## Watch out – the Vikings are back!



**What?** In the summer of 2022 Vikings will be back on the mighty Dnipro river. This time they will not be en route to the Byzantium, but to celebrate the historic links dating back to the days, when Viking settlers formed part of the great Kievan Rus - the cradle of the East Slavic civilization.

To celebrate this proud legacy, a replica of a Viking longboat, the Skjoldungen, from the Viking Ship Museum in Roskilde, Denmark will sail along the old Viking route as an experimental archeological- and dissemination voyage from Kyiv to the Black Sea with a mixed Ukrainian-Danish volunteer crew. The longboat will make landfall at various Ukrainian cities and towns along its route, and be a part of local activities to highlight our common Viking heritage.

**Who?** The voyage is organized by the Viking Ship Museum in Roskilde, the National History Museum of Ukraine and the Royal Danish Embassy in Kyiv.

**Why?** The voyage is a part of the 2022 celebrations of 30 years of diplomatic relations between Ukraine and Denmark. The anniversary will be marked by high-level visits, cultural, commercial and people-to-people events that highlight the unique Danish-Ukrainian partnership that has evolved over the last 30 years.

The voyage is only one part of the celebrations of our common heritage. In January 2022, the Moesgaard Museum, Aarhus, Denmark, will present a new exhibition about the Vikings in the East and in November 2022, the National History Museum of Ukraine will open an exhibition on Vikings in Kievan Rus.

So watch out – the Vikings will be back in the East to remind both Danes and Ukrainians that we share a past dating back to the Viking-age. That is something to be proud of also today.

**If you want to support:** We are looking for sponsors for the voyage of Skjoldungen. If you would wish to support this initiative, or you have any questions, please contact ambassador Ole Egberg Mikkelsen, olemik@um.dk, or Ms. Iryna Zaitseva, iryzai@um.dk.