

## Regional features of building museum exhibits on history of the modern Russo-Ukrainian War

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### ABSTRACT

Various aspects of constructing stationary and mobile museum expositions of Ukraine in different regions of the country are analyzed, with the purpose of creating permanent exhibitions on the history of the modern Russo-Ukrainian War. The positive experience in organizing the preservation and popularization of the Russo-Ukrainian War monuments in the capital and regional museums of Ukraine is summarized, as well as the processes of their exposition and exhibition activity transformation at the current stage are studied. It is noted that the significance of constructing expositions on the modern history of Ukraine and the exhibition activities of national museums increased in connection with the Russia-Ukraine war of 2014 - 2023, when exposition materials became not only a means of forming historical memory, but also a source of patriotism and loyalty to national priorities, an important factor in formation of the Ukrainian nation. Individual exhibitions are studied in the "National Museum on the History of Ukraine in the Second World War", "Memorial Complex", "National Museum of the History of Ukraine", "National Military Historical Museum", regional local history museums, museums of higher military educational institutions, garrison museums. The study emphasizes the relevance of creating virtual means of presenting the historical past and present. The opening of virtual exhibitions and expositions in Ukraine is promising, as it connects a large audience both in our country and abroad with the exhibition material and unique funds. Foreign presentations have become an important field in modern expositions presentations. This applies both to the work of individual museums and individual foundations, European and global press centers, individual foundations, etc. A conclusion is made about the accumulated rich experience of the museums of Ukraine in all spheres of activity and, primarily, the active use of museum collections in the national and patriotic education of our country's youth.

### KEYWORDS

*Russo-Ukrainian War, museums of Ukraine, exposition work, stationary exhibitions, virtual museum exhibitions, national-patriotic education, historical memory*

### Introduction

The modern Russo-Ukrainian war actualized the need of studying the lessons of world and national history, various aspects of forming healthy (non-traumatic) historical memory, the problems of preserving and popularizing museum collections of the past, and the formation of a new museum narrative. A consolidated and objective view of the past is the basis for uniting the people, for crystallizing its national identity. Museums, which are a kind of collective memory's material reflection, as well as communicators of society's memory narrative, act as instruments of memory politics.

The purpose of the article is to study and analyze expositions and exhibitions in regional museums of Ukraine, which are dedicated to the events of the modern Russia-Ukraine war (2014-2022). The regional museum is a center of documentation in the area where it is located.

Implementation of the task of scientific documentation of the area is particularly relevant in the conditions of globalization, which blurs the features of ethnic groups, regions.

The problems of regional museology, to some extent, were studied by foreign scientists. In both theoretical and practical aspects, foreign researchers have accumulated certain positive experience in covering the history of regions. Important general theoretical approaches to the activities of modern museums, in particular military ones, are analyzed in a thorough monograph edited by the famous British museologist Sharon McDonald (2006). The book, among other things, outlines the methodology of using digital technologies, which expand the opportunities for visitors to get to know museums, being outside their boundaries. The experience of the Royal Military Museum in Brussels and the Museum of the Armed Forces of Spain in Madrid is cited as an example of a successful violating



the orthodox norms of museum exhibitions in order to increase interest in visiting them, especially among children and young people. Information on the peculiarities of presenting war-related collections can be gleaned from the publications of foreign specialized museums, for example, the Bulgarian National Museum of Military History (experience of organizing open-air exhibitions) (*Natsionalen voennoistoricheski muzei*, 2006). The monograph "Museum Informatics: People, Information and Technologies in Museums" (2008) is devoted to the issue of using information technologies in the creation of modern museum exhibits. An in-depth study by the Australian specialist T. Roppola in the field of exhibition and exposition museum design is devoted to understanding how visitors interact with the multifaceted communication environment, which is modern exhibition spaces, and offers a scientifically based conceptual basis for understanding this process (*Roppola*, 2012). Strategies for the formation of modern expositions can be used in everyday museum practice, including when depicting the modern Russia-Ukraine war.

Numerous scientific articles by foreign researchers are also devoted to the peculiarities of representing modern interstate conflicts in the world's military museums. Among the most interesting authors, it is worth highlighting James Scott, who, using the example of the conflict representation in Northern Ireland, singles out three approaches ("celebratory", "sanitary" and "realistic") to exhibiting objects in the regimental museums of Northern Ireland (*Scott*, 2015). Polish researcher Dominika Czarnańska analyzes modern strategies of representation and (re)interpretation of the past, which are implemented through military museum exhibitions (permanent and temporary) and the narratives that develop around them, she tries to answer questions about the actual purposes of military museums' activity (*Czarnańska*, 2019).

Also of great importance are the publications of contemporary online research projects such as the EU-funded UNREST (Unsettling Remembering and Social Cohesion in Transnational Europe), which advocates a consensual approach to traumatic memory stretching from the abyss of world wars and the Holocaust to post-war peace and prosperity, as well as the introduction of innovative memory practices. The project actively studies and develops possible practices of war museums as institutions, which are the central elements of a purposeful and self-reflexive construction of European (and therefore Ukrainian) identity (*Unrest*, 2023).

The War Childhood Museum Project in Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina) covers the experience of children in contemporary conflicts, post-conflict and resettlement zones around the world. Thanks to branches in Serbia, Lebanon, Ukraine and the United States of America, the museum has become an international platform that documents people's stories of wartime childhood and organizes interactive exhibitions to present their experiences. The museum collects materials about children affected by the war in Ukraine, the temporary occupation of Crimea and forced internal displacement, organizes temporary exhibitions in various regions of Ukraine (*War Childhood Museum*).

Military museums of our country are the leaders in matters of exposing coverage of the modern war in Ukraine. In different periods of time, the problem of military museums of Ukraine functioning was considered in their studies by V. Mashtalir (2015), V. Karpov (2017), L. Minenko (2021), L. Tarasenko (2018) and others. In a special thematic issue of the "Military Historical Bulletin" (volume 35 (4) of 2020), dedicated to the military muse-

ums of Ukraine, the exposition of the National Military Historical Museum of Ukraine, dedicated to the modern Russian-Ukrainian war, is highlighted.

A number of researchers analyze the history of creating museums of higher military educational institutions, in particular S. Sehedra and A. Andriyak (2020) - the collection of Ivan Chernyakhovsky National Defense University in Kyiv, Y. Burakov (2020) - Hetman Petro Sagaidachnyi National Academy of Ground Forces in Lviv, O. Chechyn (2020) - Kharkiv Ivan Kozhedub National University of the Air Forces of Ukraine and others. A contribution to the problem's study is the publication of Y. Burakov, L. Pytlova, and S. Terskyi (2022) about the activities of military museums of Ukraine at the current stage in the magazine "Museologica Brunensia".

### Methods

Museological regionalism, like historical regionalism, is an interdisciplinary scientific field that studies social and communicative processes in the territorial plane, within the boundaries of historically formed regions. F. Weidacher defines museology as a person's attitude to reality, in which he, in agreement with his society, discovers and evaluates which parts of the surrounding world are capable of being evidence of this society and thus deserve to be preserved and systematized as the bearers of this attitude, to explore them, demonstrate and transmit them and knowledge about them from generation to generation (*Vaidakher*, 2005: 563).

It is known that a museum object as a historical source differs from an archival source. In addition to the museum object's ability to characterize the history and culture of a certain society, it acts as a source of knowledge and emotional impact, as a means of upbringing and education. A typical archival document can turn into a full-fledged museum source, a real museum item, provided it is thoroughly researched, professionally used, and competently guided by methods.

The source base of the research be founded on the study of the work and peculiarities of forming expositions in the military museums of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, as well as regional museums of the system of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine. In particular, the experience of building permanent expositions and stationary exhibitions dedicated to the events of the modern Russian-Ukrainian war in the "National Museum of the History of Ukraine in the Second World War" was studied. As well as "Memorial Complex", "National Museum of the History of Ukraine", "National Military Historical Museum", regional local history museums, museums of higher military educational institutions, garrison museums.

### Results and Discussion

The significance of constructing expositions on the modern history of Ukraine and the exhibition activities of national museums increased in connection with the Russia-Ukraine war of 2014 - 2023, when exposition materials became not only a means of forming historical memory, but also a source of patriotism and devotion to national priorities, an important factor in the formation of the Ukrainian nation.

Determining trends in the development of museology are related to the work of central institutions for the preservation of cultural heritage and national memory, which are concentrated in the capital region. These include "National Museum of the History of Ukraine", "National Museum of the History of Ukraine in the Second World War", "Memorial Complex", National Military Histor-

ical Museum, Central Museum of Border Troops of Ukraine, etc. Materials about the Russian-Ukrainian war began to be concentrated in the museums of Ukraine since 2014, since the beginning of the war, and the process continues until now. In particular, this concerns the foundation and exhibition activities of the National Museum of the History of Ukraine in the Second World War. Memorial complex", where in 2022 a large stationary exhibition about the Russia-Ukraine war called "Ukraine. Crucifixion"<sup>1</sup>. This is the first stationary exhibition in Ukraine and the first in the world exposition about the modern Russo-Ukrainian War.

It presents 1,776 authentic exhibits collected by a team of scientists "on hot scents" - from April 3 to May 6, 2022 - at the sites of fierce battles and in the newly liberated settlements of Kyiv region and Chernihiv region. Its area is about 900 square meters. The unique exposition was created under the leadership of Yuri Savchuk, general director of the National Museum of the History of Ukraine in the Second World War. Memorial complex" and the artist Anton Logov. At the exhibition, artifacts of Russian aggression against Ukraine, trophies of our Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU), samples of shelters where Ukrainians are hiding from Russian shelling today, and terrible footage of the war are first widely presented. One of the main exhibits of the exhibition is the wounded icon "Removal from the Cross", in which a fragment of a Russian mine was stuck. The image was delivered from the church of St. Dmitry of Rostov, mutilated by the enemy, in the village of Makariv in the Kyiv region. The exposition of the exhibition presents unique artifacts of a full-scale confrontation with the aggressor. Among the exhibits there is a map with markings of plans for the capture of Kyiv by Russian sabotage groups, photos of enemy weapons depots intended for the destruction of Ukraine, etc.<sup>2</sup>.

To the Independence Day of Ukraine in 2022 "Memorial complex. The National Museum of the History of Ukraine in the Second World War" presented the exhibition project "Motherland. Redefining". The central theme was the rethinking of the "Motherland-Mother" sculpture perception by the Kyiv public during the Russo-Ukrainian War. The museum project actually continued the discussion about national monuments and their new reading in the conditions of Russian aggression.

During the discussion about the monument, the Minister of Culture and Information Policy Oleksandr Tkachenko noted: "Almost 800,000 people voted to remove the coat of arms of the Soviet Union and place the Ukrainian Trident on the shield of the Motherland. This indicates a completely different perception of the monument in the minds of Ukrainians than it actually is"<sup>3</sup>. The importance of this statement lies in the context of decommunization and the revision of expositions dedicated to the Second World War. In most regional museum institutions, the concept of the Soviet historiographical approach to covering the exposition of the war is still present. The formation of fund groups and expositions about the Russo-Ukrainian War is primarily connected with the cities that suffered the most from Russian ag-

gression in the East, and with the cities of the central part of our country. Thus, local history institutions of Poltava, Chernihiv, Vinnytsia, etc. are noted for their original exhibits.

In particular, a stationary exhibition devoted to the Russo-Ukrainian war - "Life will defeat death" - has started working in the territory of the Poltava Vasyl Krychevsky Museum of Local History. The exhibits were handed over to the museum by servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine and local volunteers. The exhibition turned out to be quite original, because it was not placed in the museum itself, but nearby - in a military tent. Anti-tank hedgehogs are placed around the tent, which were once made to protect Poltava from rashists.

The exhibition exposition consists of different blocks that are connected to each other: there is a corner where military field life is reproduced, next to it army tactical equipment and uniforms are presented, the remains of enemy missiles' fragments shot down in the sky over the Poltava Region. A separate place in the exposition are occupied by elements of used weapons, samples of foreign humanitarian aid and things made by local volunteer units for the needs of the military<sup>4</sup>.

Similar work on the collection of materials about the Russian-Ukrainian war and their presentation at exhibitions was carried out by local historians of Chernihiv. The city survived a weeks-long blockade, was surrounded by the enemy on all sides, but held out. It is clear that these events should forever remain in the historical memory. Museum expositions began to be created even before the full-scale invasion of the Rashists. The exposition about the military events of 2022 began to be formed in the summer of the same year. Interestingly, enthusiasts found artifacts right in the middle of the street.

Chernihiv tour guides Lesya Fedorenko and Oleg Gerasymenko, director of the Chernihiv Vasyl Tarnovsky Historical Regional Museum Serhii Laevskiy were involved in the collection of exhibits and the creation of exhibitions<sup>5</sup>.

The concept of not only exhibitions, but also the Chernihiv Museum and the modern war museum in general was formed. It was to become an open-air museum. "Perhaps it could be an open-air museum, where, for example, there would be destroyed equipment, some debris and explanations next to each exhibit. It is possible that this museum would have some indoor pavilions, but definitely some multimedia ones, so that they could show footage and documentary shootings, and those people who were there during the blockade in Chernihiv" - noted Lesya Fedorenko<sup>6</sup>.

The authors of the Chernihiv project argued that in the construction of the exposition it is not necessary to follow Soviet examples, when "people walk and read explanations", museum expositions should be focused not only on this war, but should draw a parallel from Cossack times to the present. Historical parallels in this case are not only possible, but absolutely necessary.

Throughout 2022, the Chernihiv Vasyl Tarnovsky Historical Regional Museum collected and described exhibits relat-

<sup>1</sup> Vystavka. «Ukraina. Rozpiattia». [https://warmuseum.kyiv.ua/\\_ua/expositions/current\\_exhibitions/](https://warmuseum.kyiv.ua/_ua/expositions/current_exhibitions/).

War Childhood Museum // <https://warchildhood.org/ua/>

<sup>2</sup> U Kyievi vidkryly vystavku pro rosiisko-ukrainsku viinu. Militarnyi. URL: <https://mil.in.ua/uk/news/u-kyievi-vidkryly-vystavku-pro-ukrayinsko-rosijsku-vijnu/>

<sup>3</sup> *Ukrinform*. <https://www.ukrinform.ua/rubric-kyiv/3554687-muzej-vijni-prezentuvav-novu-kreativnu-vistavku-batkivsinamati-pereoznacenna.html>

<sup>4</sup> Zhyttia peremozhe smert: u Poltavi vidkryly vystavku, prysviachenu rosiisko-ukrainskii viini. *Armiainform*. <https://armyinform.com.ua/2022/08/21/zhyttia-peremozhe-smert-u-poltavi-vidkryly-vystavku-prysvyachenu-rosijsko-ukrayinskij-vijni/>.

<sup>5</sup> U Chernihovi planuiut stvority muzei rosiisko-ukrainskoi viiny. *Suspilne. Novyny*. <https://suspilne.media/80508-u-cernigovi-planuut-stvoriti-muzej-rosijsko-ukrainskoi-vijni/>. (In Ukraine)

<sup>6</sup> Ibid.

ed to the invasion of Russian troops, and later proceeded to the preparation of the exhibition "RASHIZM=FASHIZM". About 200 items were presented at the open exhibition, namely: fragments of weapons, military equipment and uniforms of the occupiers, photographs, paintings by local artists from the collection of the Chernihiv Vasyl Tarnovskiy Historical Museum, Chernihiv Hryhoriy Galagan Art Museum, private collections and archives.

Exhibition activity about the Russo-Ukrainian War in the central city of Right Bank Ukraine - Vinnytsia was updated in the summer of 2022. For the Day of Defenders of Ukraine, a separate unit "Museum of Courageous" of the Vinnytsia Regional Museum of Local History was created. On October 13, 2022, an exhibition commemorating Vinnytsia residents who died during the latest Russian-Ukrainian war was opened in its halls (*At the time of the museum exposition creation, it was known about 260 dead residents of Vinnytsia*). Museum employees managed to collect materials about 22 countrymen, namely more than 200 objects and more than 300 digital photos<sup>7</sup>.

Collections of museums (museum rooms) of garrisons are also of considerable interest. Thus, military museums are important centers of national and patriotic education in the western region of Ukraine. The collection of the "Military Historical Museum of the 58<sup>th</sup> House of Officers" is quite famous in the Lviv garrison. This museum is located on the territory of a military unit, which is widely known for its heroic participation in the defense of Luhansk Airport in 2014.

The exhibition of the Museum of History of the Hetman Petro Sahaidachny National Academy of Ground Forces in Lviv is located on two floors of the club of the higher military educational institution. Samples of military equipment from different times are displayed in the adjacent territory. The peculiarity is that the exhibition has moved from the actual museum halls to exhibiting stands in the corridors and specialized classrooms of all educational buildings of the military institution, that is, cadets have the opportunity to familiarize themselves with the museum's materials every day. Its showcases and stands are made according to the sketches of Lviv artists and answer a high aesthetic level. The latest changes in the museum took place in 2014-2023, in particular, they affected the hall of university graduates, where the main part of the exposition is dedicated to the officers who graduated from the Academy, who participated in military operations and were awarded state awards (*Burakov, 2020: 76*).

As part of the museum's exhibition activities, the issue of expanding virtual means of presenting the historical past and present has become relevant. The Minister of Veteran Affairs of Ukraine, Yulia Laputina, noted that the future Museum of the Russia-Ukraine war should receive both a physical embodiment in the center of Kyiv and a virtual platform. "The virtual museum is an online platform proposed by our ministry, because the world needs to know about Ukraine, and information needs to be conveyed in modern forms. We want to create a museum where Ukrainian veterans will be spoken about. From anywhere in the world, you will be able to look at the map of Ukraine and in one click learn about the heroic deeds of the defenders, what they do in peacetime, and about our values," Yu. Laputina said in an exclusive interview to the "Interfax-Ukraine" agency, commenting on the initia-

tive to create an interactive Museum of the Russo-Ukrainian War (*Laputina, 2022*).

In Ukraine, a virtual war memorial museum was created, where you can see the consequences of the Russian occupation of the Kyiv region. The museum presents the appearance of Irpin, Bucha, Gostomel, Borodyanka, Gorenka and Stoyanka after the occupation. This virtual museum was opened on the tourism portal of the Kyiv Region (<https://kyivregiontours.gov.ua/war#museum>) in cooperation with the "Close War" project. The press release of the VR museum stated: "We record the destructions to remember and show posterity at what price we choose freedom and independence," the message reads. - With the help of 3D tours, visitors can get into the terrible reality that the war brought with it to Irpin, Bucha, Gostomel, Gorenka and other towns and villages<sup>8</sup>. The opening of VR museums in Ukraine is promising, as it introduces a large audience both in our country and abroad to the exhibition material and unique funds.

In October 2021, Ukraine launched the "Virtual Museum of Russian Aggression" (<https://rusaggression.gov.ua/ua/home.html>) - a site that collects and illustrates the facts of Russia's violations of Ukraine's territorial integrity. In the same month, the National Art Museum of Ukraine (NAMU) announced that it would release a digital NFT - a collection of Ukrainian art.

Digital versions of paintings by Oleksandr Murashko, Oleksandra Ekster, Vsevolod Maksymovych, Mykola Pymonenko and many others can be purchased from 2022.

In March 2022, the first NFT war museum was opened in Ukraine, which combined blockchain technology, art and the recording of historical facts - "Meta History. Museum of War" (<https://metahistory.gallery/>). At the beginning of April 2022, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine announced that, in cooperation with the Google Corporation, it had started a project to digitize the consequences of the Russian invasion in the destroyed cities of Ukraine.

The purpose of the project is to document Russia's War crimes. Later, the project "360war.in.ua" (<https://360war.in.ua/en>) was launched, within which an interactive map with photo panoramas of Ukrainian cities destroyed by Russia was created.

Information analyst Taras Volyanyuk, author of "360war.in.ua", said that the project documents the criminal consequences of Russian aggression in Ukraine. In May, the "Smart Farming ta Vkursi Agro" company launched the "Rebuild UA" project, the purpose of which is to digitize, analyze and show the destruction of the infrastructure in populated areas as a result of Russia's War against Ukraine<sup>9</sup>.

The content of modern museology is also determined by the projects established as the "Dynamic Museum". They reflect effective management in the field of preserving historical memory.

A special place in modern exhibitions with online fixation is occupied by the museum "workshop". The Ukrainian Institute of National Memory, the Donetsk Regional State Administration, the National Museum of the Revolu-

<sup>7</sup> Heroi ne vmyrauiut. Vystavka. Vinnytskyi oblasnyi kraieznachy muzei. <https://vinnytsia-museum.in.ua/exhibitions/2021/heroes-dont-die>(In Ukraine)

<sup>8</sup> V Ukraini zapustyly VR-muzei pamiati viiny. (2022, May, 18). *Detektor media*. <https://ms.detektor.media/trendi/post/29519/2022-05-18-v-ukraini-zapustyly-vr-muzey-pamyati-viiny/> (In Ukraine)

<sup>9</sup> V Ukraini zapustyly VR-muzei pamiati viiny. Kyivska oblasna viiskova administratsiia. <https://koda.gov.ua/na-kyivshhyni-zapustyly-vr-muzey-pamyati-viiny>

tion of Dignity, and the Donetsk Regional Museum of Local Lore are among the organizations that participated in this newest form of museum demonstration.

More than a hundred museum workers from all regions of Ukraine joined the two-day "workshop" "Conceptual approaches to museification of the Russo-Ukrainian war". It was discussed online how the museum can become a center of memory formation and a place for educational events<sup>10</sup>.

During the workshop, experts and museologists shared what approaches they use in creating museum compositions and museums about modern war, talked about terminology and experience working with the topic of modern war. In particular, the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory, together with its partners, created a virtual museum of Russian aggression, which is a source of verified information about the war. "There are three key principles of the Russo-Ukrainian War museification.

The first is the realization that the war is ongoing, and therefore any exposition is incomplete. The second - the purpose of war museification is the historical truth about a complex, "hot" history. The third is every museum exposition that will be created can serve as the basis of transitional justice," the head of the Ukrainian Institute of National Memory, Anton Drobovych says<sup>11</sup>.

Foreign presentations have become an important field in the presentation of modern expositions. This applies both to the work of individual museums and individual foundations, European and global press centers, individual foundations, etc. In particular, the Dutch Hague became the center of such exhibition activity in Europe, where an exhibition about the first hundred days of the Russian full-scale invasion of Ukraine was held. The exhibition presents the works of both Ukrainian and foreign photojournalists, cartoonists, artists and photographers.

Separately, at the exhibition, the authors raise issues of freedom of speech, democracy, etc. The exhibition was created by the ANP press agency, the Museum of Communication (Beeld en Geluid Den Haag) in The Hague and the cartoonist Cartoon Movement platform with the support of The Hague Municipality.

Also in The Hague, the Museum of Communication hosted the exhibition "War in Ukraine: through the eyes of artists", where the works of the Ukrainian "UA Comix" publishing house dedicated to the war in Ukraine unleashed by Russia were presented. It displays photos of the beginning of the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the shelling by enemy troops and the destruction of key Ukrainian infrastructure facilities, mass shelling of residential areas of Ukrainian cities and towns using artillery, rocket launchers and ballistic missiles.

At the exhibition in Amsterdam, organized in the basement, semi-darkness that enhances the effect of military actions, 200 works of 50 artists are presented, including Tiberiy Silvasi, Alevtina Kahidze, Vlad Ralko, Igor Gusev, Anton Logov, Hamlet Zinkivskiy, Daria Koltsova, Kinder Album and other modern Ukrainian artists. After the Russian invasion on February 24, 2022, some of them remained to live and work in the war zone - in Kyiv region, Zaporizhzhia, Kharkiv, Kherson and other regions of the country. The audience is presented with installations, sculptures, paintings, drawings, graphics, photographs,

videos, performances, household items from Irpen, which were in houses destroyed by bombs, etc.

Information and photos by journalists who visited the war zone are of particular importance for the deployment of exhibitions about Ukraine in Europe, the USA and Canada. In particular, on December 1, 2021, as part of the development of bilateral cultural relations between Romania and Ukraine and to the National Day of Romania, a photo exhibition of Ioana Moldovan, a Romanian photojournalist and writer, was opened at the open-air exposition "Ways of Donbas"/ATO Museum.

She was one of ten Eastern European photographers selected to participate in a workshop on documentary photography by the Dutch NOOR photo agency. In general, foreign presentations of exhibitions from the Russo-Ukrainian War became an important factor in informing the population of Western countries about events in Ukraine.

Ukrainian museums strive to expand creative relations with similar museums of foreign countries - the Czech Republic, Poland, Bulgaria, Great Britain, Sweden, the USA, etc. It is worth offering them to organize special exhibitions dedicated to Russian military aggression against Ukraine, international military support of the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

The Ukrainian initiative to hold exhibitions of Russian weapons destroyed during the aggression against Ukraine in the summer of 2022 in Warsaw, Prague and other world capitals deserves approval. It would be appropriate if the charity concerts of Ukrainian artists in support of the Armed Forces of Ukraine abroad were accompanied by mobile exhibitions of anti-war posters, archival photochronicles of the liberation war of the Ukrainian people against the Rashists, informational materials about the military assistance of various countries of the world to the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

### Conclusions

Therefore, the search for materials and documents from the Russo-Ukrainian War began in 2014 and continues to this day. The number of stock materials in regional museums increased especially during the full-scale Russian invasion of 2022-2023. The collection of materials was carried out in accordance with the stock groups of individual museums (historical, local history, military) in all regions of Ukraine. Completing funds on the history of the modern Russian-Ukrainian war is a central task for all museums of Ukraine.

First of all, this is creation of video and photo archives, recording of memories of participants and eyewitnesses of the Russia-Ukraine war of 2014-2022, collection of exhibits in Ukraine and abroad (activities of volunteer communities, organization of Ukrainian military-historical exhibitions in various cities abroad, collections of anti-war posters, etc.).

During the Russo-Ukrainian War (2014 – 2023), museums of all regions of Ukraine accumulated rich experience in all spheres of activity: research, foundation, and educational.

This allows them to work at a high professional level. The museum teams creatively assimilate the world experience of the museum business; actively work on the creation of modern expositions, including those that highlight the heroic struggle of the Ukrainian people for independence against the Russian invaders.

The exhibition activity of museums was connected with the expansion of exhibition areas and the creation of exhibitions (mainly military equipment) on open platforms or special tents. Demonstrations of exhibits or events by

<sup>10</sup> Rosiisko-ukrainska viina v muzeiakh ta na vystavkakh – fakhivsti rozpovily pro svii dosvid (2021, August, 12). [maidanmuseum.org. https://www.maidanmuseum.org/uk/node/1874](https://www.maidanmuseum.org/uk/node/1874)

<sup>11</sup> Ibid.



presenting them with the help of Internet resources have acquired a special importance in military museology.

The participation of museums in domestic and foreign grant programs should be more active, in particular within the framework of the European Union, NATO, the Visegrád Four, individual embassies (USA, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Sweden, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, etc.). The cooperation of all regional museums of Ukraine regarding the organization of scientific expeditions and the construction of joint expositions, the holding of conferences and round tables, and joint exhibitions abroad should become systematic. In addition to general sightseeing tours, more attention should be paid to thematic events (aircraft or artillery battles in the war zone; commemoration of war heroes - natives of the region and city, etc.).

The teams of museum scientists are faced with the task of completing the digitization of stock collections, determining the priorities of stock collection, actively replenishing collections on the history of the modern Russo-Ukrainian War, ensuring proper storage and protection of museum collections, and their active use in the national and patriotic education of the youth in our country.

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## Регіональні особливості побудови музейних експозицій з історії сучасної російсько-української війни

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Аналізуються різноманітні аспекти побудови стаціонарних та пересувних виставок музеїв України у різних регіонах країни, з метою створення постійно діючих експозицій з історії сучасної російсько-української війни. Узагальнюється позитивний досвід в організації збереження та популяризації пам'яток російсько-української війни у столичних та регіональних музеях України, а також досліджу-

ються процеси трансформації їх експозиційної та виставкової діяльності на сучасному етапі. Констатується, що значення побудови експозицій з новітньої історії України та виставкової діяльності вітчизняних музеїв посилилось у зв'язку з російсько-українською війною 2014 – 2023 рр., коли експозиційні матеріали стали не тільки засобом формування історичної пам'яті, а й джерелом патріотизму та відданості національним пріоритетам, вагомим чинником формування української нації. Вивчаються окремі виставки «Національного музею історії України у Другій світовій війні. Меморіальний комплекс», «Національного музею історії України», «Національного військово-історичного музею», обласних краєзнавчих музеїв, музеїв вищих військових навчальних закладів, гарнізонних музеїв.

У дослідженні наголошується на актуальності створення віртуальних засобів представлення історичного минулого і сьогодення. Відкриття віртуальних виставок та експозицій в Україні є перспективним, оскільки пов'язує з експозиційним матеріалом та унікальними фондами численну аудиторію як у нашій державі, так і за її межами. Важливим напрямом представлення сучасних експозицій стали зарубіжні презентації. Це стосується як роботи окремих музеїв, так і окремих фондів, європейських та світових прес-центрів, індивідуальних фондів та ін. Робиться висновок про накопичений багатий досвід музеїв України у всіх сферах діяльності й, головне, активне застосування музейних збірок у національно-патріотичному вихованні молоді нашої держави.

**Ключові слова:** російсько-українська війна, музеї України, експозиційна робота, стаціонарні виставки, віртуальні музейні експозиції, національно-патріотичне виховання, історична пам'ять.

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