



УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИЙ КОМІТЕТ МІЖНАРОДНОЇ РАДИ З ПИТАНЬ ПАМ'ЯТОК І ВИЗНАЧНИХ МІСЦЬ
UKRAINIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE OF INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL ON MONUMENTS AND SITES
COMITÉ NATIONAL UKRAINIEN DU CONSEIL INTERNATIONAL DES MONUMENTS ET DES SITES

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STATEMENT
of the Ukrainian National Committee
of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), regarding the
threat of destruction of the UNESCO World Heritage Tentative List site
«DERZHYPROM (House of State Industry)» in Kharkiv

Awareness of the significance of the national cultural heritage of the Ukrainian nation, understanding of the scale of the problem of its destruction during the Russian-Ukrainian war for world civilisation, prompted the Ukrainian National Committee of the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) to make this Statement.

The cultural heritage of Kharkiv is an integral part of the cultural heritage of Ukraine and the world. As of today, the historic centre of the city, with its unique architectural and spatial structure, is under great threat. Daily missile attacks are destroying the city's historic buildings and have already led to serious violations of the architectural and urban planning integrity of the historic part of Kharkiv.

The House of State Industry which is on the UNESCO Tentative List of World Cultural Heritage is a particular concern. Derzhyprom became a symbol of the industrial era of the 1920s. It was built in 1925-1928 and became the first skyscraper in Europe with a reinforced concrete structure. The world's largest constructivist building was erected at the beginning of the global creative development of this style and had a significant impact on the development of not only Ukrainian but also world culture and architecture. The monument expresses the unity of monumentality, formality and representation of the state level in an avant-garde language. For the first time, it embodies the stylistic features of mass industrial architecture that characterised the second half of the 20th century.

Among the objects representing the architecture of modernism of the first half of the 20th century, which are already on the World Heritage List or the Tentative List, Derzhyprom will take its unique place as a unique phenomenon of world architecture.

However, for the Russian terrorists, the global significance of Derzhyprom is not a reason to avoid the constant shelling of this building.

The building was first hit by a Russian missile attack at the very beginning of 2023. The damage then affected almost the entire north-western part of the building, with windows and stained glass windows deformed and smashed. And on 28 October 2024, Russian troops conducted a second terrorist attack with guided aerial bombs on one of the building's section, destroying several floors. This direct hit caused widespread damage to the monument, which is currently in a state of emergency. In addition, in winter, a violation of the temperature regime will lead to damage to the interior, including wooden structures, which could lead to catastrophic consequences.

Therefore, Derzhprom currently needs urgent conservation and restoration work.

The following actions by the aggressor country once again demonstrate Russia's violation of international legal acts that regulate relations in the field of preserving the world's cultural heritage, both in peacetime and in armed conflict.

Given the above, in particular the intensification of hostilities in eastern part of Ukraine and the provisions of the Second Protocol to the Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict, the Ukrainian National Committee of ICOMOS appeals to the international community to unite all efforts to protect the cultural heritage of Ukraine, taking into account that damage to this heritage will affect the humanistic spirit of humanity and its cultural diversity.

**Bureau of the Ukrainian National Committee of the
International Council on Monuments and Sites**