



# UREHERIT

ARCHITECTS FOR  
HERITAGE IN UKRAINE.  
RECREATING IDENTITY  
AND MEMORY

## **Rebuilding Ukraine's Cultural Heritage: Addressing Destruction and Charting a Path to Recovery**

The Ureherit Project CPD Ukraine, in its recent report, D3.1 "Human Resource Needs for Sustainable Rebuilding with Heritage" presents a comprehensive perspective on heritage as an integral component of Ukraine's democratic reconstruction towards a sustainable future. Embracing participatory approaches to planning, design, and heritage recovery, the project envisions the revitalization of Ukraine's cultural landscape as a cornerstone of a blossoming European identity.

Amidst the ongoing destruction inflicted upon Ukraine's heritage by Russia over the past two years, coupled with the pre-existing deterioration of historic structures, urgent attention is directed towards both safeguarding cultural assets and recognizing heritage as a catalyst for community rebuilding and recovery. Shockingly, recent estimates by the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine reveal that 18% of the nation's cultural inventory, totaling 1750 objects, has suffered damage, with the Donetsk region bearing an unprecedented 83% devastation. Among these approximately 800 heritage sites of local, regional, national, and even international significance, including UNESCO World Heritage sites, underscoring the scale of this cultural tragedy.

The immediate aftermath of this destruction necessitates a multifaceted response, ranging from structural assessments and preservation efforts to long-term capacity-building initiatives. The report underscores the exigency for resources encompassing human capital, financial investment, theoretical frameworks, methodological tools, technical expertise, and construction materials. Special emphasis is placed on the educational and professional development needs required to address these challenges comprehensively.

In response to the exigencies outlined, the report advocates for tailored educational curricula at both undergraduate and postgraduate levels, targeting disciplines such as architecture, urban planning, heritage documentation, and sustainable construction practices. Furthermore, it calls for the establishment of specialized training programs aimed at cultivating expertise in heritage conservation, damage assessment methodologies, and inclusive planning strategies. These initiatives are envisioned as collaborative endeavors, integrating insights from European best practices while nurturing local talent and knowledge-sharing platforms.

Central to this paradigm shift is the establishment of advanced master's programs that integrate principles of sustainability, democracy, and cultural heritage preservation within architectural and

urban planning frameworks. Concurrently, a focus on continuing professional development programs seeks to augment the pool of skilled practitioners equipped to navigate the complex challenges of post-conflict reconstruction.

To facilitate these transformative efforts, the report advocates for legislative reforms aimed at elevating the standards of architectural services in Ukraine, thereby incentivizing excellence and ensuring adherence to best practices in planning, sustainability, and heritage conservation.

In essence, the Ureherit project's vision for rebuilding Ukraine's cultural heritage transcends mere physical restoration, striving instead to foster a resilient society grounded in its rich culture, while embracing the imperatives of sustainability and inclusivity. Through concerted action and strategic investments in education, training, and policy reform, Ukraine stands poised to emerge from adversity with its cultural heritage restored and its communities revitalized. To further engage with these transformative ideas and initiatives, mark your calendars for the upcoming **second public conference "Reconstructing the Culture of Architecture in Ukraine"** scheduled for **May 14th, 2024**, in **Stockholm, Sweden** (Academy of Art on Fredsgatan 12). This event, organized by the UREHERIT project consortium, will showcase the progress of CPD courses and host a high-level round table discussion with key stakeholders, including representatives from the Ukrainian government and international architectural and heritage protection organizations.

Participation in the conference is accessible to all, but registration is needed. Please register by clicking [here](#).

[The program of the conference.](#)

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