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## **MOTHERLAND OF CERVANTES TAKES MORE INTEREST IN UKRAINIAN CULTURE**

Spain is a reliable political, trade, and economic partner of Ukraine. We highly appreciate Spain's unconditional support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our state, and we are satisfied with the mutual desire of the business circles of Ukraine and Spain to develop mutually beneficial cooperation.

There are considerable prospects for the development of bilateral cooperation in cultural sphere, as clearly evidenced by successful tours of leading creative groups and performers of Ukraine, performances of numerous artistic groups of the Ukrainian community in Madrid, Barcelona, Malaga, Murcia, Santander, and many other regions of Spain. The Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine has recognized the masterly performance of amateur artists of the Ukrainian community in Spain by awarding the honorary title 'Outstanding Artistic Group of the System of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine' to the Ukrainian dance ensemble Krychevchanka from the Spanish city of Alcalá de Henares, the birthplace of Miguel de Cervantes.



Почесною грамотою Посольства України в Іспанії нагороджують зразковий художній колектив «Кричевчанка» громадської організації «Українці Алькалі» з нагоди 10-річного ювілею та за значний внесок у збереження й поширення українських культурних традицій в Іспанії

A Scroll of Honour of the Embassy of Ukraine in Spain is awarded to the outstanding artistic group Krychevchanka of the non-governmental organisation Ukrainians of Alcalá on the occasion of its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary and for its major contribution to the preservation and dissemination of Ukrainian cultural traditions in Spain

The art exhibitions of Ukrainian artists, masterclasses on Ukrainian decorative and applied arts, literary and musical radio programmes and conferences dedicated to prominent figures of Ukrainian culture, which are held in Madrid and other cities of Spain, in particular, with the assistance of the embassy and consulates of Ukraine in Spain, contribute to the acquaintance of Spanish society with the culture, history, and present of Ukraine.

Various presentations of Ukrainian cultural heritage not only generate a strong interest of the Spanish public in Ukrainian culture but also inspire Spanish artists to embrace Ukrainian themes into the orbit of their activities.

Given the successful development of Ukrainian-Spanish cooperation in the field of culture, the embassy has raised the issue of creating a Ukrainian symbol in Madrid with the Spanish authorities. Following a comprehensive discussion on the embassy's proposals with the local authorities of the Spanish capital, an agreement was reached to name a small square in Madrid after Lesia Ukrainka, where the Embassy of Ukraine to Spain is located. On the occasion of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Lesia Ukrainka and taking into account the UNESCO decision to include this event in the calendars of memorable dates of 2020 and 2021 as well as in commemoration of the significant contribution of this Ukrainian poetess to world culture, the Madrid City Council has agreed to establish a monument to the outstanding daughter of the Ukrainian people on the eponymous square. The embassy is currently working upon the preparation of relevant project papers.



На ярмарку, який традиційно організовує Міжнародна асоціація дипломатів в Іспанії, представлено вироби українських майстринь народної творчості – вишиванки, рушники, прикраси, сувеніри тощо. Численні відвідувачі, зокрема Королева Іспанії Софія, висловлювали щирий захват од вишуканості української експозиції

The fair traditionally organised by the International Association of Diplomats in Spain presents products of Ukrainian masters of folk art, namely embroideries, towels, jewellery, souvenirs, etc. Numerous visitors, in particular Queen Sofia of Spain, expressed their sincere admiration for the sophistication of the Ukrainian exposition