SAVING UKRAINIAN CULTURAL HERITAGE ONLINE

Responsive Emergency DH at Scale

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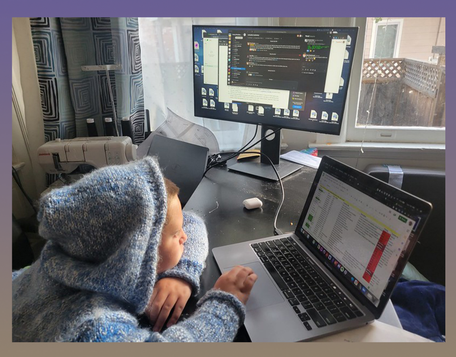
Five days after Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Anna Kijas, Sebastian Majstorovic, and Quinn Dombrowski co-founded SUCHO, with the goal of web archiving Ukrainian cultural heritage websites at risk of server destruction, network disruption, cyberattack, or downtime due to non-payment as a result of the war.

In the first day, over 400 volunteers signed up to help.

SUCHO volunteers sent URLs to the Internet Archive's Wayback Machine, and also did distributed web archiving using the Webrecorder tools, especially Browsertrix. All work was coordinated through Slack and a giant Google sheet.



Organizers wrote tutorials for how to install Docker to run Browsertrix, and led Zoom-based workshops to walk volunteers through the process. Even retirees and children were able to help archive websites.

SUCHO volunteers archived over 50 TB of data from around 5,000 websites, and added metadata to over 4,000 items uploaded to the Internet Archive. But the impact was limited by the fact that less than 1% of Ukraine's cultural heritage had been digitized before the war.

In SUCHO phase 2, we have raised over €208k to donate digitization equipment and power banks to 60+ institutions, including funding from Pearl Jam's Vitalogy Foundation.

We have developed a gallery of Ukrainian cultural heritage using Omeka, curating content from the web archives as well as newly-digitzed materials. Students in the US and Ukraine have helped curate collections: *gallery.sucho.org*

We are capturing, translating, and annotating memes from the war, making them available through a "meme wall": *memes.sucho.org*

SUCHO won a European Heritage Award / Europa Nostra Award and **we need your help**. Scan the QR code to vote for us for the Public Choice Award. The prize money will fund scanners for 15 Ukrainian libraries, archives, and museums.

Learn more at sucho.org @sucho_org / @sucho@hcommons.social