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INFORMATION NOTE

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Council
Subject:	Support to Ukrainian Cultural and Creative Sectors - Information from the Presidency

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Presidency on the above subject, which has been put on the agenda under 'Any other business' of the next Education, Youth, <u>Culture</u> and Sport Council meeting of 15-16 May 2023.

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SUPPORT TO UKRAINIAN CULTURAL AND CREATIVE SECTORS

Information note from the Presidency

Russia's illegal and unprovoked war of aggression against Ukraine has caused the Ukrainian people enormous suffering and brought excessive damage to Ukraine's cultural and creative sectors, including the country's rich cultural heritage. The cultural and creative sectors are strategic targets in Russia's warfare, since Russia's war on Ukraine is a war on culture and identity, and as such constitutes an attack on our common European values.

Therefore, it is of utmost importance that the EU continues to show our collective support to the people and the cultural and creative sectors of Ukraine. For this purpose, the Swedish Presidency wishes to share information on ongoing support to the Ukrainian cultural and creative sectors during the Council Meeting. The aim is to raise further awareness and to shed light on the ways in which the common EU support is currently organised, and to serve as a reminder of the importance of promoting Ukrainian culture in the EU.

The Swedish presidency has invited the Ukrainian Minister of Culture and Information Policy H.E. Mr Tkachenko, to participate through a pre-recorded video message in this agenda item, to give direct insight into the current situation and needs of the cultural and creative sectors in Ukraine.

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