

**State of Conservation Report of the UNESCO World Heritage Site  
«Kyiv: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kyiv-  
Pechersk Lavra» (Ukraine) (C 527 ter)**

**1. Executive Summary of the report**

Ukraine has created the appropriate conditions for the preservation of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, providing proper regulatory, organizational and methodological support for the management of the World Heritage Sites and taking all necessary measures to preserve their uniqueness, integrity and authenticity.

At the same time, the Ministry of Culture and Strategic Communications of Ukraine constantly monitors the state of preservation of the World Heritage Site “Kyiv: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra”.

The overall state of conservation of the World Heritage Site “Kyiv: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra” (hereinafter referred to as the Site / Property) is satisfactory.

Due to the Russian invasion and the introduction of martial law in Ukraine, there is a danger of destruction or damage not only to the components of the site but also to the entire cultural heritage located in Ukraine.

Since the first days of full-scale Russian aggression, air attacks have threatened numerous historical monuments in Kyiv, including the World Heritage Site “Kyiv: Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings, Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra”.

Currently, the Property faces not only the threat of direct hits from Russian missiles and drones but also the impact of shock and sound waves from the bombing of the city. Vibration loads can cause a deterioration in the load-bearing capacity of the Property’s structures and pose a significant threat to the detachment of mosaics and ancient plaster decorated with frescoes.

With the support of UNESCO and its advisory bodies, Ukraine continues to take all possible measures to protect its cultural and natural heritage threatened by the war in accordance with the provisions of the World Heritage Convention and the Operational Guidelines. Work continues on the preparation of the Site Management Plan in difficult conditions. Work is underway to improve risk preparedness measures at the site. A series of workshops was held with the support of UNESCO/ICCROM in December 2024 – January 2025: Risk Mitigation, Emergency Preparedness and Response. From July 29 to August 7, 2024, a UNESCO/ICOMOS mission was conducted to document and develop an Emergency Preparedness Plan for the component «Saint-Sophia Cathedral and Related Monastic Buildings». Other measures were aimed at strengthening the institutional capacity of the Site’s specialists to preserve its outstanding cultural value and protect and preserve cultural heritage in the face of the existing threats of a full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine.