





Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Potential Impact Summary (06 April 2022)

Cultural Heritage Monitoring Lab (CHML) & the Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative (SCRI)

BACKGROUND: CHML and SCRI are monitoring over 26,000 cultural heritage sites in Ukraine. This effort began in April 2021, and it employs a combination of remote sensing, open-source research, and satellite imagery tasking to gather evidence of cultural heritage damage. This report provides a summary of potential impacts to cultural heritage sites following the Russian invasion of Ukraine on 24 February 2022.



Distribution of 26,816 cultural heritage sites in Ukraine

Distribution of 191 potential impacts identified up to 06 April 2022

RESULTS FOR 24 FEBRUARY TO 02 APRIL 2022: Since the beginning of the Russian invasion (24 February), the CHML and SCRI team has identified 191 instances of potential impacts to cultural heritage sites. For the purposes of this report, cultural heritage includes archaeological sites, arts centers, monuments, memorials, museums, and places of worship, but not libraries and archives. Across Ukraine, memorials and places of worship have sustained the highest percentages of potential impacts.

"Potential impacts" are those cultural heritage sites suffering possible damage based upon analysis using remote sensing methods. Conflictrelated damage to cultural heritage sites ranges from complete destruction to underlying structural weakening. Many potential impacts POTENTIAL HERITAGE IMPACTS FROM 24 FEB 2022 TO 02 APR 2022

Archaeological sites	1	0.52%
Arts centers	2	1.05%
Monuments	9	4.71%
Memorials	111	58.12%
Museums	10	5.24%
Places of worship	58	30.37%
TOTAL	191	100.00%

are not visible through geospatial technology and may not be visible or detectable for months or years.

The positive confirmation of a potential impact involves the use of several methods, including on-the-ground assessment, satellite analysis, and verifiable reporting from credible media sources. CHML and SCRI continue to work with local partners on the confirmation process. If cultural heritage sites are damaged, additional structural assessments, specialist inspections, collections assessments, and other long-term evaluation efforts are required.

Daniels, B. I., and Golden, G. (2018). Conflict Culture Research Network: Cultural Heritage Site List Dataset, Codebook 3.0. University of Pennsylvania Museum, Penn Cultural Heritage Center.

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This report was produced by the Cultural Heritage Monitoring Lab (CHML) at the Virginia Museum of Natural History (VMNH) and the Smithsonian Cultural Rescue Initiative (SCRI). This monitoring effort uses cultural heritage inventory data developed by CHML and SCRI, under the Cultural Heritage Site List (CHSL) data standards developed by the Penn Cultural Heritage Center (PennCHC) at the University of Pennsylvania Museum with National Science Foundation Grant #1439549 (see Daniels & Golden 2018). Visit <u>https://www.vmnh.net/research-collections/chml</u> for more information on the CHML, <u>https://culturalrescue.si.edu/</u> for more information on SCRI, and <u>https://www.penn.museum/sites/chc/</u> for more information on the PennCHC.