS

New normality

- ✓ fast development of technology (AI, VR etc)
- ✓ rapidly changing circumstances and uncertainty

SOCIAL DRIVERS

- ✓ Openness
- ✓ Active citizenship
- ✓ The sharing economy
- ✓ Cultural diversity
- ✓ Inclusion
- ✓ Lifelong learning



2. UKRAINIAN CONTEXT



CARTON "SOULS" BY VOLUNTEER ANIMATION OF UKRAINE
[HTTP://BIT.LY/3XITMES](http://bit.ly/3xITMES)



WAR AND FULL-SCALE INVASION

Ukraine since 2014

- ✓ War with Russia - 10 years
- ✓ Crimea and part of Luhansk and Donetsk regions were occupied
- ✓ Luhansk and Donetsk quasi-republics were created



February 24, 2022 at 5 am

CONSTANT DANGER OF RUSSIAN SHELLING AND MISSILE ATTACKS

24.02.2022-24.05.2024

Alarms throughout Ukraine – 39 624

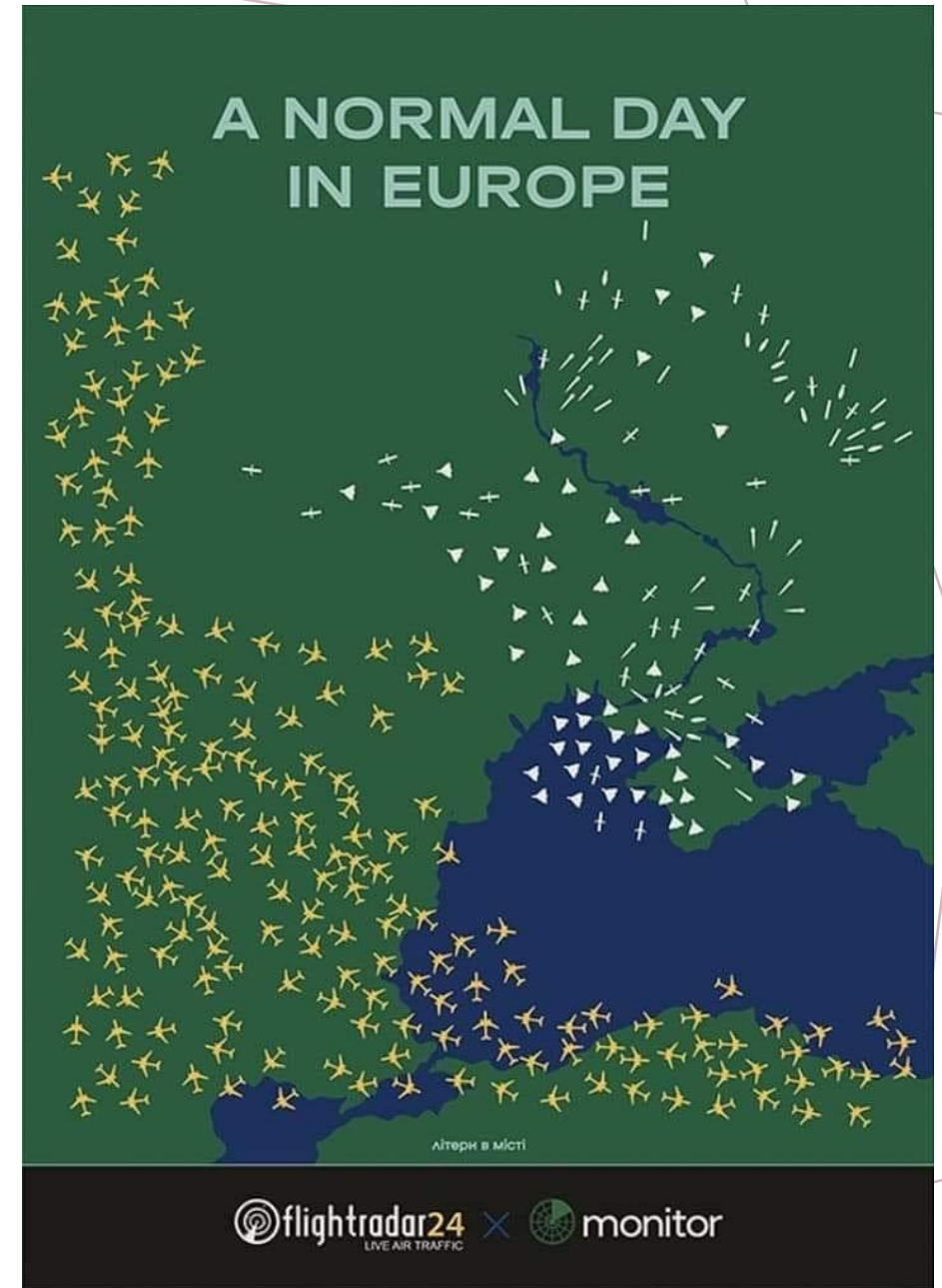
Alarms in Kyiv – 1 083

<https://air-alarms.in.ua/en>

March 22, 2024

151 drones and missiles

- 63 Shahed-136/131 attack drones
- 12 Iskander-M ballistic missiles
- 40 X-101/X-555 cruise missiles
- 5 X-22 cruise missiles 7 X-47M2 Kinzhal aeroballistic missiles
- 2 X-59 guided missiles
- 22 S-300/S-400 anti-aircraft guided missiles



REFUGEES AND INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

✓ **19 mln** of Ukrainians left their homes

(Dmytro Lubinets, Commissioner of the Verkhovna Rada on Human Rights, 2022)

✓ **4,9 mln** of internally displaced persons

(Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, 2024)

✓ **6 mln** of refugees

(UN, Office of High Commissioner for Refugees, 2024)

✓ **1,4 - 2,3 mln** are not going to return to Ukraine

(Centre of Economic Strategy, 2024)



Waiting for evacuation

PEOPLE DEPORTED TO RUSSIA



3,8 million Ukrainians,
including **705,000** children
are deported to russia

*(Ukrainian Centre for Human Rights with
reference to Russian media, 2024)*



Wall of memory to fallen soldiers (Kyiv)



Irpin' (satellite city of Kyiv)

HUMAN LOSSES OF UKRAINE

- ✓ **31 thousand** Ukrainian soldiers died
(Volodymyr Zelensky, *President of Ukraine*, 2024)
- ✓ **10,582** civilians killed and
19,875 injured
- ✓ including **587** children killed and
1,298 injured
(report of the *UN Office for Human Rights*, 2024)

ENERGETIC CRISIS

- ✓ **Blackout 2022** – November 23
 - ✓ **40%** of the energy infrastructure was damaged by shelling
 - ✓ no electricity for 12 to 74 hours
 - ✓ scheduled power outages – 6 months
- ✓ **About 50%** of the energy infrastructure was damaged by shelling (March-April 2024)
 - ✓ scheduled power outages – May-August 2024



DESTRUCTION OF CIVILIAN INFRASTRUCTURE



- ✓ > 170,000 houses (3.6 million Ukrainians have damaged or destroyed housing)
- ✓ 3281 educational institutions (including 1069 kindergartens)
- ✓ 1554 healthcare facilities
- ✓ 700 pharmacies
- ✓ > 700 administrative buildings
- ✓ > 349 critical infrastructure facilities in the field of heat supply
- ✓ 494 religious buildings (churches, temples, mosques)
- ✓ 1201 cultural facilities

- ✓ 422 factories and enterprises
- ✓ 326 bridges and bridge crossings
- ✓ > 25 thousand km of roads
- ✓ 27 commercial buildings
- ✓ 29 oil depots
- ✓ 11 thermal power plants
- ✓ 3 thermal power plants
- ✓ 336 boiler houses
- ✓ 19 airports and civilian airfields
- ✓ 110 railway stations and railway terminals
- ✓ 28 ports and port infrastructure facilities

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



- ✓ As of **2021**, there were **3 mln people with disabilities** in Ukraine, and their number has **increased by ~ 300,000** over the two years of war

(Minister of Social Policy Oksana Zholnovych)

- ? How many people with disabilities will be in Ukraine at the end of the war

PEOPLE WITH PSYCHOLOGICAL PROBLEM

- ✓ **62%** of parents say their children show signs of stress and poor sleep
(UNICEF)
 - ✓ **23 thousand** civilians with post-traumatic stress disorder were registered in the electronic healthcare system in 2023
(Ministry of Health Care of Ukraine)
- ?** How many people with psychological problem will be in Ukraine at the end of the war



HYBRID INFORMATION WAR

Kremlin propaganda and disinformation

- ✓ imperial narratives
- ✓ pseudo-fight against fascism and Nazism
- ✓ systemic trolling on the Internet
- ✓ fake news by Russian media
- ✓ propaganda of an aggressive war against Ukraine

Target audience

- ✓ russian citizens
- ✓ russian diaspora, emigrants
- ✓ citizens on occupied territories
- ✓ citizens of other countries, especially Ukraine



By Victor Zavalov

POLICY FACTORS INFLUENCING THE LIBRARY SECTOR



- ✓ 'Inept' state policy in the sector
 - ✓ frequent change of decision makers
 - ✓ lack of coordination between governing bodies
 - ✓ outdated legislation and regulatory framework
- ✓ Chronic underfunding of science, education, and culture

POLICY FACTORS INFLUENCING THE LIBRARY SECTOR

- ✓ Decentralization reform
 - ✓ autonomy for local authorities
 - ✓ unsystematic and uncontrolled closure of public libraries
- ✓ Reforms by Ministry of Education and Science
 - ✓ new strategy of school, professional and high education
 - ✓ Open Science
 - ✓ merging universities
- ✓ Reforms by Ministry of Digital Transformation
 - ✓ digitalization of different spheres
 - ✓ digital public services
 - ✓ digital literacy



DISPLACED UNIVERSITIES

Displaced universities (19+)



Mariupol State University
before...



Mariupol State University
after...

3. UKRAINIAN LIBRARIES IN THE WAR. CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES



LIBRARIES IN UKRAINE. STATISTICS

- 7 866

	2021	2023
Total	30 681	22 815
National and state libraries	12	12
Regional libraries	63	61
Public libraries	14 948	12 908
School libraries	14 848	13 134
University libraries	177	168
Academy of Science's libraries	257	219
Medical libraries	170	108
Libraries of Ministry of Infrastructure	25	25
Libraries for the blind	62	24

UKRAINIAN LIBRARIES. CHRONIC PROBLEMS

- ✓ Outdated legislation and regulatory framework
- ✓ Minimal funding: salaries and utilities
- ✓ Outdated material and technical base
- ✓ Backwardness of IT implementation

UKRAINIAN LIBRARIES. CHRONICAL PROBLEMS

Actuality of library collections

- ✓ **50%** of library collections are books published in Soviet time
 - ✓ Soviet and imperial narratives and propaganda
 - ✓ poor physical condition
 - ✓ not relevant, not requested by readers
- ✓ Zero budgets for the purchase of literature during last 10 years
- ✓ Donations are the main source of new literature for libraries

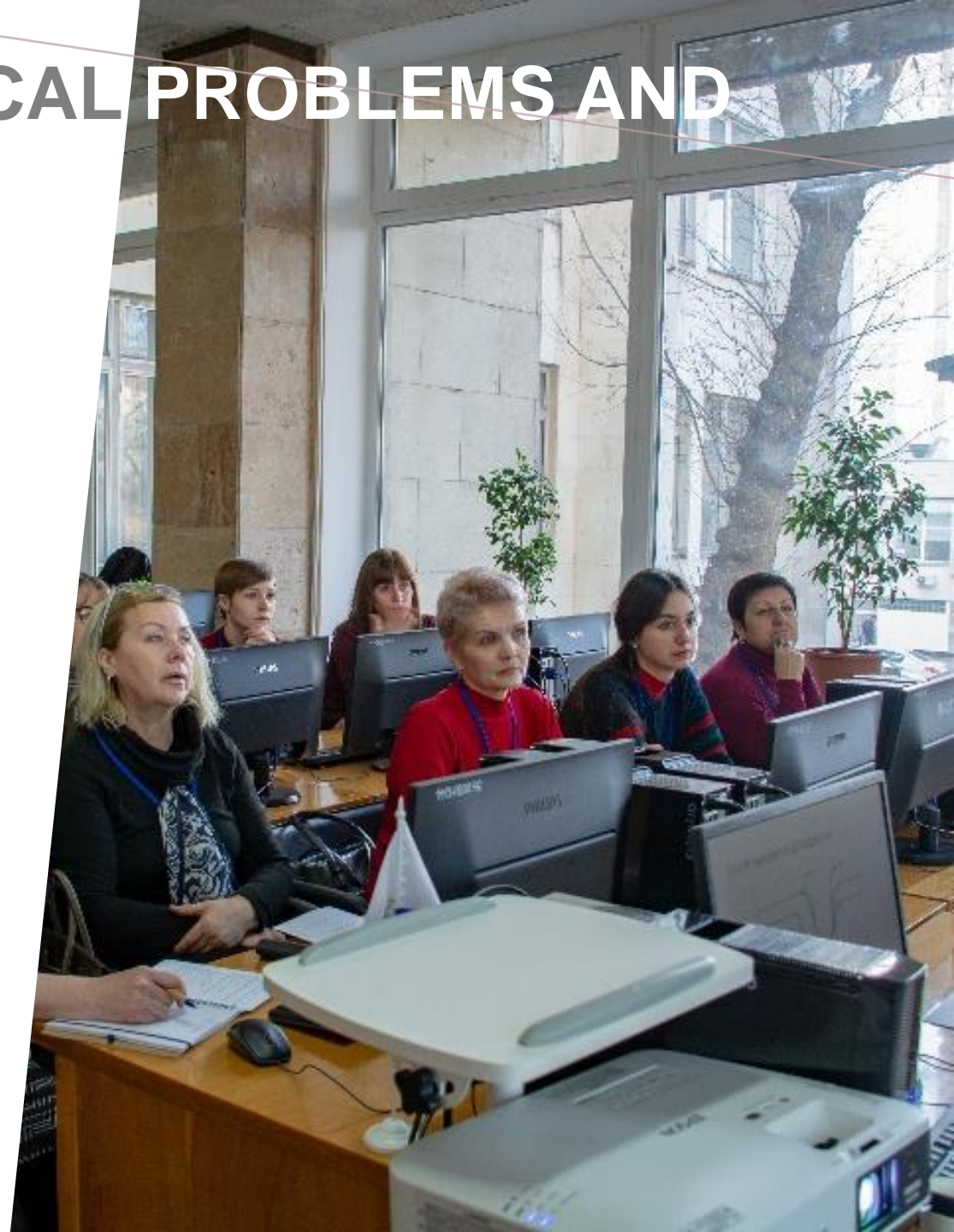
*Love is...
... to donate books*



UKRAINIAN LIBRARIES. CHRONICAL PROBLEMS AND WAR CHALLENGES

Library staff

- ✓ ageing work force
- ✓ minimum wage
- ✓ library education
- ✓ English language skills
- ✓ 'outflow' of library professionals



UKRAINIAN LIBRARIES. LOSSES DURING THE WAR

Damaged national and state libraries

- ✓ Korolenko Kharkiv State Scientific Library
- ✓ Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine
- ✓ National Scientific Medical Library of Ukraine
- ✓ Yaroslav Mudryi National Library of Ukraine



- ✓ **3 428** of educational institutions were affected by bombing and shelling
- ✓ **365** of them were destroyed
- ✓ more than **25** university libraries

Ministry of Education and Science -
<https://saveschools.in.ua/>

- ✓ **797** public libraries destroyed and damaged
- ✓ destroyed and beyond repair – **242**
- ✓ loss of library collections – **195 964 000 vol.**

Yaroslav Mudryi National Library of Ukraine (2023.06.30)

CULTURAL HERITAGE UNDER THREAT

Scientific Library of
Taras Shevchenko
Kyiv National
University

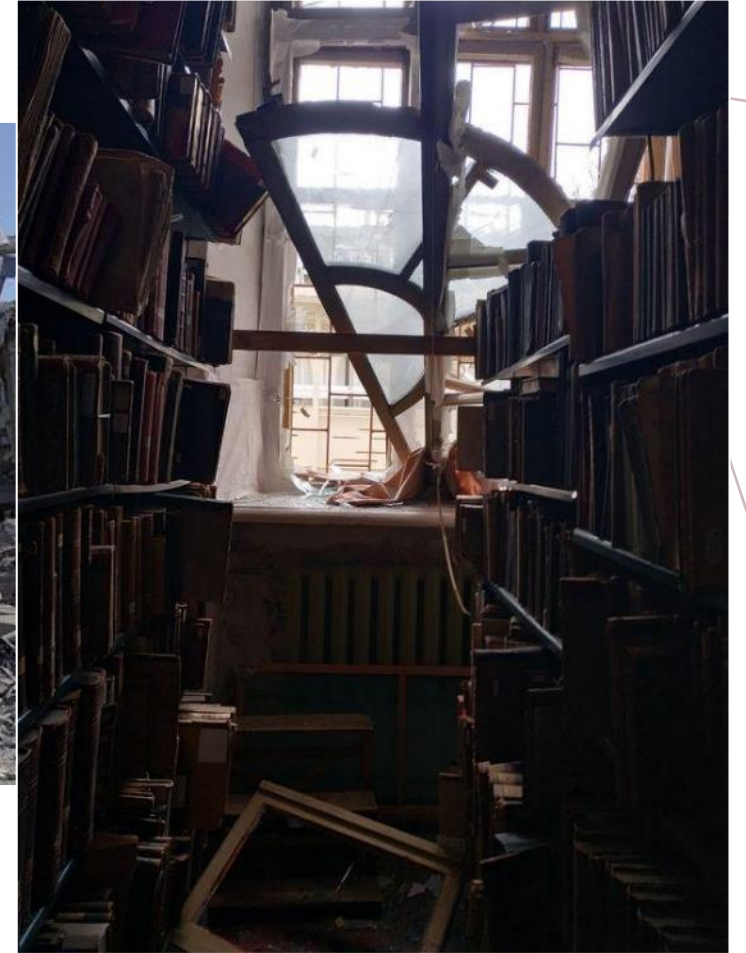




Library of Kharkiv
Polytechnic Institute



Library of Kharkiv
National Pedagogical
University



Library of Karasin
Kharkiv National
University

CULTURAL HERITAGE UNDER THREAT

Kherson Regional
Universal Scientific
Library



UKRAINIAN LIBRARIES. CHALLENGES

- ✓ Constant danger
- ✓ Blackouts
- ✓ Destroyed and damaged libraries - 1000+
- ✓ Loss of collections and equipment
- ✓ Library collections are not replenished
- ✓ Cultural heritage under threat
- ✓ 'Outflow' of library professionals
- ✓ Closure of libraries and reduction of librarian positions
- ✓ Fatigue, burnout and psychological problems of librarians
- ✓ Internally displaced persons
- ✓ People with disabilities and psychological problem
- ✓ Russian propaganda and disinformation
- ✓ ...

- ✓ Outdated legislation and regulatory framework
- ✓ Minimal funding: salaries and utilities
- ✓ Outdated material and technical base
- ✓ Actuality of library collection
- ✓ Backwardness of IT implementation
- ✓ Library staff

- ✓ **Global technology and social trends**
- ✓ **Rapidly changing circumstances and uncertainty**

UKRAINIAN LIBRARIES. OPPORTUNITIES IN WARTIME

International community support

- ✓ Increase in international grant programs related to Ukraine
- ✓ Opportunities for internships in the world's leading libraries
- ✓ Scientific and educational resources for Ukraine (free of charge)

Increasing attention to libraries in society

