

Country Name	UKRAINE
Existing Projects	No
Known Objects	Yes
<i>Information taken from looted cultural property databases</i>	<p>There is no central database, but various local projects exist, for example one by Tanya Romanovska on silver in synagogues, that try to document which Jewish artifacts are held by Ukrainian museums, libraries and archives.</p> <p>The website http://www.rtrfoundation.org/ offers updated information taken from Miriam Weiner's Jewish Roots in Poland (1997) and Jewish Roots in Ukraine and Moldova (1999). (The website also offers information on Belarus and Lithuania.) For example, for "Lvov" the database notes that the Central State Historical Archives of Ukraine in Lvov holds Torahs. [201/4/4280-4424 (25+ Torahs): http://www.wumag.kiev.ua/wumag_old/archiv/1_97/shalom.htm</p> <p>A listing of Jewish silver ritual objects held by the Museum of Historical Treasures of Ukraine may be seen at http://www.judaica.com.ua/project.php. The collection contains more than 400 items originally used by Jewish Communities of Kiev, Zhytomir, Vinnitsa, Belopolie, Elisavetgrad, Lohvitsa, Meldzhibozh, Tul'chin, Odessa, Kherson, Yampol', Volochisk, or owned by former Jewish museums in Odessa, Chernovtsky or Lvov. Most objects were seized by the Soviet Committee on the Requisitioning of Ritual Valuables during the 1920s and 1930s. Central to the collection are the Torah crowns, 39 in total, with a special one made by Zhitomir masters in 1875. The museum also holds Torah scrolls, 50 rimonim, numerous Torah shields (around 100), 50 yadim (Torah pointers), 5 Chanukah lamps, 7 oil lamps, more than sixty bsamin or godes. An additional listing of the collection of the Museum of Historical Treasures of Ukraine may be seen at http://www.wumag.kiev.ua/wumag_old/archiv/1_97/shalom.htm. Some of the objects held by the museum originated from the Mendel Moiber Sforim Museum of Jewish Culture in Odessa.</p> <p>A listing of Torah scrolls in State Archives of Ukraine may be seen on the website of the VAAD of Ukraine (The Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities of Ukraine) at http://www.vaadua.org/VaadENG/JosefEng/Restituz-toras.htm. The listing, which also includes Torah scrolls held by museums, is presented and discussed in the section below on Torahs and Religious Books and Manuscripts under information taken from publications.</p>
<i>Information taken from</i>	A. Torahs and Religious Books and Manuscripts

<p><i>publications</i></p>	<p>1) <u>Source</u>: Zissels, Josef. "To the Question of Jewish Property in Ukraine," paper provided by Josef Zissels to the Claims Conference on 21 February 2007 (Online accessible at: http://www.vaadua.org/VaadENG/JosefEng/Restituz.htm, last accessed on 28 September 2009)</p> <p>2) <u>Source</u>: Matveyev, Vladimir. "Trying to Invigorate Community, Jews in Lvov Seek Return of Artifacts". <i>JTA</i> December 27, 2006.</p> <p>3) <u>Source</u>: Matveyev, Vladimir. "Ukrainian Jewish Community Uses Remnants to Portray Past". <i>JTA</i> October 5, 2006.</p> <p>4) <u>Source</u>: Email correspondence with Serhii Kot, Director, Olzhych Foundation on 8 October 2007.</p> <p>5) <u>Source</u>: List compiled by the State Committee on Archives of Ukraine (Derzhkomarkhiv).</p> <p>It is assumed that most museums and libraries in Ukraine hold Judaica collections. However, they differ in size and magnitude. One of the biggest collections is being held by the Museum of Historical Treasures of Ukraine (see above).</p> <p>Museums and archives hold a huge number of Torah scrolls and Torah fragments, all of which were confiscated from synagogues. At the same time, it is known that various museums 'lose' Torah scrolls by selling them abroad, which also implies that the state museums do not guarantee the safety of these ritual objects. In addition, there are illegal exports of archival Jewish objects. In 2000, the State Committee for Border Defense and the State Customs Committee of Ukraine confiscated 27 articles, including Torah scrolls and unique books.</p> <p>The city of Lvov alone holds hundreds of Jewish artifacts that once belonged to local synagogues and Jewish institutions. Most Judaica was confiscated from the Jewish community during the communist era. Lvov's Museum of the History of Religion and the Museum of Ethnography and Crafts contain about 1,000 Judaica objects each. Some of the artifacts are ancient and valuable, which poses difficulties to Jewish communities currently claiming back these objects, as they would be unable to provide the needed security.</p> <p>The Kerch Jewish Museum has a collection of some 600 pieces of Judaica, including ritual objects.</p> <p>The following list of Torah scrolls located in Ukraine's cultural institutions is provided by Josef Zissels, Chairman of the General</p>
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	<p>Council, Euro-Asian Jewish Congress (this list may also be seen on the website of the VAAD of Ukraine – see above):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Belgorod-Dnestrovsky: The Belgorod-Dnestrovsky museum of local lore 272300, Odessa region, Belgorod-Dnestrovsky, 19, Pushkin Street. <i>1 Torah scroll</i> • Berdichev: A subsidiary of the State Archive of Zhitomir region 261400 Zhitomir region, Berdichev, 10, Soviet Square <i>In 1996, a total of 59 Torah scrolls were passed to the State Archive of Zhitomir region, the city of Zhitomir</i> • Gusyatin: The Gusyatin museum of local lore 283260 Ternopol region, Gusyatin, 15, Pushkin Street <i>1 fragment of a Torah scroll</i> • Dnepropetrovsk: The Dnepropetrovsk Yavornitsky Historical Museum 320600, 16, Karl Marx Street <i>1 fragment of a Torah scroll</i> • Donetsk: The Donetsk museum of local lore 340048 Donetsk, 189 a, Chelyuskinty Street <i>1 Torah scroll</i> • Zhitomir: The State Archive of Zhitomir region 262001 Zhitomir, 20, March 8 Street <i>274 Torah scrolls (including the 59 Torah scrolls passed in 1996 from the Berdichev subsidiary)</i> • Zaporozhye: The Zaporozhye museum of local lore, 330063 Zaporozhye, 29, Chekisty Street <i>1 Torah scroll</i> • Kiev: The Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Kiev, 252601 Kiev, 24, Solomenska Street <i>121 Torah scrolls, 2 scrolls of Megilat Esther (in fund 1269)</i> • Krasnograd: The Krasnograd museum of local lore, Kharkov region, 131050 Krasnograd, 55, Zhovtneva Street <i>1 Torah scroll</i> • Letychev: The Letychev museum of local lore, 281450, Khmelnytsky region, Letychev <i>1 Torah scroll, 1 scroll of Megilat Esther</i> • Lokhvitsa: The Lokhvitsa museum of local lore, 315810 Poltava region, Lokhvitsa, 48, Shevchenko Street <i>Several Torah scrolls</i> • Lutsk: The Volyn museum of local lore 263025, Lutsk, 2,
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	<p>Galan Street <i>3 Torah scrolls, 10 fragments from 3-4 Torah scrolls</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lvov: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Scientific Library of the Lvov State University Lvov, 5, Dragomanov Street <i>Several Torah scrolls</i> Museum of the History of Religion and Atheism: 290006, Lvov, 1, Stavropigiyska Street <i>More than 300 fragments of Torah scrolls</i> The State Archive of Lvov region, 290006, 13, Podvalna Street <i>Several Torah scrolls</i> The Central State Historical Archive of Ukraine in Lvov, 290008, Lvov, 3-a, Unification Square <i>Several Torah scrolls</i> • Nezhin: A subsidiary of the State Archive of Chernigov region, 251200, Nezhin, 1, Bogushevich Street <i>4 Torah scrolls, 20-30 fragments of Torah scrolls</i> • Nikolayev, The Nikolayev museum of local lore 327001, Nikolayev, 32, Dekabristov Street <i>24 Torah scrolls and fragments of the Torah</i> • Odessa: Museum of Rare Books and Manuscripts of the Gorky State Scientific Library Odessa, 13, Paster Street <i>2 Torah scrolls</i> • Ostrog: The State Historical Reserve – Museum of local lore, 265620, Rovno region, Ostrog, 5, Akademichna Street <i>50 fragments of Torah scrolls</i> • Poltava: Library of the Poltava Teachers' Institute of Korolenko, Poltava, 2, Ostrogradsky Street <i>5 Torah scrolls</i> • Rovno: The Rovno Museum of Scientific Atheism (combined with the Museum of Local Lore), 266000, Rovno, 39, Leninska Street <i>2 Torah scrolls, several fragments of Torah scrolls</i> • Romny: The Romny museum of local lore, 245900, Romny, 8, Roza Luxemburg Street <i>1 Torah scroll</i> • Simferopol: The Friendship of Nations Museum <i>1 Torah scroll</i>
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- Uzhgorod: Museum of History of Religion and Atheism, 294000, Uzhgorod, 23, Moscow Embankment
4 Torah scrolls
- Kharkov:
 - The State Scientific Library of Korolenko, Kharkov, 18, Korolenko Street
8 Torah scrolls
 - Kharkov Historical Museum
1 Torah scroll
 - The State Archive of Kharkov region, 310003, Kharkov, 7, Moscow Prospect
34 Torah scrolls (some of them have been passed to the Jewish community)
- Khmel'nitsky: The Khmel'nitsky museum of local lore, 280000, Khmel'nitsky, 16, Gagarin Street
Several Torah scrolls
- Chernovtsy: The Chernovtsy museum of local lore, 252001, Chernovtsy, Kobyl'yanska Street
More than 300 Torah scrolls and fragments
- Chernigov: The State Archive of Chernigov region, 250006, Chernigov, 2, Frunze Street
8 Torah scrolls (at the "Chernigov Jewish Synagogue" fund)

A list only of Torahs (i.e. not including fragments and Megilat Esther scrolls), compiled by the State Archives of Ukraine indicates that in 2008 a total of 679 Torahs were held in Ukrainian archives, 105 Torahs were held in museums (under Ministry of Culture), and one (1) Torah was held by a library (under Ministry of Culture).

On October 24, 2007, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko signed a presidential order to return an estimated 700 Torah scrolls confiscated from Jewish communities during the Soviet Union's communist rule. Partly in response to this, the various Jewish religious communities of Ukraine formed a Coordinating Board to handle the return of Torahs (Mark Anopolsky, Supervisor). In March 2009, the State Committee on Archives of Ukraine returned over three hundred Torah scrolls, of which 221 that were damaged were buried in accordance with Jewish law in the Zhytomir Jewish cemetery in July 2009. The Claims Conference/WJRO has been working with the Coordinating Board and the State Committee on Archives to encourage the international registration of all Torah scrolls and fragments in Ukraine so as to prevent any further possible theft or illegal smuggling and to ensure further orderly restitution.

In addition to museums and archives, libraries are also in possession of looted Judaica. For example, the National Vernadsky Library of Ukraine holds about 150,000 Jewish books. The nature of the collection is unique, particularly given that there are books from every printing shop of the Jewish Diaspora of the 16th and 20th century, in addition to a vast collection of Yiddish books, which according to Zissels is “*unparalleled in the libraries of the world*”. Moreover, the National Vernadsky Library also holds an extensive collection of notebooks (protocols) of the Jewish Community of Ukraine, 98 in total. The National Library also holds about 20 decorative manuscripts and pinkasim created at the end of the 18th century and the beginning of the 20th century. Most of these books are stored in vastly inadequate conditions, with some of the books not even being registered. In addition, some of the more valuable items are often exported outside of Ukraine. At the same time, Library officials are refusing to return these collections to the Jewish Community, arguing that Jewish communities cannot provide adequate storage conditions.

Within Ukraine, the State is responsible for these cultural properties, as they are considered “state property.” Inquiries need to be directed to the State Service for State Control for the Removal of Cultural Valuable over the State Boundary, situated at the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

B. Archives

6) Source:

Project Judaica; <http://www.jtsa.edu/x537.xml>, last accessed on 3 September 2008.

In 1996, Project Judaica published *Jewish Documentary Sources in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus: A Preliminary List* (in English), edited by Dorit Sallis and Marek Web (JTS). This edition was based on ongoing cooperation between the Archives of Ukraine (<http://www.archives.gov.ua/Eng/>) and Project Judaica.

In 2006, Project Judaica published *Jewish Documentary Sources in Kiev Archives: A Guide*. The volume describes more than 1,000 archival collections on Jewish history and culture found in twenty-two repositories in Kiev.

7) Source:

Mayorek, Yoram. “The Fate of Jewish Archives During and After the Holocaust”. *Preserving Jewish Archives as Part of the European Cultural Heritage: Proceedings of the Conference on Judaica Archives in Europe for Archivists and Librarians*. Kuperminc, Jean-Claude. Arditti, Rafaële (ed.). Potsdam, 1999, 11-13 July, Paris: Éditions du

	<p>Nadir de l'Alliance israélite universelle, 2001, pp 33-38.</p> <p>While most of the Jewish archival holdings in Poland were destroyed during World War II, the archives of Lvov (L'viv, now Ukraine) – then one of the major centers of Jewish learning – survived. Today, part of the archive may be found in Lvov's local State Archive, where there are “no less than thirty record groups of Jewish origin, including the vast archives of the Lvov Jewish community, the Zionist Federation of East Galicia and smaller archives of Jewish educational, charitable, medical, political and social organizations.”</p>
<i>Information taken from other sources</i>	
Historical Commission	No
Notes	
Selected Bibliography	<p>→ Please note that the general literature may also contain information on the specific country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Elyashevich, D.A. <i>Documentary Sources on Jewish History in the Archives of the CIS and the Baltic States</i>. St. Petersburg, 1994 (in Russian). ▪ Kennedy, Patricia Grimsted. “The Fate of Ukrainian Cultural Treasures During World War II: The Plunder of Archives, Libraries and Museums Under the Third Reich”. <i>Jahrbücher für Geschichte Osteuropas</i> Band 39 (1991), Heft 1. ▪ Matveyev, Vladimir. “Trying to Invigorate Community, Jews in Lvov Seek Return of Artifacts”. <i>JTA</i> December 27, 2006. ▪ Matveyev, Vladimir. “Ukrainian Jewish Community Uses Remnants to Portray Past”. <i>JTA</i> October 5, 2006. ▪ Mayorek, Yoram. “The Fate of Jewish Archives During and After the Holocaust”. <i>Preserving Jewish Archives as Part of the European Cultural Heritage: Proceedings of the Conference on Judaica Archives in Europe for Archivists and Librarians</i>. Kuperminc, Jean-Claude. Arditti, Rafaële (ed.). Potsdam, 1999, 11-13 July, Paris: Éditions du Nadir de l'Alliance israélite universelle, 2001, pp 33-38. ▪ Melamed, Efim. Kupovetsky, Mark (ed.). <i>Jewish Documentary Sources in Kiev Archives: A Guide</i> (in Russian), Kiev: Dukh i litera, 2006. ▪ Sallis, M. Web, M. <i>Jewish Documentary Sources in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus</i>. New York, 1996. ▪ Zissels, Josef. “To the Question of Jewish Property in Ukraine,” paper provided by Josef Zissels to the Claims Conference on 21 February 2007.
List of Experts	<p>→ The general contact list of experts in the field may be relevant for the specific country.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Leonid Finberg, Director, Institute for Judaica in Kiev, Institute of Jewish Studies ▪ Josef Zissels, Chairman, Vaad – Association of Jewish Organizations and Communities of Ukraine ▪ Meylakh Sheykhnet, Head, L'vivs Jewish Community ▪ Serhii Kot, Director, Olzhych Foundation

	▪ Anatoly Podolsky, Director, Center for Holocaust Studies
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