

Country Name: **UKRAINE**

Looted Judaica and Judaica with Provenance Gaps in Country		Yes
Existing Projects	<p><u>Source:</u> (1) Petryakova Center for Judaica and Jewish Art (http://www.jewishheritage.org.ua/, last accessed on 11 March 2014.)</p> <p>The <i>Petryakova Center for Judaica and Jewish Art</i>, based in Lviv, was founded in March 2005. The Center's aim is the preservation of Jewish heritage, in addition to honoring the life and collection of Faina Petryakova, a distinguished professor at the Lviv Academy of Arts.</p> <p>Among the centers main goals is the scientific foundation for the preservation of Jewish cultural heritage and the creation of a common database of Jewish archival material in Ukrainian archives (among them prayer books, etc.). All projects are outlined in an online overview entitled "Preservation of Jewish Cultural Heritage in Ukraine. Project Proposals" (please see: http://www.ucsj.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/12/Presentation-of-the-unique-work-for-the-Preservation-the-Jewish-Heritage-in-Ukraine.pdf) The outline notes that "Jewish heritage in Ukraine is thinly dispersed among multiple institutions and so far has not been closely surveyed and identified. (...) During the Soviet period, Jewish archival material was considered to be of little value and thus was not properly researched, annotated, and categorized." The program is made possible by the Rothschild Foundation (Hanadiv) Europe.</p> <p><u>Source:</u> (2) Claims Conference internal communications</p> <p>Representatives of the V.I. Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine, the National Library of Israel, Archival Information Systems, the Rothschild Foundation (Hanadiv) Europe, and the Claims Conference met in June 2013 and agreed on cooperation regarding the history of the Judaica collection of the Vernadsky Library, further cataloging of books and manuscripts, exchange of scans of pinkasim and of manuscripts, scanning of Jewish press as well as formulars, and related activities.</p>	
Overview	Looted Cultural Property Databases	<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/. 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</p>

		<p>objects held by the museum originated from the Mendel Moier 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> <p><u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) http://err.tsdavo.gov.ua/, last accessed October 2015. (2) Grimsted, Patricia Kennedy. "Progress in Identification and Restitution of Nazi Cultural Loot?: Access to Archives East and West." „<i>The West Versus „The East“ or the United Europe?</i> The different conceptions of provenance research, documentation and indemnification of looted cultural assets and the possibilities of international cooperation in Europe and worldwide. Borak, Mecislav. Proceedings of an international academic conference held in Podebrady on 8-9 October 2013. Documentation Centre for Property Transfers of Cultural Assets of WWII Victims, Prague 2014, p. 120-143. <p>As part of the Claims Conference’s “ERR project” (Einsatzstab Reichsleiter Rosenberg), Ukraine’s Central State Archive made available ERR wartime reports and related documentation over the internet (An English translation of the website is currently being prepared.)</p>
	<p>Publications</p>	<p>A. Torahs and Religious Books and Manuscripts</p> <p><u>Sources:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (1) 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 June 2014) (2) Matveyev, Vladimir. “Trying to Invigorate Community, Jews in Lvov Seek Return of Artifacts”. <i>JTA</i> December 27, 2006. (3) Matveyev, Vladimir. “Ukrainian Jewish Community Uses Remnants to Portray Past”. <i>JTA</i> October 5, 2006. (4) Email correspondence with Serhii Kot, Director, Olzhych Foundation on 8 October 2007. (5) List compiled by the State Committee on Archives of Ukraine (Derzhkomarkhiv). (6) http://www.gpg.org/grants/fsu/judaica-collection-at-the-vernadsky-national-library-of-ukraine.html, last accessed on 11 March 2014. <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</p>

		<p>confiscated 27 articles, including Torah scrolls and unique books.</p> <p>The city of Lviv 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. Lviv'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 Council, Euro-Asian Jewish Congress (this list may also be seen on the website of the VAAD of Ukraine – see above):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <u>I.</u> Belgorod-Dnestrovsky: The Belgorod-Dnestrovsky museum of local lore 272300, Odessa region, Belgorod-Dnestrovsky, 19, Pushkin Street. <i>1 Torah scroll</i> <u>II.</u> 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> <u>III.</u> Gusyatin: The Gusyatin museum of local lore 283260 Ternopol region, Gusyatin, 15, Pushkin Street <i>1 fragment of a Torah scroll</i> <u>IV.</u> Dnepropetrovsk: The Dnepropetrovsk Yavornitsky Historical Museum 320600, 16, Karl Marx Street <i>1 fragment of a Torah scroll</i> <u>V.</u> Donetsk: The Donetsk museum of local lore 340048 Donetsk, 189 a, Chelyuskinty Street <i>1 Torah scroll</i> <u>VI.</u> 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> <u>VII.</u> Zaporozhye: The Zaporozhye museum of local lore, 330063 Zaporozhye, 29, Chekisty Street <i>1 Torah scroll</i> <u>VIII.</u> 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> <u>IX.</u> Krasnograd: The Krasnograd museum of local lore, Kharkov region, 131050 Krasnograd, 55, Zhovtneva Street <i>1 Torah scroll</i> <u>X.</u> Letychev: The Letychev museum of local lore, 281450, Khmelnytsky region, Letychev <i>1 Torah scroll, 1 scroll of Megilat Esther</i>
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		<p><i>Museums in Lviv</i></p> <p>Source:</p> <p>(1) Cieślińska-Lobkowicz, Nawojka. "The History of Judaica Collections in Poland Before, During and After the Second World War: An Overview". <i>Neglected Witnesses. The Fate of Ceremonial Objects During the Second World War and After</i>. Heimann-Jelinek, Felicitas. Cohen, Julie-Marthe (ed.) Bultth Wells: Institute of Art And Law, 2011.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lviv Jewish Museum: The Lvov Jewish Museum was originally established through the KMSZ (The Jewish Art Lovers Society) and by the organization Curators of Historical Jewish Art. The collection consisted mainly of objects amassed by the KMSZ, consisting mostly of antique silver, ceremonial textiles and products of the Jewish decoration arts industry. • The Museum for Industrial Art: The Lviv based museum holds on permanent loan objects from the local Jewish community as well as from Maksymilian Goldstein, who perished in the Holocaust.
	Information from Other Sources	<p>Source:</p> <p>(1) Grimsted, Patricia Kennedy. "Progress in Identification and Restitution of Nazi Cultural Loot?: Access to Archives East and West." „<i>The West“ Versus „The East“ or the United Europe?</i> The different conceptions of provenance research, documentation and indemnification of looted cultural assets and the possibilities of international cooperation in Europe and worldwide. Borak, Mécislav. Proceedings of an international academic conference held in Pödebrady on 8-9 October 2013. Documentation Centre for Property Transfers of Cultural Assets of WWII Victims, Prague 2014, p. 120-143.</p> <p>(2) Khot, Serhii, „Return and Restitution of Lost Cultural Valuables: the Ukrainian Experience.“ „<i>The West“ Versus „The East“ or the United Europe?</i> The different conceptions of provenance research, documentation and indemnification of looted cultural assets and the possibilities of international cooperation in Europe and worldwide. Borak, Mécislav. Proceedings of an international academic conference held in Pödebrady on 8-9 October 2013. Documentation Centre for Property Transfers of Cultural Assets of WWII Victims, Prague 2014, p. 144-147</p> <p>It should be noted that two thirds of the enemy cultural seizures were from Ukraine. Incomplete data showed Ukraine suffering heavy losses, with 51million books and 46 million archive dossiers taken.</p>
	Historical Commission	
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. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Grimsted, Patricia Kennedy. "Nazi-Looted Art from East and West in East Prussia: Initial Findings on the Erich Koch Collection." <i>International Journal of Cultural Property</i> (2015) 22: 7– 60, 2015. ▪ Grimsted, Patricia Kennedy. "Progress in Identification and Restitution of Nazi Cultural Loot?: Access to Archives East and West." „<i>The West“ Versus „The East“ or the United Europe?</i> The different conceptions of provenance research, documentation and indemnification of looted cultural assets and the possibilities of international cooperation in Europe and worldwide. Borak, Mecislav. Proceedings of an international academic conference held in Podebrady on 8-9 October 2013. Documentation Centre for Property Transfers of Cultural Assets of WWII Victims, Prague 2014, p. 120-143. ▪ 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.
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