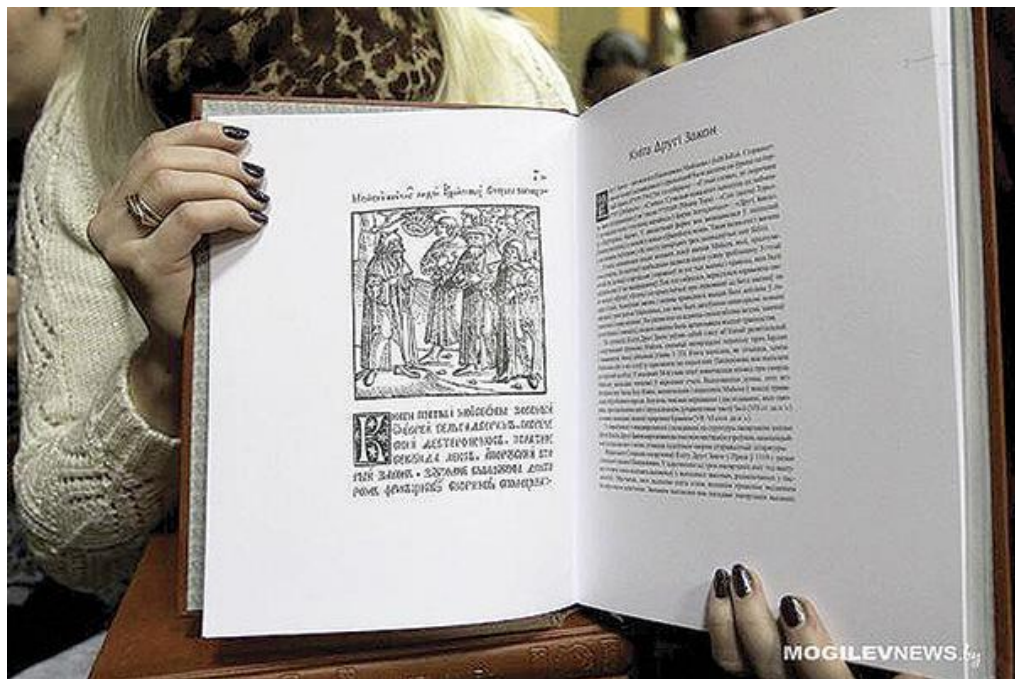


Within unique cultural project

Belarus donates reproduction copies of Frantsisk Skorina Book Legacy to Ukrainian libraries

Belarus recently donated unique reproduction editions to Ukraine's major libraries. Frantsisk Skorina Book Legacy, prepared by the National Library of Belarus, collates 25 volumes printed by Frantsisk Skorina in Prague between 1517 and 1519, and in Vilno from 1522 to 1525. The unique cultural project is dedicated to the 500th anniversary of Belarusian book printing.



A facsimile edition

The ceremony took place at the National Parliamentary Library of Ukraine, under the auspices of the Belarusian diplomatic mission, and the Culture Ministry of Belarus and of Ukraine, as part of the Year of Culture in Belarus. In attendance were the Director of the National Library of Belarus, Roman Motulsky, the Director General of the National Parliamentary Library of Ukraine, Tamara Vylegzhanina, and representatives of the Culture Ministry of Ukraine and the National Parliamentary Library of Ukraine, alongside cultural and art figures from both countries.

Frantsisk Skorina printed the first copy of the Psalter in Belarusian Old Church Slavonic language and then translated other Bibles. It was Skorina who made reading more affordable, making a printed book cheaper than a hand-written one. Moreover, he released the Small Travelling Book, that united the Psalter, texts of church services and hymns, as well as the astronomic church calendar in a single pocket collection.