

December 12, 2024

Kyiv

Dear Secretary-General,

I am writing to kindly request your support for two nominations that the National Commission of Ukraine is submitting to the UNESCO Secretariat for consideration in the framework of the 2026-2027 celebrations of anniversaries of eminent persons and historic events. These nominations are the **100th Anniversary of the National Preserve "Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra"** and the **150th Anniversary of the Birth of Mykola Leontovych**. Both nominations are deeply significant and align with UNESCO's mission to preserve cultural heritage and promote international cultural exchange. Detailed applications are attached for your review.

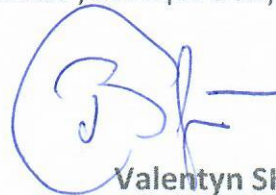
The Kyiv-Pechersk Lavra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, represents a millennium of Orthodox Christian culture and Eastern European history. Its centennial as a national preserve underscores decades of successful efforts to safeguard its architectural marvels, ancient frescoes, and priceless artifacts. This celebration will highlight the preserve's global importance, fostering dialogue on heritage conservation and demonstrating the role of cultural landmarks in sustainable development through tourism and community engagement.

Similarly, the 150th anniversary of Mykola Leontovych's birth offers an opportunity to honor a cultural icon whose work, including the globally beloved *Shchedryk* ("Carol of the Bells"), exemplifies the power of music as a universal language. Commemorating Leontovych aligns with UNESCO's goals of promoting cultural diversity and education, while celebrating his legacy as a symbol of Ukraine's cultural identity and artistic heritage.

We believe that these anniversaries provide a unique platform to advance shared values and strengthen cooperation among nations. We kindly request the support of the Estonian National Commission for UNESCO in endorsing these nominations. Your backing would not only enhance their chances of recognition but also affirm our collective commitment to UNESCO's ideals.

Thank you in advance for considering this request. Should you require any further information, we are at your disposal.

Sincerely,



Valentyn SKURATOVSKYY
Deputy President of the National
Commission of Ukraine for UNESCO

Ms Kerli GUTMAN
Secretary-General of the Estonian National
Commission for UNESCO,
Tallinn