

**UKRAINIAN ARCHIVE**

ANNUAL REPORT  
**2022 - 2023**

[ukrainianarchive.org](http://ukrainianarchive.org)



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Ukrainian Archive program was established as a Rapid Response Project with the purpose of preserving, verifying, and investigating open-source documentation concerning human rights and humanitarian law violations in the armed conflict in Ukraine. Over the course of the year, the project evolved into a stand-alone program with various workstreams. The program has achieved significant milestones, including the establishment of an archival infrastructure, the formation of a dedicated program team, and the archiving of over 4 million digital records of potential risk content related to war crimes and human rights violations in Ukraine.

# KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



## INFRASTRUCTURE AND TEAM BUILDING

The Ukrainian Archive program team was established, consisting of Program Manager, Legal Advisor, Open-Source Investigators, Communications Officer, and supported by Mnemonic's Financial & Admin and IT departments.

The team underwent regular training sessions to improve their skills in open-source investigation, satellite imagery analysis, digital security, and other relevant subject matters.





## EXTERNAL TRAINING

The Ukrainian Archive delivered capacity-building workshops to over 20 team members of the partner Ukraine 5 AM Coalition and other Ukrainian partners on documentation of international crimes and human rights violations for accountability purposes.





## ARCHIVING AND VERIFICATION

The program archived over 4 million digital records of at-risk content related to war crimes, human rights, and international law violations in Ukraine. The program identified and preserved numerous sources, which have been instrumental in providing fresh insights and evidence for our investigations. The team also worked on verifying, tagging, and analyzing incoming and backlogged records to organize the archive to support in-depth investigations and other analyses.

The screenshot displays the 'Ukraine Archive' web application. On the left is a navigation sidebar with categories like Observations, Incidents, Datasets, Groups, Tasks, Sources, Locations, Statistics, Files, Archive requests, Link search, Manual archive, and Activity. The main content area shows a search bar and a table of 'Found 10,000 observations'. The table has columns for Actions, Type, Platform, Date, Title, Staff tags, Incidents, and Source name. Below the table, there are filters for Media Type (Video, Image, Text), Platform (YouTube, Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, TikTok, Livemap, Gelly, VK, Website), and a 'Posts by Year' summary table.

Actions	Type	Platform	Date	Title	Staff tags	Incidents	Source name
[Icon]	[Icon]	YouTube	19 Apr 2023	Майже половина — це склад			Сьогодніще Харків
[Icon]	[Icon]	YouTube	19 Apr 2023	Залишки безпритамів Рф вист			Сьогодніще Харків
[Icon]	[Icon]	YouTube	19 Apr 2023	Фабрика кулея на Харківщині.			Сьогодніще Харків
[Icon]	[Icon]	YouTube	19 Apr 2023	Фабрика кулея на Харківщині.			Сьогодніще Харків
[Icon]	[Icon]	YouTube	19 Apr 2023	Як жила форма в Холмі під ч			Сьогодніще Харків
[Icon]	[Icon]	YouTube	19 Apr 2023	Щукала, де покороли кішку...			Сьогодніще Харків
[Icon]	[Icon]	YouTube	19 Apr 2023	Представителі національност			Иши своєк
[Icon]	[Icon]	YouTube	19 Apr 2023	Майор розіб мобілізований			Иши своєк
[Icon]	[Icon]	YouTube	19 Apr 2023	В ответ на правду пугали мира			Иши своєк
[Icon]	[Icon]	YouTube	19 Apr 2023	Живильова точность снайпер			Anton Gerashchenko
[Icon]	[Icon]	YouTube	19 Apr 2023	Треша доломати ЗСУ тому!			Сьогодніще Дніпро

Year	Count
2007	15
2008	231
2009	310



## INVESTIGATIONS AND REPORTING

The Ukrainian Archive published four public-facing investigation reports, including investigations into attacks on Iziium City Central Hospital, public infrastructure in Zhytomyr, and a psychiatric hospital in Vorzel. The investigations covered dates, timings, locations, victims, impacts of the attacks, and potential perpetrators.



## **INVESTIGATION INTO ATTACKS ON ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL CATHEDRAL IN MARIUPOL**

August 22, 2023

During the siege of Mariupol by Russian and Russian proxy forces from 24 February 2022 until 20 May 2022, the Cathedral of St. Michael the Archangel was severely damaged by artillery fire, collapsing one of the domes and leaving entry and exit holes in the walls.



## **INVESTIGATION INTO ATTACKS ON PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE IN ZHYTOMYR**

November 3, 2022

On the evenings of 01 March 2022 and 09 March 2022 civilian infrastructure, including hospitals, were damaged in two armed attacks on Zhytomyr. Multiple civilians were killed and over a dozen were wounded in the attacks.

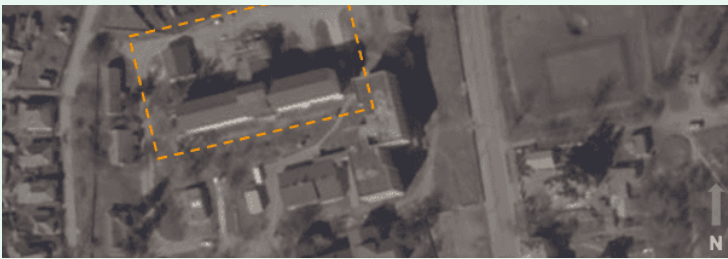




## INVESTIGATION INTO ATTACK ON IZIUM CITY CENTRAL HOSPITAL

February 2, 2023

In early March of 2022 as Russian forces occupied northern Iziurm, Kharkiv oblast, a hospital in the Ukrainian-controlled part of the city was badly damaged by a direct hit from a munition.



## INVESTIGATION INTO MILITARY ACTIVITY AT KYIV OBLAST PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL NO.2 IN VORZEL FEBRUARY-APRIL 2022

June 20, 2023

On 25 February 2022 Russian armed forces allegedly occupied Vorzel, a north-western outer suburb of Kyiv. During their alleged occupation of the area, Russian forces used the hospital to house troops, and even reportedly set up fortified firing positions on the hospital grounds. Upon their retreat from Vorzel on 1 April 2022 it was discovered that the hospital had been thoroughly looted, heavily damaged, and mined.





## CATALOGUING AND PROCESSING

The team set up and operationalized a custom version of the Eلفehrest, a media analysis platform, to provide access to the archived materials for verification, tagging, and cataloging. The team also created a tagging guide to index the archived audiovisual content



## CONSOLIDATING EVIDENCE AND PROVIDING ACCESS

The Ukrainian Archive worked on delivering Investigation Reports and preserved data on request to various accountability mechanisms.



## LEGAL ACCOUNTABILITY

The program has supported national, regional, and international accountability mechanisms, including providing information to investigating authorities and coordinating with EU-ROJUST and the Dialogue Group on Accountability for Ukraine.



## PARTNERSHIPS

The Ukrainian Archive has expanded its network of partners, including coordinating and collaborating with the Ukraine 5 AM Coalition, Bellingcat & Global Legal Action Network (GLAN), the Conflict Environment Observatory, the Center for Special Technologies, European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR), Global Rights Compliance - Starvation Justice Team, the European Prison Litigation Network, and others.



## OUTREACH AND PRESS

THE PROGRAM HAS BEEN FEATURED IN VARIOUS MEDIA ARTICLES AND PIECES, INCLUDING:



Cellphones have been a crucial tool for civilians as the fighting has raged in Bakhmut, eastern Ukraine. PHOTO: Manu Brabo for The Wall Street Journal



A woman uses her smartphone to take a picture of the destruction caused by a rocket strike that hit a residential building, in Kramatorsk, Ukraine on February 2, 2023. © Yasuyoshi Chiba, AFP



Ihor Zakharenko's videos from Ukraine were swiftly removed

# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

The Ukrainian Archive is committed to developing into a sustainable hub for the collection, preservation, and processing of at-risk digital materials. Our mission is to contribute to investigation of human rights violations and international crimes, thereby supporting accountability, justice, and advocacy. We aim to serve as a pivotal resource in the awareness raising and capacity-building training of both international and Ukrainian organizations, particularly in the collection, verification, and investigation of open-source information pertaining to human rights violations.

Our dedication extends to creating a digital memorial of the tragic events that have transpired in Ukraine since February 24, 2022. This commitment is deeply rooted in our belief in transitional justice and our aspiration for a future sustainable peace. As we move forward, we envision expanding our efforts to support accountability processes through the cultivation of strategic partnerships with other international and Ukrainian organizations. This will further amplify our collective efforts to document and verify human rights violations, thereby enhancing our impact and contributing to the broader cause of justice and peace.

