

PRESS RELEASE

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Majority support for financial contribution to Ukrainian Culture House

The Minister of Culture and the government's supporting parties have decided to allocate financial support towards the establishment of a Ukrainian Culture House in Copenhagen.

Ministry of Culture

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The Minister of Culture (Socialdemokratiet) and SF, Radikale Venstre and Enhedslisten have proposed allocating a part of the profit from the state-owned gambling company Danske Spil A/S towards the establishment of a Ukrainian Culture House in Denmark. The proposal includes an initial contribution of 2 million kroner intended to cover the costs of the foundation and operation of the Culture House in 2022 and the beginning of 2023. The proposal also advises the allocation of a fixed yearly sum towards the Culture House in the years to come. In total, the Ukrainian Culture House will receive a contribution of 7.6 million kroner over the course of a three-year period (2022-2025).

Ukraine House in Denmark, the NGO responsible for organizing the proposed Culture House, has stated that they will also apply for further funding from a series of foundations.

Minister of Culture, Ane Halsboe-Jørgensen says:

“We are informed almost daily of horrible and terrifying atrocities in Ukraine. This horrifying war in Ukraine has also had a considerable impact on the country's culture. A large part of the population have been forced to flee and require support in preserving and practicing their culture. This holds true for Ukrainians in Denmark, who have expressed a great desire for the creation of a Culture House. The decision to establish a Ukrainian Culture House in Denmark is therefore important and necessary. I hope the Culture House will provide a gathering place, where refugees from Ukraine and Ukrainian permanent residents in Denmark can come together. I also hope that, in time, the Culture House will be a gathering place for both Danes and Ukrainians, and contribute to raising awareness about Ukraine's meaningful cultural heritage and rich cultural life. I believe this will strengthen our countries' cultural connections – also after the end of the war.”

In addition to providing a place of community for Ukrainians in Denmark, the Culture House will facilitate a series of cultural activities, such as concerts, art installations, a library service, book clubs for children and adults, Ukrainian language courses and teaching of refugee children.

The government has sent a Supplementary Appropriation Bill to the Danish Parliament's Finance Committee who will make a decision on the proposed grant. The money will be available to Ukraine House in Denmark when the Finance Committee has approved the Supplementary Appropriation Bill.

The Ukrainian Culture House has been offered the possibility of renting the refurbished warehouse, Gl. Dok in Christianshavn, which was home to the Danish Architecture Center until 2018. If Ukraine House in Denmark accepts this offer, the space can be made available within only a few months, once the Danish Parliament's Finance Committee has approved the Supplementary Appropriation Bill.

Further information

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