

Report on the state of conservation of the World Heritage Site

«L'viv – the Ensemble of the Historic Centre (Ukraine)» (C 865 bis)

I. Executive summary of the report

The State of Ukraine, in the conditions of martial law and armed aggression of the Russian Federation, creates appropriate conditions for the preservation of the UNESCO World Heritage Site "L'viv – the Ensemble of the Historic Centre" (here in after referred to as the "Site"), provides, to the extent possible under martial law, regulatory, organisational and methodological support for the management of the Site and takes all necessary measures to preserve the uniqueness, integrity and authenticity of the Site.

The Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine continuously monitors the state of conservation of the Site through coordination of activities of local cultural heritage protection authorities and volunteer organisations. In the city of Lviv, the Department of Historic Environment Protection of the Lviv City Council carries out constant monitoring and informing of the MCIP. Periodic monitoring on behalf of the MCIP is carried out by the Cultural Heritage Protection Division of the Department of Architecture and Urban Development of the Lviv Regional Military Administration. Also, by its Order No. 35 of 22.02.2024, the MCIP approved the scientific and design documentation "Historical and Architectural Reference Plan of Lviv. Lviv", which defines the boundaries and modes of use of the monument protection zones of Lviv and the territory of its historical area, establishes requirements for works and restrictions in the central part of the city - on the territory of the Site and its Buffer Zone.

The overall state of conservation of the World Heritage property "L'viv – the Ensemble of the Historic Centre" is satisfactory.

However, there are currently factors that could lead to the loss of its outstanding universal value and its inclusion on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

The first factor is the constant threat of attacks by drones and missiles from the Russian Federation's military forces. This threat is confirmed by the damage and destruction of monuments within the buffer zone of the property on 6 July 2023, as well as within the administrative territory of the Lviv community on 1 January 2024. The installed protective equipment only protects the monuments from light impacts and blast waves, but not from direct hits from missile attacks.

The second factor is the potential threat of deterioration of the property due to the suspension of large-scale restoration projects on the property due to martial law and lack of funds, as well as the loss of specialists. Most of the major planned restoration works on cultural heritage sites in the centre of Lviv were suspended due to the hostilities. Only a few projects have been implemented because they have been started before the large-scale military aggression of the Russian Federation.

It is planned to continue restoring buildings in the Buffer Zone that were damaged by a Russian missile attack in July 2023. The city council also plans to implement co-financing programmes for restoration projects that require support from international funds.

The third factor is a potential threat to the universal values of the Site through the implementation of new construction projects on the Site and in the Buffer Zone. Through its monitoring, the MCIP has

stopped several large-scale construction projects in the Buffer Zone and on the Site, which could potentially affect the universal values of the Site.

The State of Ukraine, together with all stakeholders, is requesting the World Heritage Centre to hold a series of expert meetings to provide advice on the preparation of a Management Plan for the property, which will also include a detailed emergency preparedness and risk mitigation plan for military aggression.