CESSDA ERIC
Solheimsgaten 15
5058 Bergen
Norway

Bergen, 24 June 2026

LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT

To the RIFF Evaluation Committee
Research Infrastructures for the Future of Ukraine (RIFF)

Re: Endorsement of the Ukraine National Data Bank of Sociological Data "Kyiv Archive"

Dear Members of the Evaluation Committee,

On behalf of the Consortium of European Social Science Data Archives (CESSDA ERIC), I am pleased to express our strong support for the application of the **Ukraine National Data Bank of Sociological Data "Kyiv Archive"** for inclusion in the Roadmap of Research Infrastructures of Ukraine developed within the RIFF project.

CESSDA ERIC is the European Research Infrastructure Consortium that brings together national social science data service providers from across Europe. Our mission is to provide sustainable, trusted, and high-quality data services that enable excellence in social science research, innovation, education, and evidence-based policymaking.

The Kyiv Archive is recognised by CESSDA as the Ukrainian Partner Service Provider and is an active participant in the wider CESSDA community. The relationship between the Kyiv Archive and CESSDA is rooted in more than a decade of cooperation aimed at strengthening social science data infrastructures in Ukraine. As part of CESSDA widening initiatives, Ukrainian experts contributed to the preparation of a National Development Plan for Ukraine, outlining the establishment of a sustainable national social science data service aligned with European standards and practices. These long-standing links provided a strong foundation for the current partnership and for the progressive integration of Ukrainian social science data into the wider European research infrastructure ecosystem.

A particularly important milestone in this cooperation was a targeted capacity-building initiative implemented in 2023, which helped align selected archive procedures with CESSDA standards, strengthen long-term preservation and backup arrangements, prepare several datasets for international dissemination through the CESSDA Data Catalogue, and further develop institutional cooperation with the European social science data infrastructure community.
From the perspective of CESSDA, the Kyiv Archive serves a broad community of researchers, students, analysts, journalists, public institutions, and civil society organisations in Ukraine and abroad, thereby supporting research, education, and evidence-based policymaking.

The archive's national significance is reflected in its unique role as a dedicated service for the long-term preservation and dissemination of social science research data in Ukraine. The growing international demand for reliable data on Ukrainian society further underscores its strategic importance. The archive provides an essential evidence base for research on public opinion, social change, migration, resilience, and post-war recovery, making it a valuable resource for both Ukrainian and international research communities. At the same time, its collaboration with CESSDA demonstrates strong potential for deeper integration into the European research infrastructure landscape.

Despite the extraordinary challenges following Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the Kyiv Archive has maintained its operations, preserved critical research assets, continued serving its user community, and pursued further development and international cooperation. This resilience demonstrates the maturity, strategic importance, and sustainability of the infrastructure. The development of robust and sustainable social science research infrastructures in Ukraine is of strategic importance for both Ukraine and Europe. The Kyiv Archive possesses the operational foundations, professional expertise, institutional commitment, and strategic vision necessary to function as a nationally significant research infrastructure and future component of the European social science data ecosystem.

To summarise through its activities, the archive plays a crucial role in preserving, curating, documenting, and providing access to social science research data in Ukraine, thereby supporting both the national research ecosystem and international scholarly collaboration. We are therefore confident that continued support for the Kyiv Archive will generate substantial benefits for Ukrainian researchers, strengthen national research capacities, preserve invaluable research assets documenting Ukrainian society, and further advance Ukraine's integration into the European Research Area.

We therefore strongly support the inclusion of the Ukraine National Data Bank of Sociological Data "Kyiv Archive" in the Roadmap of Research Infrastructures of Ukraine and believe that it represents an important national asset with clear relevance for both Ukraine and the broader European research community.

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Bonnie Wolff-Boenisch,
Director
CESSDA ERIC