

**Ukrainian Archives**  
**for Researchers in Soviet and post-Soviet History and Politics**

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**Central State Archive of Supreme Bodies of Power and Government of Ukraine**

<http://tsdavo.gov.ua/>

24 Solomyanska St, Kyiv, Ukraine

+38 (044) 275-36-66

Central State Archive is the main repository for documents pertaining to all main government agencies of the various iterations of Ukrainian statehood beginning in 1917. It includes collections documents from:

- Government agencies of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (1917-1991)
- Ukrainian republics and revolutions (1917-1921)
- Government agencies of independent Ukraine (1991-2001)

For those working on late Soviet and post-Soviet period the following collections (фонди/'fond') might be of particular interest:

- Fond 1/1-P: Verkhovna Rada of UkrSSR/Ukraine (1917-2017)
  - Rada standing committees, including the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Committee on National Security and Defense
  - [Transcripts of Rada sessions](#) (May 1990 onwards) are available online
  - [Legislation database online](#)
- Fond 2: Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (1918-2003)
- Fond 5233: Administration of the President of Ukraine (1991-2001)

The access is easy and does not require prior appointment or letters from your institution

- [Online searchable finding aids](#), in Ukrainian.
- No need to reserve the reading room in advance.
- Bring a valid ID/passport to get in.
- Plan to spend your first day browsing finding aids and filling out request forms.
- Allow 2-3 business days between request and access to files.
- Only 10 folders can be accessed in a day
- Expect little help from archivists, they are underpaid and overworked and are not in the mood to help.
- Expect that rules can change.
- Please note that most of the documents will be in Ukrainian. While Ukrainian uses essentially the same Cyrillic alphabet (a few letter differ) and is related to Russian but might not be accessible to a non-native Russian speaker. If you are unsure, hire a local research assistant.

## Archive of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

<https://mfa.gov.ua/pro-ministerstvo/struktura/strukturni-pidrozdili/viddil-derzhavnogo-arhivu>

1 Mykhailivska Sq, Kyiv, Ukraine, in the building of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Department Director Larysa Degteriova

+38 (044) 238 16 49, 214@mfa.gov.ua

The MFA archive holdings all documents relating to the office of the Minister, various department, diplomatic correspondence, analytical materials for the president and the Rada, etc (1945 – present?)

- Access:
  - Inquire about an appointment well in advance
  - May need to send an official letter addressed to the Head of the Department from your institution/supervisor describing your project and materials you seek
  - Bring in an ID/passport for processing a temporary access card
  - May have limitations on bringing in a laptop
  - Rules about photographing are uncertain
  - Access might have tightened since 2014

## Archive of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), a.k.a. the KGB Archive

<https://ssu.gov.ua/haluzevyi-derzhavnyi-arkhiv>

Located on 33 Volodymyrska st, Kyiv, Ukraine in the building of the SBU

Director, Andriy Kohut

+38 (044) 256-92-96

arhivsbu@ssu.gov.ua

Ukraine's KGB Archive is one of the few access points in the post-Soviet world that offers a glimpse into the working of Soviet Union's most secretive agency. The a wealth of documents of the Ukrainian branch of the NKVD/KGB (1918-1991) has been declassified, mostly pertaining to the KBG's struggles against all brands of internal dissent.

- Ukrainian revolutions (1917-1922)
- Purges (1927-1938) and the Holodomor (1932-33)
- WWII and nationalist insurgency (1939-1945)
- Post-WWII dissident movement
- Chernobyl, a new 2-volume compilation of declassified documents can be accessed online [Volume 1](#) (1970-1986), and [Volume 2](#) (post 1986).
- Access:
  - [Finding aids in .pdf](#) available on the website
  - Some 25K documents digitalized in [Electronic Archive of the Ukrainian Liberation Movement \(1917-1991\)](#)
  - Contact in advance to make an appointment in the reading room.
  - There is a network of regional branches of the SBU/KGB Archive