

entry number 866 from 20.10.2025

To: **H.E. Ms. Heidy Purga**
Minister of Culture of Estonia
 Suur-Karja 23 Tallinn 15076, Estonia
 Email: kultuur@kultuur.ee

cc: **Ms Ulla Khiva** (ulla.khiva@kul.ee)

Subject: Official Invitation to Participate Online in the International High-Level Forum “Science and Heritage for Peace: Kyiv Dialogue 2025” and to Join the International Consortium “Kyivan Rus: Common Heritage” (Our Ref. No. 665 dated 15.09.2025)

Your Excellency, Ms. Purga,

Thank you for your kind response, in which you recommended direct discussions with Estonian museums regarding potential cooperation and noted constraints on timelines. We appreciate this guidance and will proceed accordingly by engaging relevant institutions directly to explore collaborations.

On behalf of the Charity Foundation "Culture.UA", in close partnership with the **UNESCO Office in Ukraine** and the Goethe-Institut, I have the honour to invite Your Excellency and the Ministry of Culture to take part **online in the upcoming international high-level forum “Science and Heritage for Peace: Kyiv Dialogue 2025”, scheduled for 10 November 2025 at the United Nations Office in Kyiv**, under the framework of UNESCO’s World Science Day for Peace and Development.

In recognition of today’s interconnected world, we particularly encourage virtual participation to ensure Estonia’s contribution to this important European dialogue — without the need for travel — while maintaining full ministerial visibility and engagement.

The Forum enjoys the official endorsement of the Government of Ukraine, including the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Education and Science, and Culture and Strategic Communications, the Office of the President of Ukraine, and the Parliamentary Committees on Education and Culture. It will bring together European ministers, scholars, and cultural leaders through an advanced hybrid format, fostering collaboration between education, science, and cultural diplomacy in the service of peace.

Shared European Vision — Core Theme of the Forum At the heart of the event lies the launch of the International Consortium “**Kyivan Rus: Common Heritage**” (2025–2029) — an initiative uniting universities, museums, and research institutions across Europe to reinterpret the Kyivan Rus era (IX–XIII centuries) as a shared European historical foundation, bridging East and West.

Each country is invited to present its own perspective on this era through research projects, digital exhibitions, or live historical reconstructions — inspired by models such as the National Museum of the History of Kyiv. This approach promotes multi-country collaboration (e.g., Estonia–Ukraine–Europe) and strengthens the idea of a united European cultural identity, enriching heritage diplomacy across the continent. Estonia's expertise in culture and heritage through institutions like the Estonian National Museum positions it as a valuable partner for digital cultural archives.

Participation and Next Steps

We kindly invite your Ministry to confirm the online participation of the Minister or an authorised delegate in the “Kyiv Dialogue 2025” by 5 November 2025, via the QR code or by e-mail to info@cultureua.org

The Forum's programme will include:

- **Ministerial Opening Session under UNESCO auspices** (with live interpretation and online participation);
- **Two Expert Panels:** “Science and Heritage for Peace” and “Kyivan Rus as Shared European Heritage”;
- **An Interactive Session “Digital Heritage for Peace”** (3D reconstructions and youth-led virtual projects);
- **Presentation of the “Kyiv Principles”** — a roadmap for heritage-based peace diplomacy;
- **A symbolic signing ceremony of the Consortium’s Memorandum of Cooperation** (hybrid format). Participation will also provide access to joint projects under Horizon Europe, Erasmus+, and Creative Europe, with potential co-financing of up to €1.5 million for cultural, educational, and digital innovation programmes.

Heritage as a Pathway to Peace We firmly believe that cultural heritage is not a reflection of the past, but a foundation for our common European future. Through science, education, and digital collaboration, **Kyiv Dialogue 2025** and the **Kyivan Rus Consortium** will demonstrate how shared history can unite nations in peace and innovation. We would be honoured to feature your contribution during the ministerial session and to explore further cooperation through our Embassy of Ukraine in Estonia.

For coordination or bilateral arrangements, please contact: **+38 093 167 6069 (WhatsApp)** | info@cultureua.org (cc: ukrainian_culture@ukr.net)

This letter will also be sent to you in an official, signed form on the Foundation's letterhead. Since some business servers filter international correspondence, we are including a copy to guarantee delivery (copy: ukrainian_culture@ukr.net).

With the highest consideration,

Ihor Boldin

**Director,
Charity Foundation "Culture.UA"
Kyiv, Ukraine**



Attachments:

1. Concept Note – “Science and Heritage for Peace: Kyiv Dialogue 2025”
2. Invitation Letter
3. Letters of Support from the Government of Ukraine

