Culture of Ukraine in Wartime: challenges and achievements

2024

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“Library Country” Charitable Foundation

Ukrainian cultural heritage and national identity are one of the enemy's primary targets.

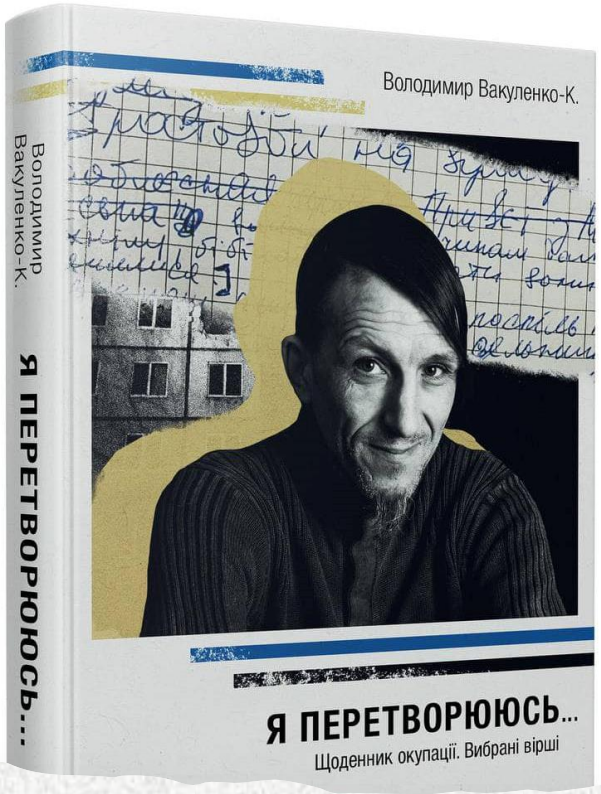
- During the 2 years of war, Ukraine has lost hundreds and thousands of its best people, soldiers, children, many wounded and many unborn. This is a war of two values: democracy versus authoritarianism, and the future of the entire world will depend on the outcome of the war in Ukraine.

- Now we are fighting for our culture, language and traditions, for the existence of the Ukrainian people, and libraries are at the forefront of this. When Russia occupies the territories, it first destroys our books and language, and then imports books in Russian, especially textbooks for children. For 2 years now, children in the occupied territories have been forced to learn Russian and Russian history.

- Libraries in Ukraine have their own struggle, they are actively getting rid of books in Russian that are propagandistic in nature. Libraries are becoming volunteer and humanitarian hubs. They help internally displaced Ukrainians and the army.

Since February 24, 2022, more than **600** libraries were damaged or destroyed by the russian troops

89 libraries are fully destroyed



Ukrainian children's writer Volodymyr Vakulenko was tortured and killed by Russians in March 2022 during the occupation of Kharkiv Oblast

On July 28, 2022 **Hlib Babich,** a Ukrainian poet, songwriter, blogger, was killed in the battle with the Russian invaders.

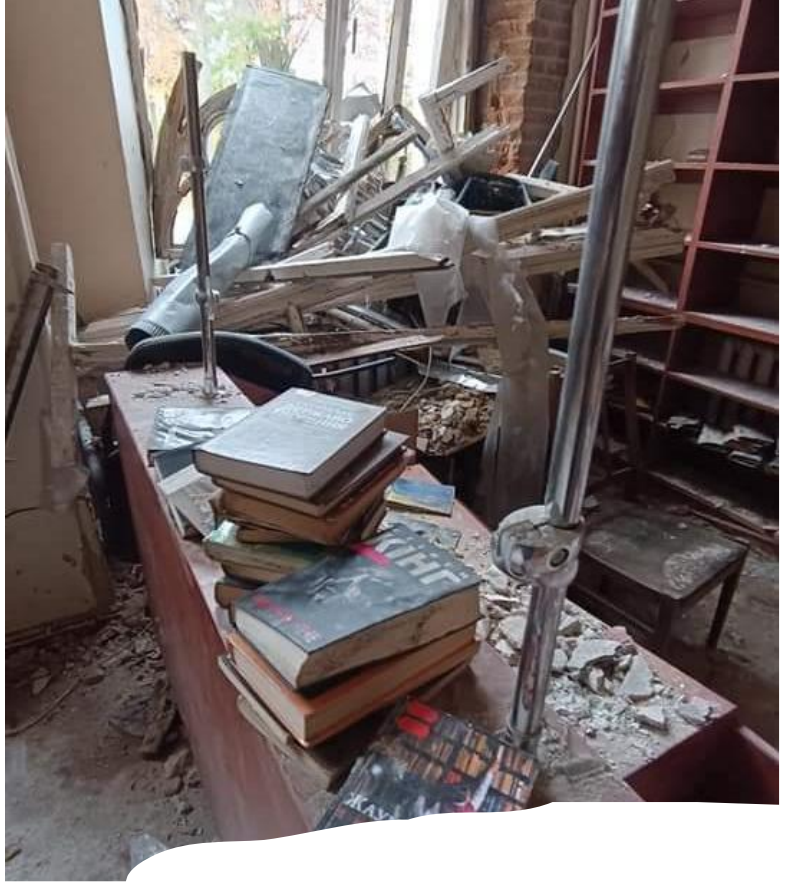
On April 1, 2022 Ukrainian writer, poet and public figure **Yuriy Ruf** died in the fighting in Luhansk region.

Writer **Victoria Amelina** died of injuries after the Russian attack on Kramatorsk on July 1, 2023

2,000 school libraries

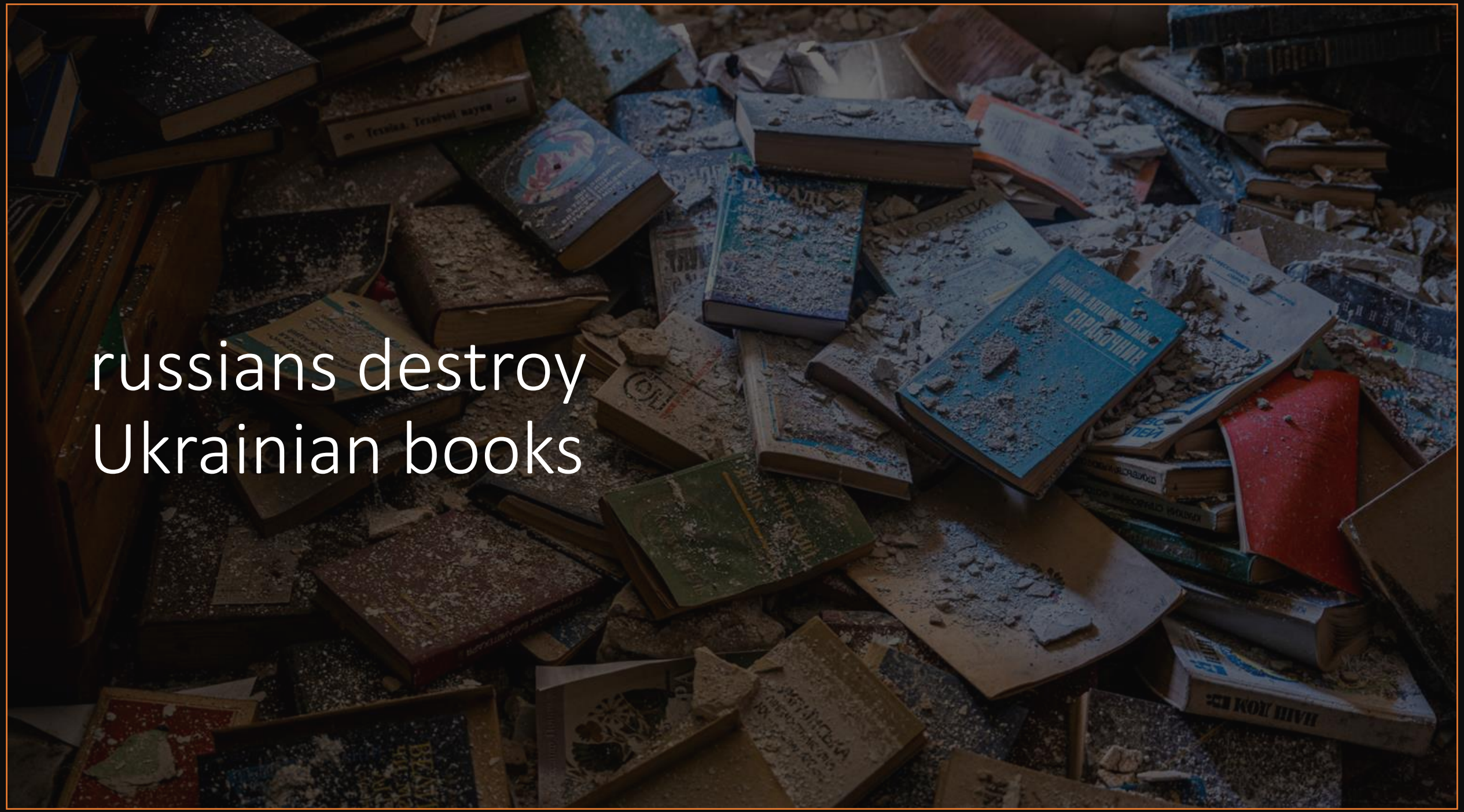
20 university libraries were damaged or destroyed

librarians



Chernihiv. March 11, 2022. Chernihiv library for young people. The architectural monument of the 19th century was destroyed as a result of bombing by Russian troops.

Borodyanka,
Kyiv region


russians destroy
Ukrainian books

Books that are removed by the so-called Luhansk People's Republic from libraries as "extremist":

- everything published after 2014 (after Revolution of Dignity)
- books on the history of Ukraine
- about the Holodomor (man-made by Stalin famine of 1933 in Ukraine)

Ivankiv, Kyiv region, was occupied in March

The books in the library were shot with a gun

- Our soldiers not only beat the enemy on all fronts but also save books

- Librarians save books by hiding them in their homes

Libraries are making contribution to the Victory from the first days

Work as humanitarians and voluntary offices:

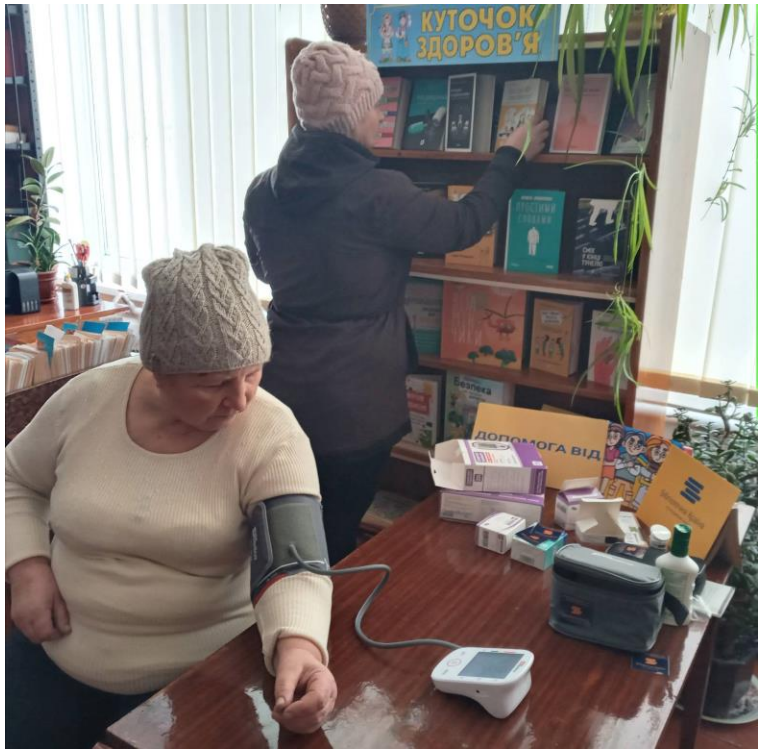
help internally displaced Ukrainians
help Ukrainian Army
weave camouflage nets
package humanitarian aid
provide psychological support

- first aid course
- art therapy
- psychological assistance
- leisure activities for children
- assistance in registration for refugees

Health corners in libraries

Improving public health in communities through libraries

БІБЛІОТЕКА ЗДОРОВ'Я



Hibuki therapy (hugging dog) psychological rehabilitation from Israel

Green Libraries

educational work on environmental issues

СКЛО
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ЖИТТЯ ТВАРИН
СВІТ МОРЯ
УСЕ ПРО БДЖІЛ
УСЕ ПРО КОНЕЙ
АТЛАС ТВАРИН

'Sister Libraries' for Ukraine

Dear partners, Ukrainian libraries are currently experiencing difficult times due to the Russian invasion, more than 600 libraries have been destroyed or damaged as a result of hostilities, bombings and occupation. On the other hand, Ukrainian libraries have now become humanitarian and volunteer hubs for displaced Ukrainians, providing consultations and psychological assistance.

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