

Stolen Dutch paintings recovered in Ukraine

Викрадені голландські картини виявлено в Україні

Міністр закордонних справ України заявив, що Служба Безпеки України виявила десять голландських картин 17-го століття, які було вкрадено з музею у Нідерландах 10 років тому.

Павло Клімкін наголосив, що це може полішити імідж України закордоном, зокрема, й в Нідерландах.

<https://thehimalayantimes.com/art-culture/stolen-dutch-paintings-recovered-in-ukraine/>



KIEVE: Four Dutch masterpieces dating from the Netherland's 17th-century Golden Age have been recovered by security services in Ukraine over 10 years after they were stolen from a museum in the Netherlands, Ukraine Foreign Minister Pavlo Klimkin said on April 14.

The paintings — part of a group of 24 works valued at \$11.26 million when they went missing in 2005 — were said in December 2015 to have been discovered in a villa in separatist eastern Ukraine, although the reports were never confirmed.

"I hope today's success will help improve Ukraine's image in the future, particularly in the Netherlands," Klimkin said.

Dutch voters rejected a Ukraine-EU treaty on closer economic and political ties in a non-binding referendum on April 6.

Ukraine's SBU State Security Service has been seeking to recover the missing pictures for the past four months and located the first two, one by painter Floris van Schooten, just before the Dutch referendum, SBU chief Vasyl Hrytsak said.

"Imagine what a trump we had in our hands that we could have played," he said, adding, the decision was taken not to announce the find to avoid publicity while the search continued for the two other paintings — works by Dutch master Jacob Waben, secured on April 14.

Of the 20 paintings still missing, some are known by the SBU to be in territory controlled by pro-Russian separatists, others "might be in Russia", Hrytsak said.

The paintings first disappeared from the Westfries Museum in Hoorn, north of Amsterdam.