

Українська Спадщина



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history / heraldry

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TO THE QUESTION OF THE NATIONAL FLAG



Since ancient times different peoples used during the military competition certain symbols that had to indicate the gathering place of the soldiers. Most often it was a piece of cloth attached to the spear. On the princely flags of the ancient Slavs depicted pagan gods, totem signs, and after the adoption of Christianity - Jesus Christ, different Saints. With the tradition of the principles of heraldry on our lands (late XIII century) associated with the appearance and establishment of permanent land emblems, on the basis of which the national symbols.

Ukrainian blue-yellow color combination - one of the oldest among the modern national flags. It comes from the coat of arms Galicia-Volyn principality - a golden lion in blue poly, which appeared in the second half of the XIII century. On this the most time established state signs in neighboring countries - Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary.

The earliest known images of a lion is found on the seal from the charter of 1316 princes Andrew and Leo II; however, it is believed, that this seal belonged to Prince Lev Danilovich (1).



Leo as the coat of arms of Russia acts in the XIV century and on other princely seals, and after the collapse of the principality - on the seals of Polish kings and Lithuanian princes, who seized the Ukrainian lands, on coins, minted in 1350-1410 in Lviv with the inscription "Coin of Rus", on architectural details, etc.

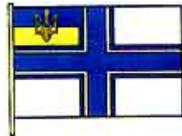
1410 the militia of Lviv land participated in the victorious Grunwald Battle of Blue Corread with Yellow A lion that stops on the rock. The same colors have little banner Przemysl land (on a blue cloth yellow double-headed eagle under the crown) (2).

Gold a lion adjacent to the rock became the coat of arms of the Russian province, formed in 1434 (united Lviv, Galician, Peremyskaya, Syanotska, and from the 16th century and the Chelm Lands) (3). Famous attempts the invaders "polonize" this coat of arms, changing the color of the field to red (4), however, the "Russian Lion" retained its colors and was an original sign of the Western Ukrainian lands until the end of the XVIII century.



Development Cossacks had a significant impact on Ukrainian flagship. Hiring Cossacks for military campaigns, monarchs gave them crests, which were later and used by the Cossacks. Yes, 1593 Holy Roman Emperor Rudolf II handed over the flag to the Zaporizhian Cossacks, a year later his Ambassador Erich The scented another one. These flags, like the korogov, are given Emperor Maximilian and the prince of the Seven-Garden (with their coats of arms), Cossacks lost after the defeat of the uprising under the leadership of Nalyvayko and Loboda (5).

Under the time of the national liberation war of 1648-1654 Cossack the army used flags of different colors with images stars, crosses, months, hetman or land emblems. Here's how the eyewitness describes the storming of the Cossacks of the Chernihiv regiment Gomel 1651: "The offensive began on June 4 on Sunday. At eight o'clock early, when the guards changed, saw the box first red with a white cross and white circumference, then showed the second red barn, and near it three white and two black, and two yellow-broken (that is, blue), under them 8 thousand Cossacks horse-drawn and foot of the selected army" (6). How they looked visible from the published I. Isaevich samples of Cossack flags (7).



The main The crest was a blue flag with a red-white eagle, donated In 1646 King Władysław IV, the Polish king. In February 1649 The year Polish ambassadors were handed over to Pereyaslav B. Khmelnitsky "new royal cake, red with white eagle and inscription "Ioannes Casimirus rex." These two flags were lost 1651 year near

Berestechko (8).

After the Cossacks lifted the siege of Lviv in 1655, an eyewitness this event shows that behind Khmelnitsky carried flags from his the coat of arms of "Abdank" and with the image of the archangel Michael, which prostromsmatizes the snake (apparently symbols of the Hetmanate and Zaporizhia). Pavel Aleppo for his time in Ukraine saw the hetman barn, cross-linked black and yellow strips (9). In Pereyaslav 8 January 1654 Buturlin handed over royal banners with images St. Anthony, Theodosius and Barbara (10).

From this it is clear that the Hetmanate used in the XVII century colorful flags. There were regimental, hundreds of, huts and other barns (large registrar flag), flags and badges (Small Regiment Flag).

Zaporizhia had its own flagship. The Great Corog of Zaporozhian The Sich was red with an image on the front side of white Archangel Michael, and on the reverse - the white Greek cross, surrounded by golden celestial bodies: the sun, crescent and the stars. Flags of kurins and palankas were predominantly raspberry with images of saints or cross (under the influence of this at the end The 19th century there was not entirely a well-founded statement that Zaporozhian flag was crimson). Barefoot for sea hiking was white with the image of st. Nicholas. Preserved also another seafood - red with a Cossack ship and a black double-headed King's Eagle (11).



In addition to military flags, were in the XVI-XVIII centuries urban (magistrate), guild and others. Thus, the city of Bohuslav received a privilege in 1620, in which the flag was determined: "between the banks green river is blue, on which there are 3 cliffs with golden crosses" (12).

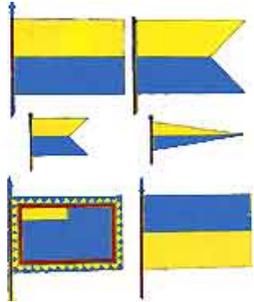
In the XVIII century spread flags with a combination of blue and yellow colors. So, in 1717 for sewing the flags of Poltava the regiment was purchased blue and yellow ludan, and "could Regivan Korogov" - blue with a yellow cross. 1758 developed "abrys" for the manufacture of Lubny flags regiment: on one side on the blue field was the image of the Cossack with samoval in the golden shield (interpreted as national emblem of arms), and on the second - regimental or hundredth emblem. Famous similar flag of the Domontivska Sotron of the Pereyaslav Regiment (1762) and others (13).

According to contemporaries, in yellow zhupanami and in blue shawls and the contouches were dressed by the Haidamaks of Gonta during the uprising 1768 (14).

After the partition of Poland in 1772, Galicia falls under the rule Austria, ancient blue-yellow symbols were canceled, and for "kingdom Galicia and Lodomeria" contrived new emblem and standard (first blue-red-yellow, then blue-red, and after discharge Bukovina 1849-red-blue; for Bukovina blue-red) (15).

In March 1848, a revolution broke out in the Austrian Empire. that gave impetus to the Ukrainian national liberation movement. On the second of May, the Main Ruska was established in Lviv The council, which occupied a loyal position in relation to the Austrian authorities. And when in June on the town hall of Lviv there was a blue-yellow flag, Council members rushed to dissociate, saying that "it's not Rusyns They have been greeted, and they do not know what he is who is greet" (16).

In April 1848, the Austrian authorities allowed the creation of a national Guard "to maintain order." In paragraph 19 of its Statute It was noted that "the keen battalion is a crouton, and a grabber A pillar, decorated with the colors of the region." During the Slavic Congress in Prague (June 2-16) Ukrainian and Polish delegations agreed that the detachments of the National Guard in Galicia "for the insignia will have the coats of arms of both peoples sideways" (17).



However, In fact, the active creation of the detachments of the Polish guard began. This led to the resistance of the Ukrainian population. Yes, the peasants of the Old The mile refused to join the guards "under the sign of the eagle the co-headed" (that is, Polish) and demanded to organize "Russkaya Guard" (18). September 20, the Main Russian Council issues appeal to the Ukrainian people in the organization of detachments National Guard. In Stryi, Drohobych, Yavoriv, Berezhany and other cities and villages such detachments are being created, sanctified blue banners with the golden "Rutian Lion".

Turning from the rural communities to the Council, "many deputated asked, to give them for the village Now the Russian bus shuttle from Lviv is brought, even because there are no good Craftsmen who could honestly be able to be sent to such a barbecue." (19). Therefore, widely used flags from two horizontal strips "in Russian colors" - blue-yellow and yellow-blue (first, according to the rules of vexillology - the science of flags - noted top color). Describing the first congress of Ukrainian scientists Lviv, Yakov Holovatsky submits: "October 7/19 day in Thursday. 1848 oh-W. only leave the cathedral of the scientists of the Russian and amateurs Folk prosvchennya... On the 2nd hour of sleep for creation Cathedral all the chores of members and many guests with signs of mercury to the museal fat. Redly removed steny defeated strong sealed or all present.

The first time Rusyns rose in the seats, gie all remembered People. - In the image of the state monarch rested two, Courages of synochory... okna and stolps were folk colors - with sexy posts strains on the pair of flags so The blue-yellow of the color... And then explains the symbolism of colors:... "People's colors glossed to us and reflected not the riches, loss, but strong, sincerity, joy, goodness. Blue bloom, like the clear sky of South Russia, clear, applaus, like a soul sincere not arrogant Rusyn, izörezhivs and tranquility, which to the development of our people's need. Golden color, as those the star in the clear sky, depicted a clear light, to which We have to try." (20). This is an interpretation of national The color spread among the people. M.Ustyanyovych in the poem "Brothers" write:

Their colors are beautiful
Must be absolutely,
The sky itself,
The Moon and the Sun,
The Russian Slah and the People
Their blossoms read
And very glad
He is stealing."

Galicia at the end of the XIX century was a kind of "Ukrainian Piedmont", so it is not surprising that the national colors are revived It was quickly perceived in other Ukrainian territories. Tom, when in 1911 -1913 on the pages of Kiev and Lviv magazines were based on a polemic about the Ukrainian national symbolism (it was attended by I. Krypiakevych, K. Shyrotsky, C. C. Tomashivsky and others),- the question of national colors did not cause no doubt (only the order of placement was agreed blue and yellow

colors on the flag) (22).

After the February Revolution of 1917, the country swept wave of mass rallies and demonstrations. In Kiev, such a rally 29 (16 old style) March. On it workers, soldiers, intelligentsia walked under red and yellow-blue flags. In the Kiev newspaper "Posledinya Novosti" was published Yadov's poem "16 Marta", it has the following lines:

And the otym the Lutskoyzarnye svoodoo
In the vortex pipes of the liking zvoy,
Over the free joyful people
Proudly riddue beautiful banners.
Do not keep the clover element,
Do not circle the whole of pictures...
Votyutsya Zhelto-gobuie
Proud flags of "Free Ukraine".

Under the same flags there were mass demonstrations in Kharkov, Sevastopol and many other cities of Ukraine.

On May 18, the First Ukrainian Military Congress was opened in Kyiv, to which the Petrograd delegation sent the blue-yellow flag with the inscription: "Long live national-territorial autonomy" 23. In the summer of 1917, part of the ships of the Black Sea Fleet raised Ukrainian flags. Under national and red flags November 22 in Kiev celebrated the proclamation of Ukrainian People's Republic.

On January 14, 1918, the Central Rada adopted the "Temporary Law on the Fleet of the People's Ukrainian Republic", which stated: "2. Flag Ukr. Military Flue is a panel of two - blue and yellow - colors. In the ridge of blue color historical gold trident with a white inner field in it. 3. Flag Ukr. trade fleet is a cloth of two - blue and yellow - colors" (24).



For Hetman P. Skoropadsky also on a blue-yellow basis Several dozen different public service flags were processed. In particular, by the order of the maritime department of July 18, 1918 the year was approved a new naval flag: "...white flag with an equal blue cross that divides the flag into 4 equal parts. The width of the cross is 1/2 of the entire length of the flag. Retreating 1/8 of the width of the cross, passes near it the same width (also 1/8 of the width of the cross) blue strip, except those sides, who are adjacent to the sac. In the sacrum, too, retreating to 1/8 the width of the cross from its sides, contains the national flag States (composed of blue and yellow horizontal stripes), in the center of which contains the golden seal of st. Vladimir so Width, like a cross and 1 and/2 times higher than its width. Flag is sewn from the matter of the appropriate color, and the seal is drawn bronze paint" (25).

In November 1918, the national liberation struggle began in Western Ukraine. Temporary basic law adopted November 13 in Lviv by the Ukrainian National Council, proclaimed the State Flag of the Western Ukrainian People's Republic blue-yellow (article U).

March 20, 1920 adopted a regional blue-yellow flag Subcarpathian Rus (as an integral part of Czechoslovakia), as well as the edge emblem, consisting of two fields: argent with a bear (symbol of Transcarpathia) and blue-yellow (symbol of unity with Ukraine).

Blue and yellow flags were also in the draft Constitutions of the UPR, developed 1920 by the All-Ukrainian National Council (in Kamianka Podillia, May 9-13) and the Government Constitutional Commission Ukrainian state (in Tarnów (Poland - Ed.), October 1).

A new interpretation of colors has also spread: blue as a clear sky - a symbol of peace, yellow, as a wheat field - a symbol of wealth Ukraine.

In the interwar period in Western Ukraine (occupied by Poland) Discussions began about the order of colors on the flag. Historically formed and was recognized blue-yellow, but

supporters of yellow-blue (blue) justified their position by the fact that according to the rules heraldry on top is the color of the main symbol, and from below - the color of the field of the emblem (the coat of arms of the UPR - a golden trident in a blue field). This rule really existed in German heraldry to create City flags. It was used by the Poles, legitimizing in August 1919 white-red flag. But, let's say in Hungary, Bosnia and other lands it acted the other way around. Because Ukrainian vexillology and heraldry in view of historical circumstances formed under various influences and did not have (unlike from Polish) uniform established rules, it is not clear at all, why it was artificially to endure the requirements of German heraldry on Ukrainian soil, and even for the national flag? More more this confusion was exacerbated by a pamphlet published in 1935 in Lviv T. Skotin "Ukrainian coat of arms and flag".

Despite these discussions, when 1939 was proclaimed independence of Carpathian Ukraine (after the annexation by Germany Czech Republic and the collapse of the Czechoslovak Republic), the First Sejm of the Carpathian On March 15, Ukraine in Khust adopted a law, p. And, in which, in particular, It was noted: "§ 5. The color of the national flag of Carpathian Ukraine there is blue and yellow, and the color blue is a nut, and the yellow is the redundant" (26).

Due to the fact that the misunderstandings continued after the war among Ukrainians on emigration, Ukrainian National Council on June 27, 1949 decided that before the final establishment of state symbols independent power in Ukraine - the national flag is blue (blue) - yellow (27).

In the Ukrainian SSR, the national flag according to the Constitution of 1919 (Art. 35) red cloth with a golden abbreviation was adopted (later supplemented by a golden sickle and hammer). Similar flags had other republics of the USSR. November 21, 1949 by the Decree Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR red flag with the inscription "USSR" was replaced by a two-color, the upper strip of which (2/3) is red, and the lower (1/3) is azure. At the top of the flag has gold image of the sickle, hammer and pentagonal star. The use of azure colors were explained by the fact that allegedly under the azure flags Ukrainian people led by Bogdan Khmelnytsky fought against foreign people The invaders and reunited with the Russian people. (It's hard to say, Where did this version come from. Maybe they meant the gifted Cossacks Polish king Władysław IV blue flag with white-red eagle?).

Blue and Yellow Flag, as well as the national flags of other peoples The USSR, subjected to Stalinists all kinds of defecation. Yes, spreading fictions that blue-yellow colors are borrowed by Mazepa from Swedish Flag. This nonsense is refuted by historical materials. Here's how he describes the stay in Bendery Mazepa and his supporters after the Battle of Poltava eyewitness: "...revictus Ukrainian and Kurin Zaporozhian stood in order with weapons, the army was a few, but every day increased. Eagle of Ukraine (!) and the Archangel of Zaporizhia blew over the army..." (28) Paradoxically, but the "eagle of Ukraine" was nothing more than a two-headed Russian Eagle. This is evidenced by the studies of the gravestone plate of the hetman. It can also be added that at the same time (1709) in Bendery Cossacks was transferred from the Turkish sultan blue-red cow: "On the red background of the crescent and above it a silver star, and on the blue Slightly golden cross of the Eastern Church. I was consecrated The Tsargorod Patriarch was a symbol of the unification of Islam with Christianity. (29).

Unfortunately, not quite objective character is Article B. Tkachenko "National Symbols: Past and Present" ("Soviet Ukraine", 1989, February 26). The author writes: "It would be a big stretch in the specific conditions of civil war, when the nation was split into two camps that opposing, consider the trident and yellow-blue "The flag of ethnic culture." That this antagonism in the symbolism, contrived, testifies (except for the facts given below) what under the red and blue-yellow flags took place 1919 in Kiev, the first in Soviet power celebration of the anniversary T. Shevchenko; under these same flags was Shevchenko the holiday of 1920 in Soviet Odessa; with the same "belonging ethnic culture" part of the Red Ukrainian Galician The armies fought for Soviet power (30). If you consider that arrival Directories on December 19, 1918 in Kiev was met "national and red insignia" (31), then by such logic and on the red The flag can be clutched by the label

of the counter-revolution.

Next, the author of the article states that Ukrainian symbols "finally discredited by what appeared on the packs of Bandera militants," and concludes: "...there is a dialectical objection with the preservation of essential rather than formal parties "Social Being." When this idea is further developed, it will arise question: is not the red flag-free oftunis discredited, under which they committed their bloody "feats", not sprfano Is it stagnation for years? Maybe B. Tkachenko believes that red the flag, using his words, also "as a symbol of the ancient Idegree into the past with the era? And not better not attributing to national symbols of fictional features, not to hang On them fake labels?

In addition, it should be realized that the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists had its own symbols. The OUN flag was a blue panel with a special withdrawal of the trident (sword instead of a middle tooth). After the split in this organization in early 1940, this flag remained for the OUN-melnyky. OUN-Banderites on the conducted in April 1941 in Krakow II Great Assembly OUN was adopted separate resolution: "The Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists uses its separate organizational flag of black and red Kras. The structure and responsibilities proportions will be adopted separately Commission" (32). It is necessary to remember that in the interwar period In Western Ukraine, the national flag was used.

Now the attitude to national symbols in our country changing. It turns out that it is not nationalist at all, On the contrary, it has a humane meaning. Yes, in the flag of Estonia blue color is a symbol of the clear sky, black - fertile land, white - the pure soul of the people; in the flag of Lithuania, the yellow color symbolizes sun, green - forests and meadows, red - Lithuanian soil.

Among a certain category of the population of our republic is the opinion that the Ukrainian national blue-yellow flag was created the people themselves; during historical achievements, he became a symbol struggle for his national and social rights. It embodied age-old aspirations for peace, work, beauty and wealth of the native Land. This is one point of view, but there are others. At the time of the Referendum. In the Lithuanian SSR, the national flag is proclaimed The national flag of the republic, instead of the fictional in 1953. National flags are officially recognized in the republics of Transcaucasia.

At the beginning of the century, Mstislav Rus wrote in the poem "Our Flag":

Flag of Rus leads
Blue-yellow, molting,
And what the covenant sows
Monomakh is still given to us.
Hey! Unite your own children,
Because in unity is our strength -
Unity can only be merged,
What the disagreement broke up... (33)

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