



# Society. Document. Communication

Journal homepage: <https://sdc-journal.com.ua/en>  
*Society. Document. Communication*, Vol. 11, No. 2, 58-71

**Article's History:** Received: 19.12.2025 Revised: 08.04.2026 Accepted: 12.05.2026 Published: 30.05.2026

UDC 796.835:930.25  
DOI: 10.69587/sdc/2.2026.58

ISSN 2518-7600  
e-ISSN 2524-1060

## Documenting and archiving materials on the development of kickboxing in Ukraine: The source base of periodicals from the late 20<sup>th</sup> to early 21<sup>st</sup> century

**Vitalii Kotsur**

Doctor of Historical Sciences, PhD in Political Sciences, Professor  
Hryhorii Skovoroda University in Pereiaslav  
08401, 30 Sukhomlynskyi Str., Pereiaslav, Ukraine  
<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6647-7678>

**Olga Pavlenko\***

Lecturer  
Hryhorii Skovoroda University in Pereiaslav  
08401, 30 Sukhomlynskyi Str., Pereiaslav, Ukraine  
<https://orcid.org/0009-0005-2802-6450>

**Abstract.** The aim of the paper was to establish the source potential of national, regional, and specialised press in documenting the development of kickboxing in the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The research methodology combined content analysis of periodicals, historical-chronological and comparative methods, as well as source criticism and analysis of the serial completeness of archival holdings to assess the representativeness of the source base. As a result, it was established that the central press fulfilled a normative-legitimising function, documenting kickboxing primarily in the format of nationally significant events and standardising its description through reportage genres. The research determined that these publications ensured systematic documentary recording of sporting events by regularly reproducing dates and venues of competitions, the quantitative and personal composition of participants, and their organisational and federative affiliation. While the 2000s saw a shift towards institutionally organised coverage using statistical parameters, chronological logic, and recognised disciplinary nomenclature, content analysis of materials from the late 1980s to the mid-1990s revealed fragmented coverage, genre instability, and terminological inconsistency in references. The development of sections, club activities, coaches' biographies, and popular participation in events have all been documented by regional and district press, which has been shown to be the primary source of information about local sports infrastructure. It is shown that specialised sports periodicals and federative protocol materials enabled the verification of newspaper reports and enhanced the source accuracy of reconstructions. The conclusions substantiate the expediency of a comprehensive use of periodicals from different levels for reconstructing the history of kickboxing. The practical significance of the research results lies in their potential use by libraries and archives at national and regional levels for archival description, identifying gaps in newspaper/magazine runs, and determining priorities for digitising sports periodicals related to the development of kickboxing in Ukraine

**Keywords:** source studies; rubric; digitisation; reportage; journalism

### **Suggested Citation:**

Kotsur, V., & Pavlenko, O. (2026). Documenting and archiving materials on the development of kickboxing in Ukraine: The source base of periodicals from the late 20<sup>th</sup> to early 21<sup>st</sup> century. *Society. Document. Communication*, 11(2), 58-71. doi: 10.69587/sdc/2.2026.58.



Copyright © The Author(s). This is an open access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution License 4.0 (<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/>)

\*Corresponding author ([o.pavlenko1@outlook.com](mailto:o.pavlenko1@outlook.com))

## Introduction

The relevance of this study was determined by the fact that periodicals from the late 20<sup>th</sup> to early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries preserved a body of “everyday” yet publicly legitimised evidence concerning the formation of kickboxing in Ukraine, thus acting not only as an information channel but also as a documentary environment for recording socio-communicative processes in sport. Newspaper and magazine publications specifically reproduced how sporting practices gained public visibility, how media representations of the sport’s “normativity” were constructed, and by what descriptive tools (genres, rubrication, statistical formulas) the sport was integrated into the broader public agenda. In addition to the need to “locate references”, there was also a need to ensure that periodicals were treated as scholarly sources with clear protocols for selection, evaluation, and archival documentation due to the physical vulnerability of newsprint, the uneven preservation of complete collections, and the incomplete nature of digital access. The issue of sports magazine loss was chiefly associated with the failure to deposit publications in archive and library collections at the time of their issuance, precisely when the foundational layer of national documented memory was being established. Local newspapers with low circulation, club bulletins, and ephemeral sports supplements exhibited editorial instability, interruptions in serialisation, inadequate adherence to required copy deposit requirements, and poor institutional communication between publishers and depositories. Thus, deficiencies in the source material arose not from arbitrary losses over time, but from the lack of primary acquisition records – materials were excluded from collections, failed to obtain inventory status, were not indexed, and consequently remained inaccessible for future retrieval and source verification. O. Veremchuk & O. Postelzhuk (2025) contended that in circumstances of technological instability, digitalisation need to be seen primarily as a means of preserving national memory, rather than just as a kind of technical modernisation. The researchers asserted that the enduring preservation of magazines as a serial resource is unfeasible without standardisation and institutional coordination, cautioning against the potential fragmentation of digital collections in the lack of a cohesive repository architecture. L. Greenberg (2023) analysed the special character of wartime dangers, suggesting that the risks of loss encompass both physical and organisational dimensions due to interrupted acquisition and exchange chains. The author noted that while quick fixes are prioritised, the “randomness” of preservation is made worse by differences in resources among institutions, making some categories – like sports publications – less accessible. According to R.L. Savchuk & O.V. Figlevskiy (2022), the local newspaper serves as a chronicler of sports infrastructure and community identity, highlighting the significance of localised content. They demonstrated how local media record micro-historical information, such as names, dates, and toponyms, that are necessary

for a thorough reconstruction of sports history through a focused selection of genres.

By studying the history of professional standards and technical practices, P. Lokshyn *et al.* (2024) investigated the development of sports journalism, considering magazines as a communication tool that affected the degree of public representation of sports issues. The researchers highlighted the difficulties in standardising journalistic techniques and the resource constraints faced by editorial offices by establishing a correlation between the calibre of sports coverage and the level of institutional maturity within the media industry. A critical viewpoint on the “scanning for scanning’s sake” approach was presented by O.V. Shevchenko & V.G. Sprynsyan (2022), who proposed that digital copies of newspapers are an essential component of cultural memory rather than just an additional technological format. The authors defended the need to preserve a digital document’s whole life cycle, emphasising the importance of metadata, creation conditions, and operating context. V. Oryshchuk (2023) shifted the focus of research to the managerial side of digitisation, arguing that in the absence of coordinated political and regulatory frameworks, digital transformation only changed the outward signs of information access inequality without addressing its underlying causes. This created the potential of selective digitisation, in which institutions neglect topic peripheries, often including sports archives, while comprehensive projects only emphasise content that is prioritised. M. Jablonsky & J. Šima (2021) research clarified the methods of structural paper deterioration via chemical oxidation reactions, providing the scientific foundation for newspaper collections’ susceptibility. The critical requirement for quick action to physically preserve printed materials was confirmed by the authors’ analysis of the processes of yellowing/browning and the deterioration of mechanical strength in cellulose fibres. The cumulative negative effects of fluctuating microclimatic conditions on the material durability of paper collections were empirically demonstrated by E. Verticchio *et al.* (2022). The researchers described the preservation of serial publications as a question of careful management of storage conditions by correlating deterioration rates with changes in ambient temperature and humidity. The technical limitations of using digitised periodical collections were analysed by K. Kettunen *et al.* (2022), who established a direct correlation between the quality level of optical character recognition and the completeness of information retrieval. The authors demonstrated that Optical Character Recognition (OCR) errors distort content analysis results, which becomes significant when working with sports publications, where search queries are often based on personal names, toponyms, and numerical data.

In summary, previous research has addressed the digitisation of archives, access policies, the state of sports journalism, and the technical-material risks to preservation; however, it has not sufficiently and

systematically integrated these directions with source analysis of sports periodicals specifically as a serial complex for documenting kickboxing. Consequently, the aim of this article was to conduct an analysis of periodicals from the late 20<sup>th</sup> to early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries as a source base for documenting and archiving the development of kickboxing in Ukraine. To achieve this aim, the following tasks were set: to identify the typological groups of periodicals and outline their information regimes; to determine the key preservation risks and substantiate the principles of archival description and digitisation; and to compare the potential of central, regional, and specialised sports press in reconstructing the event-based and infrastructural components of kickboxing's development.

### Materials and Methods

In the study, texts from periodical print publications and their digital copies were used, as well as online publications from editorial archives and regional media that reproduced the informational context of documenting kickboxing in the Ukrainian media space of the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The empirical corpus consisted of 8 media outlets/publications of various levels and 12 relevant publications/issues from 1987-2018. Specialised sports press was represented by the following sources: "Sportyvna Hazeta" (Issue 47 of "Sportyvna Gazeta", 1987) and the newspaper "Komanda" (Goodbye, "Komanda"? 2017). From national publications, the corpus included "Ukraina Moloda" (Korolov, 2005) and "Uriadovyi Kurier" (In our capital, the blow..., 2015). Regional and local levels were analysed using the examples of the newspapers "Slobidskyi Krai" (Breslavets, 2013) and "Visti" (Pereyaslavets became the champion..., 2018). The online segment encompassed materials published on the portals "Gazeta.ua", including the article Ukrainian woman becomes... (2008), and "PMG.ua", including the article Transcarpathian kickboxers achieved... (2014). Additionally, for verification and comparison with newspaper reports, a federation protocol document was included (Ukrainian Kickboxing Federation, 2018). Separately, outside the main historical corpus (without inclusion in the chronological comparisons of 1987-2018), an example of a current digital news representation was used – "Kamyanske.com.ua" (Bugueva, 2025). The search and formation of the corpus were carried out according to a purposive principle (selection of publications by typological groups) using full-text search with keywords within each selected resource, within the limits of available digital sets. The identification of materials in digital archives and on websites was conducted using a set of keywords and spelling variants: "kickboxing", "full contact", "light contact", "semi-contact", "K-1", as well as combinations with event-related terms such as "championship", "tournament", "cup", "competition", "national team". Inclusion criteria were – the presence of kickboxing as the direct object of the report (event/result/institutional fact/biographical mention in a sports context), the

presence of publication data (date of publication and/or issue number, identification of the publication), which ensured chronological positioning, the possibility of assigning the material to a rubric/thematic block (sport/martial arts, etc.) or the presence of structural markers of a sports news item (name of competition, result, participants). Exclusion criteria were undated texts without reference to a specific issue, materials where kickboxing was mentioned only briefly without factual parameters, as well as reports with unclear source attribution that made correct retrospective comparison impossible. The obtained data were interpreted on the basis of the concepts of documentary communication, as presented in M. McLuhan (1994), and social memory, as developed by J. Assmann (2011). This theoretical framework facilitated the elucidation of the varying "visibility" of kickboxing in the media – how genre forms dictate the nature of sources, and how, via consistent categorisation, local references are transmuted into public history.

Utilising the source research approach, the identification, attribution, and critique of the selected resources were conducted, differentiating between analytically relevant and fragmented references. The first category included publications containing at least two factual blocks (date, location, persons, institutional markers, or result), for example, the material in the publication "Slobidskyi Krai" (Breslavets, 2013). Mentions without verifiable details that did not allow the event to be verified were classified as fragmentary. The selected array of analytically significant publications was subjected to content analysis, which involved coding each unit according to a unified scheme – level of publication (national, specialised, regional, local, online archive), genre (news, report, feature, announcement, interview, review), rubric or thematic block (if present), terminological designations of disciplines or versions, presence of metadata in the text, use of illustrations, and type of event. The historical-chronological method was applied with annual discreteness (refined by the event date from the text if necessary) to construct a sequence of media mentions and record transitions from isolated reports to more regular formats. The comparative method was used to contrast the central press. The comparative method was used to juxtapose national and specialised press ("Uriadovyi Kurier", "Ukraina Moloda", "Sportyvna Hazeta", "Komanda", the national portal Gazeta.ua) with regional/local periodicals ("Slobidskyi Krai", the newspaper "Visti" (Boryspil), the regional portal PMG.ua) in terms of factual density, genre models, and frequency of institutional markers, which allowed for distinguishing events of a national level from locally recorded episodes.

### Results

#### Periodical press as a tool for documenting and institutionalising kickboxing in Ukraine

In the national press, kickboxing was presented in reportage-news formats, where the event was framed

as an official-level occurrence and described through standardised markers (date/venue, competition status, participant composition, outcome), with semantic accents built around the formulas of “achievement” and “national success” (McEnnis, 2021). In terms of social memory, it was the central press that partially transferred reports from the level of situational communicative memory (local tournaments, club news) to a broader layer of public memory, where the recording of events occurred through stable rubrics, standardised genres, and recurring narratives (McLuhan, 1994). The central publications, particularly the official national state press, played a crucial role in kickboxing by presenting events through a “official” discourse in two dimensions: statistical-registrational (results, rankings, geographic participation) and institutional (comments from federation or departmental representatives, competition announcements, and concise information on rules and classifications). For example, articles from the national daily “Uriadovyi Kurier” (In our capital, the blow..., 2015) that emphasised kickboxing as an official city/state event serve as an example of the centre segment. The format, team makeup, event background, and institutional identifiers (World Association of Kickboxing Organisations (WAKO), etc.) were all described in accordance with public reporting rules. Kickboxing was not consistently covered by the central press, as shown by thematic selection; the sport became well-known during noteworthy events that went beyond the local context, like international victories, publicly significant tournaments, integration into state programmes, and “anniversary” or “demonstration” events. Therefore, the legitimisation and standardisation of the descriptions, rather than the thoroughness of the chronicle, is what gives central periodicals their inherent value. It is within this framework that consistent organisational names, accurate self-designations of disciplines/versions, and formalised references to regulations and ranks are identified. All-Ukrainian periodicals with regular sports sections make up a separate stratum that successfully performed a national function in the advancement of sports communication despite not being a part of the mainstream socio-political press (Sazonova, 2021). Such publications include the newspaper “Ukraina Moloda”, which from the early 1990s systematically published materials on the development of sports in Ukraine, including martial arts. For example, biographical sketches, such as the material on the sporting path of successors to famous champions, recorded a personalised success story (Korolov, 2005). In issues from the mid-2000s, this publication featured individual articles directly dedicated to kickboxing, its disciplines, competitive structure, and national championships, evidencing the gradual inclusion of this sport into the all-Ukrainian media space. The existence of the publication’s open electronic archive enabled a comprehensive selection of publications and the formation of a working corpus of texts for analysing the media

documentation of sports practices; at the same time, the selectivity of digital newspaper collections and editorial priorities, which focused attention on the most popular sports, determined the uneven coverage of kickboxing.

Content analysis of regional materials demonstrated that the local press performed a different function – that of primary recording and local institutional memory. While central publications recorded the presence of kickboxing mainly in the phase of high achievements or resonant events, district and regional newspapers documented the “everyday infrastructure” of its development – the opening of sections, first clubs, coaches’ biographies, local championships, trips to competitions, support from local authorities or sponsors. As noted by J. Assmann (2011), at the level of social memory theory, this corresponds to the preservation of communities’ communicative memory: local publications recorded what did not make it into national media, yet it is precisely from such “small” reports that the reconstruction of the sport’s initial stages in a region is composed. In the archival dimension, the regional press acquires the status of a source with an increased risk of loss (due to low print runs, weak institutional support for preservation, lack of systematic digitisation), which enhances its value and, at the same time, necessitates special practices for its identification and description. Transcarpathia demonstrated the following situation – materials from the local information field recorded both sporting results and organisational steps (the role of federation leaders, contacts, international connections), with the presentation having the character of a “chronicle of events”, where metadata important for the researcher (dates, locations, surnames, club names) is present directly in the text. As an example, one can cite a publication Transcarpathian kickboxers achieved... (2014) from the newspaper “PMG. ua”, which serves as a source containing concentrated information about the performances of Transcarpathian kickboxers and the organisational activity of the regional federation. For a document specialist, the value of such material lies in the fact that it is simultaneously a “news item” and a minimal “protocol” of a sporting event (result, participants, coach, institutional context).

The Kharkiv region, in materials from the regional press, was reflected through reportage formats detailing the structure of competitions (divisions, weight categories, number of teams, local geography of clubs). For example, the regional publication Slobidskyi Krai, in a publication about a tournament near Kharkiv, recorded not only the fact of its holding but also organisational and “statistical” parameters (number of athletes, districts/cities, disciplines such as light-/semi-/full-contact), which makes the material suitable for further comparative analysis of the regional network of sections. From the perspective of historical reconstruction, this means that the regional press often fulfils the function of a “registrar” of structural features of development (participation rates, club map, organisational centres), which central media

did not reproduce systematically. Kyiv region, as an example of a capital region, demonstrates the documentary role of district newspapers in covering specific clubs, coaches, and athletes' participation in championships. Material from the newspaper "Visti" contains personified information (names of athletes, coaches, circumstances of participation, quantitative parameters of competitions), which is a primary element for the district press and one of the key elements for biographical reconstruction and compiling local "registers" of sports personnel (Pereyaslavets became the champion..., 2018). In practice, such detailing confirms the functional specificity of the district newspaper as a basic source for studying microhistory and sports local lore. In conclusion, district and regional newspapers served as the most detailed source regarding the initial stages of development of sections and clubs, which the central press might ignore due to the absence of a "national news angle".

A separate segment of the source base was formed by specialised sports periodicals and departmental communication channels, which provided a different type of documentation – institutionally oriented and standardised in its forms of information presentation. Specialised publications included sports newspapers and magazines which, even without a permanent "kickboxing" rubric, could more systematically reproduce sports terminology, genres of analysis and interviews, and also adhere to standards for naming organisations and tournaments. In

this sense, the very existence and accessibility of serial issues in digital collections (as in the case with the collection of issues of "Sportyvna Hazeta" in the digital periodicals archive) is important (Issue 47 of "Sportyvna Gazeta", 1987). The departmental dimension in the period from the late 2000s to the early 2010s is also represented by resources of sports governance bodies, where kickboxing appears as an object of official communication: news, documents, announcements, correspondence. Although these are predominantly electronic formats, they are a logical continuation of the "departmental press" as a tool for recording decisions and events and confirm the trend towards the institutional consolidation of the sport in official documentation. Furthermore, alongside periodicals, there functioned a body of operational federation documents, which have a "quasi-periodical" character (regularly produced for specific competitions) and can be used to verify newspaper reports: fight pairings, protocols, regulatory materials. As an example, the Ukrainian Kickboxing Federation (2018) document serves as a primary registration source and includes organised data about participants, divisions, combat forms, and programme duration factors. Such records are crucial for confirming the accuracy of periodical publications (names, weight categories, tournament status) in the context of source critique. They also demonstrate the balance between journalistic storytelling and formalised documentation in sports communication (Table 1).

**Table 1. Functional typology of periodicals in the system of documenting the history of kickboxing**

| Level of periodical    | Periodicals                                     | Primary function   | Type of information for the researcher                                | Specifics of kickboxing coverage   |
|------------------------|---|--|---|--|
| National (official)    | "Uriadovyi Kurier"                              | Normative-legitimising. Recording an event as a fact of state significance       | Official names, dates, national team composition, competition status  | Irregularity – only resonant events or successes of national scale                   |
| National (specialised) | "Sportyvna Hazeta", "Komanda", "Ukraina Moloda" | Professional-standardising. Formation of professional terminology and chronicles | Statistics, reviews, interviews with experts, rankings                | Systematicity – presence of rubrics, tracking dynamics, stabilisation of terminology |
| Regional (oblast)      | "Slobidskyi Krai"                               | Institutional memory of the region. Recording the local network                  | "Everyday infrastructure": club openings, sponsors, local tournaments | Detailing – mentions of children's sections and events ignored by the centre         |
| Local (district)       | "Visti Newspaper (Boryspil)", "Gazeta.ua"       | Personification of history. Communicative memory of the community                | Biographical data of athletes, names of first coaches                 | Microhistory – focus on specific individuals and their path                          |

Source: created by the author

The analysis showed that the national press primarily used normative-legitimising and representational techniques to document kickboxing, selecting events according to their social significance and standardising their descriptions. Although they addressed sports inconsistently, central publications made it easier to document the "official" discourse within statistical and institutional frameworks; as a result, its source value was primarily found in the legitimisation and standardisation of identities, statuses, and regulatory indicators. Local and regional periodicals documented the "everyday infrastructure" of development that sometimes eluded the attention of central authorities, acting as primary records and archives of

local institutional memory. This corpus was supplemented by federation papers and specialised sports periodicals, which enhanced report verification capabilities and integrated journalistic narrative with official event data.

### **Evolution of thematic content in publications (late 20<sup>th</sup> – early 21<sup>st</sup> century)**

The corpus of publications from the late 1980s to the mid-1990s was formed amidst the transformation of the media space and the establishment of new sporting practices, which directly influenced the methods of their recording in the periodical press. During this period, kickboxing was only entering the information field

of mass publications and did not have an established status within the system of sports journalism. The absence of stable editorial approaches, unified terminology, and clear genre models led to a heterogeneity in the forms of material presentation. Consequently, reports on kickboxing were placed in various thematic blocks – from sports chronicles to information-entertainment and news rubrics – which determined the specific nature of the early stage of its media documentation (Rauch & Kropyvnytska, 2025). The reasons for such coverage have a documentary studies explanation: in the early period (1991-2000), there was a lack of stable primary official information channels that editorial offices could work with regularly (the unified federal structures were still being formed, calendars were not publicly accessible, and protocols did not circulate as public information). Journalists often lacked established professional terminology: texts contained mixed names of disciplines, unclear descriptions of rules, and the substitution of sporting categories with everyday terms (“brawl”, “skirmish”, “tough fights”, etc.), which reduced source accuracy. The rationale for media selection at that period perpetuated “exoticisation”: the novel contact sport with striking tactics was more readily “marketable” through emotional cues and conflict-oriented storytelling than through tranquil statistics. Unlike the digital representation of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, where tournaments are clearly structured and tied to a state or memorial context, such as the all-Ukrainian tournament in Kamianske dedicated to the Day of Remembrance of Defenders, in the 1990s, sports journalism did not yet have such established institutional templates for description (Bugueva, 2025). From an archival studies perspective, this period is problematic; even when publications existed, they were often difficult to retrieve subsequently due to weak indexing (lack of stable subject headings, chaotic headlines, inconsistent keywords). This is precisely why serialised sports newspapers, where the likelihood of preserving and repeating thematic sections was higher, as well as the possible retrospective identification of materials through digital collections of issues, gained priority.

In the late 1990s and early 2000s, periodicals registered a transition towards the professionalisation of sports coverage and the emergence of features of an institutional narrative (Lokshyn *et al.*, 2024). The changes manifested in three interrelated dimensions: genre stabilisation and regularity – the frequency of reviews, short reports, announcements, and interviews increased, with materials being tied to the competition calendar. In the specialised sports press (or in the “sports pages” of national publications), kickboxing gradually began to be described alongside other disciplines as an institutionally recognised element of the sports field. The role of sports publications, notably the newspaper “Komanda”, which functioned as a regular channel for sports information from 1995 and produced standards for reporting and reviewing, was indicative, generally enhancing the

“documentary quality” of sports communications (accuracy of names, text structure, contextual recording) (Sazonova, 2021). An examination of publications from this era, notably the piece on Vitali Klitschko’s match, reveals a transition towards comprehensive accounts of the international accomplishments of Ukrainian sportsmen, delineating the tournament standing and the circumstances of the contest (Men’s club. Kickboxing..., 2016). Kickboxing was no longer portrayed in the media as “street fighting” or “brutal spectacle”, but rather as a “official sport” with “national teams” and “opportunities for international representation” (Orel *et al.*, 2021). Through concise, results-driven reporting, national digital media began systematically documenting overseas achievements in the 2000s (Ukrainian woman becomes..., 2008). After resolving the issue, the central press started highlighting the events’ organisational and representational features, which were essential for their legitimisation. The media began documenting kickboxing through institutional categories, as demonstrated by publications about tournaments that detailed the organisational framework (international bouts, national teams, markers of federal affiliation) (Vichor, 2007). The texts included names of winners and reward recipients, club location, and numerical factors (participants, teams, and categories). As a result, journalistic content became more in line with the function of a “secondary document”, which is a simplified representation of primary documents. The local press, which provided a “cross-section” of the area’s sports network, demonstrated this tendency. A local magazine article that meticulously described a competition, including dates, venue, teams, disciplines, and winners, serves as an example (First in kickboxing!, 2005).

Within the framework of social memory, institutionalisation appeared as a change from episodic allusions to the methodical recording of events: championships, official competitions, the formation of national teams, and statements from federations produced a cohesive collection of verifiable facts that made it easier to create a chronology based on a comparatively stable sequence of events rather than isolated narratives. At the same time, it is crucial to draw attention to the differences: journals showed an imbalance between the centre and the regions even throughout the institutionalisation phase, and they also ignored the day-to-day activities of clubs (training procedures, staff changes, local cooperation). This emphasises how important it is to combine newspaper pieces with official federation documents (bout sheets, protocols) in order to make it easier to explain and validate media coverage. Interviews with athletes, coaches, and authorities constitute a unique type of sources in magazines. These interviews have two different characteristics: first, they are journalistic texts with inherent subjectivity; second, they function as a written medium for recording “oral history”. The examination of programmatic interviews with P. Orel, President of the National Kickboxing Federation of Ukraine under the

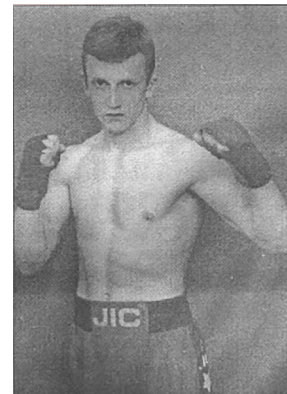
WAKO, substantiated the presence of a coherent public strategy focused on redefining the societal perception of kickboxing. These materials embody not just the personal perspectives of the federation's president but also a comprehensive communicative strategy aimed at legitimising this sport within the post-Soviet societal framework. The argumentation was built on emphasising the coordination and technical complexity of kickboxing, which was presented as a synthesis of classical boxing and karate. Such rhetoric was aimed at attracting educated urban youth and distancing this sport from the criminalised perceptions of martial arts prevalent in the public consciousness of the 1990s (Opanashchuk, 2015).

The mention of specific coaches and educators allows for clarifying the personnel composition of the sport's early centres and reconstructing informal networks of professional interaction. An important element of these narratives is also the appeal to the principles of fair judging: an episode where P. Orel publicly refused to interfere in the outcome of a fight became a component of the symbolic construction of the ethical code of Ukrainian kickboxing and was actively disseminated by the press as confirmation of commitment to the principles of fair play. A separate body of sources reflects the ideological transformation of discourse in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century, raising the issue of national identity and the role of sport in nation-building processes (Opanashchuk, 2015). P. Orel articulates the transition from the Soviet model of fostering an "international athlete" to the image of the athlete as a bearer of Ukrainian national tradition, appealing to historical parallels with the Cossacks. Such statements indicate that sports periodicals of the early 21<sup>st</sup> century began to function as an ideological platform within which sport was viewed as a tool for shaping civic and national consciousness. The interviews reproduced what does not make it into the official records: motives for participation, perceptions of "real sport", evaluations of judging, relationships between clubs, and regional competition. In J. Assmann's (2011) terms, this is important material of communicative memory, which periodicals "preserved" for subsequent reading. In conclusion, the evolution of the thematic content of periodicals – from "exoticised" and terminologically unstable mentions to more institutionally and statistically rich publications – reflects the process of kickboxing's establishment as a socially recognised sport. For documentary studies, this is simultaneously a history of changing forms of recording – from an incidental report to a relatively standardised description that can be included in archival complexes and used for reconstruction without significant loss of content.

### Problems of preservation and archiving of sports periodicals

The material component of periodicals from the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries was shaped under conditions of socio-economic and production constraints, which

directly impacted the quality of printed media. Newspaper files from the 1990s were created amidst a shortage of printing resources and instability in the publishing infrastructure, affecting the physical and chemical characteristics of the paper. For the printed production of the so-called "transformation period", typical features were low density and increased porosity of the paper base, instability of printing inks, and high acidity of the material, caused by the use of wood pulp with a high lignin content. It was precisely the presence of lignin and unremoved impurities from the wood raw material that caused accelerated yellowing and darkening of the paper, loss of mechanical strength, brittleness, and fragility of the medium, especially under prolonged exposure to light and elevated temperatures. Consequently, low-quality newsprint falls into the category of materials with the highest rates of physical degradation (Kraševc *et al.*, 2025). From an archival studies perspective, it is important to emphasise that for the history of kickboxing, it is not only the loss of the textual corpus that is crucial but also the degradation of the photographic and illustrative layer (Fig. 1). In addition to documenting physical skills, characteristics, award ceremonies, the spatial elements of sports facilities, and local infrastructure, the photographs (reportage images from tournaments, athlete portraits, posters, club insignia, and occasionally result tables) served to depict communal memory. Newspapers with poor printing quality in the 1990s published images on thin paper at low resolution. Fading, blurring, delamination of the printed layer, and mechanical damage at the publications' folds and binding points were all signs of this medium deterioration.



**Figure 1.** Example of photographic material degradation  
Source: First in kickboxing! (2005)

Brittleness was the main issue with degradation mechanics; sheets lost their elasticity, broke easily along folds, crumbled at the edges, and binding/fastening points (staples, adhesive spines, thread) turned into "acceleration zones" for tearing. Essentially, the "minor" informative components vital for sports history were lost – brief remarks, photo captions, results tables, names of winners, dates, and toponyms. As the medium deteriorates,

these elements vanish initially, so directly reducing the repeatability of events from the source. The deterioration of the photographic and pictorial layer, which historically has both an illustrative and documentation purpose in kickboxing, need specific attention. The technical printing peculiarities of the 1990s, specifically the low resolution of the halftone screen and the quality of ink (Fig. 2), create an additional barrier for contemporary

archiving. Such printing defects not only lead to the loss of visual detail but also significantly complicate the process of scanning and Optical Character Recognition (OCR) of accompanying texts and captions. Preservation practices for news media also record that paper brittleness and fragility are precisely key barriers to safe access and digitisation, as preliminary conservation is necessary before reformatting/scanning (Hutchison, 2024).



Figure 2. Example of an image with low printing quality

Source: Men's club. Kickboxing... (2016)

The "environmental" factor is also important; the degradation rate of paper collections increases significantly with temperature and humidity fluctuations, in non-specialist or uncontrolled storage facilities, and in premises lacking preventive microclimate monitoring. Research on risks to paper collections in the context of climatic conditions emphasises that the stability of storage parameters is critical for slowing down degradation (Fouseki *et al.*, 2023). Therefore, when it comes to materials on the history of kickboxing, the problem has two aspects: newspapers as a medium quickly deteriorate, destroying both the "textual layer" and the pictorial elements, which often serve as the only material for identifying early events and figures. The comprehensiveness of collections in national and regional repositories is the subject of the second cluster of vulnerabilities, which is related to the institutional level. The legal deposit has always been the main way for institutions to purchase magazines. The regulatory framework of Ukraine's legal deposit system outlines the parties involved, the types of documents, and the processes by which designated storage institutions can obtain them. By preserving the consistency of purchases, this method attempts to reduce the likelihood that low-circulation magazines will be forgotten by the country. However, an analysis of legal deposit delivery practices in the newspaper industry revealed a different picture: even with a regulatory framework, the actual comprehensiveness of holdings depends on the diligence of editorial offices and publishers as well as the

ability of institutions to enforce oversight (Jensen, 2021). Important to this analysis are the findings of an analytical study conducted by the Book Chamber of Ukraine, which showed a decrease in the number of delivered legal deposit newspapers in 2021 compared to the previous year, along with the presence of undelivered titles. For 256 newspaper titles published in 2020, editorial offices were found to have failed to provide legal deposits; a percentage of these non-deliveries came from different locations (Zhyhun & Ustinnikova, 2022). This directly affects the history of kickboxing: a local newspaper or departmental bulletin (club/federation newsletter) is considered a "fortuitously preserved" source if it was not included in the legal deposit system.

Gaps in holdings, such as incomplete bound volumes, losses in annual sets, missing individual issues, and disruptions in the seriality of publishing, demonstrate the preservation difficulty for sports journals in prestigious library and archive collections (Dubrovina *et al.*, 2024). This indicates a violation of the idea of serial completeness of the record in archival language, which leads to a distortion of event chronology and hinders accurate retrospective content analysis (mention frequency, section heading stability, genre dynamics). Structural factors of the 1990s, including limited print runs, editorial instability, financial volatility, publication closure or re-registration, and insufficiently developed institutional procedures for the transfer of complete sets for permanent preservation, exacerbated the deficiencies

at regional state archives and local libraries. Low-circulation regional publications, district newspapers, municipal bulletins, sports groups' internal printed newsletters, and infrequent club releases were also given analytical attention. These sources often documented kickboxing's "primary infrastructure" (division formation, regional championships, team outings, sponsorship support) that the mainstream media ignored. The third and most perilous aspect of the issue is to digitalisation and accessibility. In practice, the physical degradation of periodicals could be offset by the systematic creation of digital copies (scanning, metadata, long-term digital preservation, access via repositories) (Neshat & Ghasemi, 2023). However, research into the state of digitisation in Ukraine points to a structural obstacle – the absence of a national programme for digitising documentary heritage leads to uncoordinated actions by institutions and the lack of an integrated national digital resource (Shevchenko, 2022). This means that even with individual successful initiatives, the country lacks a unified "entry point" to the digital corpus of periodicals, forcing the user to work with scattered collections from various institutions. It is indicative that the Ukrainian digital landscape was formed through a multitude of parallel resources and digital libraries; relevant overviews mentioned various platforms, including the digital libraries oriented towards the National Library of Ukraine named after V. Vernadsky and individual projects such as the Libraria archive of Ukrainian periodicals.

The existence of several platforms itself is a positive factor, but for the history of kickboxing, the problem lay elsewhere: sports press, especially regional publications, did not fall within scanning priorities, as it was overshadowed by historical publications or documents of cultural and political significance. As a result, a "digital inequality" of source segments is formed – what is preserved physically is not necessarily accessible digitally, and what is accessible digitally does not necessarily represent the sports periphery where the actual formation of the network of sections and tournaments occurred. There is no way to reverse the hazards associated with a lack of systematic digitisation. A layer of social memory pertaining to early kickboxing, including early local championships, club locations, coaching figures, the evolution of symbols, and documentary photographs, is lost when a newspaper file deteriorates, frequently as a result of the acidity of the paper and frequent handling. In the context of social memory, this refers to the destruction of the material underpinnings of collective communicative memory; local stories do not develop into long-lasting cultural forms if their custodians are not preserved in institutionally protected archives and duplicated in digital formats. From the perspective of document studies, what is lost is not just "information", but also the documentary structure, which includes section headings, page layout, and more aspects within the problem that provide context and enable precise interpretation. There is a procedural component to access restrictions: even

when bound volumes are kept in repositories, researchers still have to deal with a number of challenges, such as usage requirements for rare or fragile documents, copying restrictions, the need to work in reading rooms, and the absence of thorough electronic indexes for specific sections. This has an immediate impact on study reproducibility; without full-text search and trustworthy digital copies, content analysis is a laborious process that may result in unintentional exclusions. The analysis shows that, as a historical source for kickboxing, the periodical press from the late 20<sup>th</sup> to the early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries is characterised by increased physical media vulnerability because of worse paper quality and unfavourable storage conditions. The ability to attribute early events, personalities, and the local sports infrastructure is limited by the degradation of both the textual and especially the visual components. Incomplete holdings, seriality disruptions, and functional shortcomings in the legal deposit system are all sources of institutional-level hazards. The risk of losing a significant amount of recorded memory is increased by the absence of a coordinated state push for the digitisation of publications, which directly affects how thoroughly the history of kickboxing's development in Ukraine can be recreated.

## Discussion

The findings showed that the Ukrainian periodical press's coverage of kickboxing was erratic and dependent on editorial visibility tactics. As a result, the collection of documents did not provide a thorough picture of the sport's development; rather, it only documented moments of increased public attention. Kickboxing was primarily presented by central media as an institutionally acceptable entertainment for "national occasions". As a result, their content is only useful as a record of official markers (competition status, organisational names, regulatory designations); nonetheless, it consistently ignores the routine tasks required in building the regional infrastructure and club network. By recording "minor" facts and local stories, the regional and district newspapers helped to offset this shortcoming. However, this press is the most vulnerable to loss, limited archives, and inadequate digitalisation, making the reconstruction of the early stages of kickboxing expansion dependent on the unpredictable preservation of materials. F. Brissot (2024) using the example of the Parisian "bibliolympiades" programme, illustrated how a library can transform from a passive repository into an active participant in a major sporting event by creating thematic resources and documentation. This initiative, deployed across a network of city libraries from 2022, was distinguished by a high level of organisation and visibility in the public sphere thanks to an extensive programme of events. In the conducted study, the opposite institutional regime was observed; the documentation of kickboxing depended on editorial selection and the random preservation of newspaper files, rather than on a programmatically organised

formation of an archival corpus. This divergence is conditioned by different institutional regimes – whereas in Paris it was a purposeful cultural policy with predictable communication channels, in this case, the documentation was fragmentary, random, and suffered from gaps in serial runs and the weak digital presence of local newspapers. This led to a shift in research focus: unlike an approach oriented towards the curation of cultural content, as in the cited author's case, the key task in the conducted study became the problem of preserving documentary memory, whereby the volume and quality of the empirical material were determined not by programmatic communication, but by the physical condition and actual survival of archival complexes. Research by S. Townsend (2021) demonstrated that the availability of a large and relatively complete digital corpus of the sports press makes "distant reading" and the identification of long-term discursive lines possible. The results of this study showed a unique situation; the analysis was carried out in an environment where access to publications was restricted, thus the main issues were not only interpretation but also representativeness and the verification of true material. There was evidence of a functional distinction between press levels: although regional newspapers provided factual density (dates, locations, clubs, personalities), they were also the most vulnerable to loss. Central publications granted status to events and standardised nominations. This difference was explained by the differing state of the corpuses: in digital archives, conclusions depend to a large extent on the quality of OCR and metadata, whereas in the study of kickboxing, gaps in serial runs and the absence of stable full-text access remained decisive. Consequently, the need to verify newspaper reports with federation documents acquired not a supplementary, but a methodologically essential character.

In their report-atlas of digital newspaper heritage, M.H. Beals & E. Bell (2020) proposed the mapping of collections and metadata as a tool for the critical analysis of digitised periodicals, emphasising that the interpretation of newspaper materials is impossible without understanding the form, provenance, and principles of archive formation. The authors drew attention to access restrictions, licensing barriers, and the heterogeneity of metadata, which necessitated the use of a controlled vocabulary for cross-collection comparisons. The conducted study conceptually aligned with this logic in the sphere of source criticism, since without considering the "form of recording" – rubrication, genre models, and the status of the publication – it is impossible to correctly reconstruct the chronology of events. At the same time, a difference was observed between the results: whereas the authors' research focused analytically on digital databases and issues of their interoperability, this study was dominated by analogue newspaper files, marked by the physical degradation of the medium and the absence of a unified digital access environment. Consequently, the interpretative lens shifted – risks were localised

not in the hidden decisions of the digitisation process, but in the actual loss of individual issues and the disappearance of basic metadata due to the deterioration of paper material. Thus, the divergence in conclusions lay not in the realm of interpretation, but in the realm of the archive's readiness – the digital-metadata level was contrasted with the level of physical preservation and survival of documentary holdings. S. Oberbichler & E. Pfanzelter (2022) emphasised that in digital newspaper collections, the visibility of material is determined by interfaces, search algorithms, and keyword choices, which can produce results that are either excessively narrow or noisy. The study of kickboxing empirically confirmed this problem using the material of print holdings – early mentions proved difficult for retrospective searching due to chaotic headlines and unstable terminology, even before the interpretation stage. However, the nature of the limitations in these cases was different – in the digital environment, barriers were shaped by interface decisions and OCR quality, whereas in the conducted study, the determining factors remained the physical absence of digitised corpora and disruptions to serial completeness. Both approaches converged on the necessity of critiquing the tool – digital search mechanisms shaped the sample no less actively than editorial regimes determined the very fact of a report appearing in the print press. At the same time, the final emphases naturally diverged – for digital collections, optimisation entailed improving functionality, interfaces, and the contextualisation of results, whereas for the study of kickboxing, the priority remained the creation of a basic digital layer for the preservation of regional periodicals.

The "Environmental Scan" method, proposed by K. Beelen *et al.* (2023), was aimed at overcoming hidden biases in digital newspaper collections by comparing the available sample with the complete historical landscape of periodical publications, based, for instance, on industry and bibliographic directories. This approach made it possible to distinguish between the "wide scan" level, oriented towards assessing the representativeness of the corpus, and the "deep scan" level, aimed at identifying latent structures and thematic dimensions. The conducted study replicated a similar logic at the empirical level through a functional typology of periodicals – the central press covered events selectively, primarily in the presence of a nation-wide news occasion, whereas regional publications accumulated local institutional memory, which only partially transitioned into the nation-wide media space. The difference lay in the scale of the analytical procedures – the "Environmental Scan" method allowed for the quantitative measurement of representativeness on large digital corpora, whereas in this study it was interpreted through the functional roles of different press levels and the degree of risk regarding their physical loss. This comparison refined the nature of the unevenness in documentation – the visibility of kickboxing was limited not only by editorial selection,

but also by collection factors, particularly gaps in files and the absence of stable digital copies. A. Ben-David *et al.* (2024) proposed a methodological framework for analysing social memory in the social media environment, in which processes of remembering were considered a product of users' everyday digital practices, rather than a result of purposeful institutional preservation policy. The authors showed that memory in the digital space functioned as a dynamic and unstable process, dependent on platform algorithms, linguistic patterns, and the temporal logic of online communication, where specific narratives gained visibility through repetition and algorithmic amplification. The methodology combined macro-analysis of thematic structures with micro-analysis of the linguistic and communicative characteristics of content, allowing for the identification of persistent patterns in the representation of the past. The conducted study on kickboxing conceptually intersected with this logic regarding the analysis of memory visibility mechanisms, but relied on a fundamentally different type of source. Whereas in the works analysed by the authors, memory was formed in a digital environment with an excess of traces, in this case the key features were the fragmentation and physical vulnerability of the print periodicals. The difference in results was conditioned by the differing conditions of corpus formation – algorithmically driven circulation of digital content versus the institutionally unstable preservation of serial newspaper files. In conclusion, both approaches highlighted different levels of social memory – the digital-communicative and the documentary-archival – which allowed for a more precise understanding of the nature of the uneven visibility of the past. The obtained results demonstrated that the documentation of kickboxing in the Ukrainian periodical press was shaped under the influence of editorial, institutional, and material factors, which led to an uneven visibility of this sport in the public sphere. A comparison with contemporary approaches to the analysis of digital archives and social memory revealed that the key limitations in the Ukrainian context arose not at the level of interpretation or tools, but at the stage of preserving and forming the very body of sources. The central press facilitated the legitimisation and standardisation of descriptions, whilst regional media documented the foundational infrastructure of development but were the most susceptible to extinction. Thus, it was determined that recreating the history of kickboxing necessitates the integration of magazines from many sources with official records and the comprehensive digitalisation of local newspapers as a requirement for subsequent analytical study.

### ■ Conclusions

The findings showed that periodicals from the late 20<sup>th</sup> and early 21<sup>st</sup> centuries were an important source for tracking the development of kickboxing, but because of editorial decisions and the differing prominence of

publications in public discourse, they formed an inconsistent corpus of sources. The major newspapers chose which events to cover, gave them social significance, and created the interpretive framework for comprehending athletic achievements. As a result, the national press primarily carried out normative-legitimising and representational functions. Primary sources were the best suitable for reconstructing the "official" tale of kickboxing history from a source-study perspective since they recorded institutional markers, agreed-upon group and tournament names, and standardised reporting forms. Concurrently, it was found that the sport obtained "visibility" in national media mostly during significant national news events. As a result, the central press historically reflected peak and noteworthy occasions rather than the regular dynamics of the sport's development. An analysis of regional and district journals revealed a different method of documentation: local media made it easier for communities' institutional memory to be initially recorded and preserved. The beginning of sections, club activities, coaching biographies, local championships, team outings, and grassroots support were all meticulously documented here, making the regional newspaper essential for recreating the early stages of development. Local texts often had significant metadata, including dates, toponyms, personal names, club names, disciplines, and weight categories, which were inconsistently reflected in central reports, as examples from the Zakarpattia, Kharkiv, and Kyiv regions showed. A separate segment of the source base was supplemented by specialised sports periodicals and departmental channels, while federation documents of a quasi-periodical nature ensured the verification of newspaper reports and demonstrated the transition from journalistic narrative to the formalised recording of events. Comparing local newspaper reports with formalised competition documents increased the source reliability of the reconstructions, reduced the risk of erroneous interpretations caused by editorial selection or the loss of seriality, and shifted the analysis from the level of individual texts to the level of a systematic documentary complex. Future studies should concentrate on developing a representative digital corpus of Ukrainian sports magazines, comparing regional kickboxing institutionalisation models, taking into account club networks and the athletes' and coaches' biographical paths, and strengthening the verification base through organised federation documents.

### ■ Acknowledgements

None.

### ■ Funding

None.

### ■ Conflict of Interest

None.

## References

- [1] Assmann, J. (2011). Communicative and cultural memory. In P. Meusburger, M. Heffernan & E. Wunder (Eds.), *Cultural memories: The geographical point of view* (pp. 15-27). Dordrecht: Springer. doi: [10.1007/978-90-481-8945-8\\_2](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-90-481-8945-8_2).
- [2] Beals, M.H., & Bell, E. (2020). *The atlas of digitised newspapers and metadata: Reports from Oceanic exchanges*. Loughborough: Loughborough University. doi: [10.6084/m9.figshare.11560059](https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.11560059).
- [3] Beelen, K., Lawrence, J., Wilson, D.C., & Beavan, D. (2023). Bias and representativeness in digitized newspaper collections: Introducing the environmental scan. *Digital Scholarship in the Humanities*, 38(1). doi: [10.1093/llc/fqac037](https://doi.org/10.1093/llc/fqac037).
- [4] Ben-David, A., Meyers, O., & Neiger, M. (2024). How social memory works on social media: A methodological framework. *Memory, Mind & Media*, 3, article number e20. doi: [10.1017/mem.2024.18](https://doi.org/10.1017/mem.2024.18).
- [5] Breslavets, B. (2013). *The kickboxing cup was contested by young men near Kharkiv*. Retrieved from <https://www.slk.kh.ua/news/sport/kubok-z-kikboksyngu-rozigrali-yunaki-pid-kharkovom.html>.
- [6] Brissot, F. (2024). *The bibliolympiads of the city of Paris*. Retrieved from <https://bbf.enssib.fr/consulter/bbf-2024-00-0000-022>.
- [7] Bugaeva, I. (2025). "King of the ring": All-Ukrainian kickboxing tournament held in Kamenskoye to mark defenders of Ukraine day. Retrieved from <https://kamyanske.com.ua/96320/king-of-the-ring-u-kamyanskomu-vidbuvsya-vseukrayinskyj-turnir-z-kikboksyngu-do-dnya-pamyati-zahysnykiv-ukrayiny>.
- [8] Dubrovina, L., Kovtaniuk, Y., Lobuzina, K., & Demianiuk, L. (2024). The Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine in times of independence and martial law: Development strategy, preservation, and international co-operation. *Library Research and Practice*, 48(3), 639-647. doi: [10.1515/bfp-2024-0062](https://doi.org/10.1515/bfp-2024-0062).
- [9] First in kickboxing! (2005). Retrieved from <https://zu.edu.ua/spf/pdf/presa/26.pdf>.
- [10] Fouseki, K., Cassar, M., Dreyfuss, G., & Ang, K. (2023). *Routledge handbook of sustainable heritage*. London: Routledge. doi: [10.4324/9781003038955](https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003038955).
- [11] Goodbye, "Komanda"? (2017). Retrieved from <https://vln.media/proshchavai-komanda/>.
- [12] Greenberg, L. (2023). Digitisation of archival and library heritage during wartime. *Information and Society*, 2, 78-80.
- [13] Hutchison, C. (2024). *Safeguarding Scotland's newspapers: A collaborative approach to preservation and access*. Retrieved from <https://repository.ifla.org/rest/api/core/bitstreams/72451105-9cf0-4837-8fcd-31537a605975/content>.
- [14] In our capital, the blow is better delivered. (2015). Retrieved from <https://ukurier.gov.ua/uk/news/u-nashoyi-stolici-udar-postavlenij-krashe/>.
- [15] Issue 47 of "Sportyvna Gazeta". (1987). Retrieved from <https://libraria.ua/issues/1345?StartDate=1987-04-18>.
- [16] Jablonsky, M., & Šima, J. (2021). Oxidative degradation of paper – a minireview. *Journal of Cultural Heritage*, 48, 269-276. doi: [10.1016/j.culher.2021.01.014](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.culher.2021.01.014).
- [17] Jensen, K. (2021). Electronic legal deposit in the United Kingdom: Successes and challenges of transfer and transformation. *Library Research and Practice*, 45(2), 202-207. doi: [10.1515/bfp-2021-0009](https://doi.org/10.1515/bfp-2021-0009).
- [18] Kettunen, K., Keskustalo, H., Kumpulainen, S., Pääkkönen, T., & Rautiainen, J. (2022). OCR quality affects perceived usefulness of historical newspaper clippings – a user study. *ArXiv*. doi: [10.48550/arXiv.2203.03557](https://doi.org/10.48550/arXiv.2203.03557).
- [19] Korolov, I. (2005). *In the footsteps of the great Vitalii*. Retrieved from <https://umoloda.kyiv.ua/number/526/118/19029>.
- [20] Kraševac, I., Kravos, A., Retko, K., Cigić, I.K., Strlič, M., & Mahgoub, H. (2025). Impact of accumulation of organic acids on the degradation of cellulose in historic paper. *Carbohydrate Polymers*, 352, article number 123163. doi: [10.1016/j.carbpol.2024.123163](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.carbpol.2024.123163).
- [21] Lokshyn, P., Hrysiuk, V., & Efimova, M. (2024). Features of sports journalism in Ukraine: History of formation, problems and main development trends. *Printing Horizon*, 1(15), 30-40. doi: [10.20535/2522-1078.2024.1\(15\).297736](https://doi.org/10.20535/2522-1078.2024.1(15).297736).
- [22] McEnnis, S. (2021). *Disrupting sports journalism*. London: Routledge. doi: [10.4324/9781003106869](https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003106869).
- [23] McLuhan, M. (1994). *Understanding media: The extensions of man*. Cambridge: MIT Press.
- [24] Men's club. Kickboxing. Vitalii Klitschko – Brad Hefton. (2016). Retrieved from <https://tydyvy.com/video/DyIKK0Y>.
- [25] Neshat, N., & Ghasemi, R. (2023). A global view on digital legal deposit: What could be learned? *Alexandria: The Journal of National and International Library and Information Issues*, 32(1), 38-58. doi: [10.1177/09557490231164896](https://doi.org/10.1177/09557490231164896).
- [26] Oberbichler, S., & Pfanzelter, E. (2022). Tracing discourses in digital newspaper collections. In E. Bunout, M. Ehrmann & F. Clavert (Eds.), *Digitised newspapers – a new Eldorado for historians* (pp. 125-152). Berlin: De Gruyter. doi: [10.1515/9783110729214-007](https://doi.org/10.1515/9783110729214-007).
- [27] Opanashchuk, V. (2015). *Pavlo Orel: The development of kickboxing in Ukraine began under my leadership*. Retrieved from <http://www.nacija.com.ua/?article=2164&print>.
- [28] Orel, I.O., Gamma, T.V., Girak, A.M., Noghas, A.O., & Gutsman, S.V. (2021). Development of kickboxing WAKO as an Olympic sports in Ukraine. *Rehabilitation and Recreation*, 9, 193-199. doi: [10.32782/2522-1795.2021.9.26](https://doi.org/10.32782/2522-1795.2021.9.26).

- [29] Oryshchuk, V. (2023). The role of public policy in ensuring access to cultural heritage in the era of digital transformation. *Bulletin of Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv. Public Administration*, 18(2), 90-94. doi: [10.17721/2616-9193.2023/18-14/14](https://doi.org/10.17721/2616-9193.2023/18-14/14).
- [30] Pereiaslavets became the champion of Ukraine in the toughest version of kickboxing. (2018). Retrieved from <https://i-visti.com/news/5475-pereiaslavets-stav-chempionom-ukrainy-u-naizhorstkishii-versii-kikboksyngu.html>.
- [31] Rauch, R.L., & Kropyvnytska, T. (2025). Sport system and policy in Ukraine. *International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics*. doi: [10.1080/19406940.2025.2599140](https://doi.org/10.1080/19406940.2025.2599140).
- [32] Savchuk, R.L., & Figlevskij, O.V. (2022). Sport content in regional media. *Sports Content in Regional Media. Scientific Notes*, 33(3), 343-348. doi: [10.32838/2710-4656/2022.3/57](https://doi.org/10.32838/2710-4656/2022.3/57).
- [33] Sazonova, Yu.O. (2021). *Sports journalism in Ukraine: History, evolution, transformation*. Mykolaiv: Petro Mohyla Black Sea National University.
- [34] Shevchenko, M.O. (2022). *Digitisation of Ukrainian library collections*. (Doctoral dissertation, Kharkiv State Academy of Culture, Kharkiv, Ukraine).
- [35] Shevchenko, O.V., & Sprynsyan, V.G. (2022). Electronic documents as part of digital heritage of modern society. *Library Science. Documentation Science. Informology*, 3, 49-55.
- [36] Townsend, S. (2021). "The tragedy of the punch drunk": Reading concussion in Australian sporting newspapers, 1843-1954. *Frontiers in Sports and Active Living*, 3, article number 676463. doi: [10.3389/fspor.2021.676463](https://doi.org/10.3389/fspor.2021.676463).
- [37] Transcarpathian kickboxers achieved success at the World Cup among juniors in Hungary. (2014). Retrieved from <https://pmg.ua/amp/life/20650-zakarpatski-kikboksery-dosyagly-uspikhu-na-kubku-svitu-sered-yunakiv-v-ugorshhyni>.
- [38] Ukrainian Kickboxing Federation. (2018). *Composition of pairs*. Retrieved from <https://arch.ua/polog/26609027.pdf>.
- [39] Ukrainian woman becomes European kickboxing champion. (2008). Retrieved from [https://gazeta.ua/articles/sport/\\_ukrayinka-stala-chempionkoyu-evropi-z-kikboksyngu/267081](https://gazeta.ua/articles/sport/_ukrayinka-stala-chempionkoyu-evropi-z-kikboksyngu/267081).
- [40] Veremchuk, O., & Postelzhuk, O. (2025). Digitalisation of archival institutions: Challenges and prospects for maintaining national memory in the technological transformations epoch. *Ukrainian Journal on Library and Information Science*, 15, 142-153. doi: [10.31866/2616-7654.15.2025.335086](https://doi.org/10.31866/2616-7654.15.2025.335086).
- [41] Verticchio, E., Frasca, F., Cavalieri, P., Teodonio, L., Fugaro, D., & Siani, A.M. (2022). Conservation risks for paper collections induced by the microclimate in the repository of the Alessandrina Library in Rome (Italy). *Heritage Science*, 10(1), 80. doi: [10.1186/s40494-022-00714-5](https://doi.org/10.1186/s40494-022-00714-5).
- [42] Vichor, V. (2007). *Kickboxing development and formation in the Ukraine*. *Youth Scientific Bulletin*, 7, 67-70.
- [43] Zhyhun, T., & Ustinnikova, T. (2022). Analysis of the delivery state of Ukrainian publications mandatory copies in 2021. *Bulletin of the Book Chamber*, 11, 3-10. doi: [10.36273/2076-9555.2022.11\(316\).3-10](https://doi.org/10.36273/2076-9555.2022.11(316).3-10).

## Документування та архівування матеріалів про розвиток кікбоксингу в Україні: джерельна база періодики кінця ХХ – початку ХХІ століття

**Віталій Коцур**

Доктор історичних наук, кандидат політичних наук, професор  
Університет Григорія Сковороди в Переяславі  
08401, вул. Сухомлинського, 30, м. Переяслав, Україна  
<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6647-7678>

**Ольга Павленко**

Викладач  
Університет Григорія Сковороди в Переяславі  
08401, вул. Сухомлинського, 30, м. Переяслав, Україна  
<https://orcid.org/0009-0005-2802-6450>

**Анотація.** Метою роботи було встановлення джерельних можливостей загальнонаціональної, регіональної та спеціалізованої преси у документуванні розвитку кікбоксингу наприкінці ХХ – початку ХХІ століття. Методологія дослідження поєднувала контент-аналіз періодики, історико-хронологічний та порівняльний методи, а також джерелознавчу критику та аналіз серійної повноти архівних фондів для оцінки репрезентативності джерельної бази. У результаті було встановлено, що центральна періодика виконувала нормативно-легітимізаційну функцію, фіксуючи кікбоксинг переважно у форматі подій загальнонаціонального масштабу та стандартизуючи його опис через звітні жанри. У ході дослідження встановлено, що зазначені публікації забезпечували системну документальну фіксацію спортивних подій шляхом регулярного відтворення дат і місць проведення змагань, кількісного та персонального складу учасників, а також їх організаційно-федеративної належності. Контент-аналіз матеріалів кінця 1980-х – середини 1990-х років засвідчив фрагментарність, жанрову нестабільність і термінологічну невпорядкованість згадок, тоді як у 2000-х роках простежувався перехід до інституційно структурованого висвітлення з використанням статистичних параметрів, календарної логіки та усталених назв дисциплін. Доведено, що регіональна та районна преса виконувала функцію первинної фіксації локальної спортивної інфраструктури, документуючи створення секцій, діяльність клубів, біографії тренерів і масовість змагань. Показано, що спеціалізована спортивна періодика та федеративні протокольні матеріали забезпечували можливість верифікації газетних повідомлень і підвищували джерельну точність реконструкцій. У висновках обґрунтовано доцільність комплексного використання періодики різних рівнів для відтворення історії кікбоксингу. Практичне значення результатів дослідження полягає в тому, що вони можуть бути використані бібліотеками й архівами на національному та регіональному рівнях для архівного опису, виявлення прогалин у підшивках і визначення пріоритетів оцифрування спортивної періодики, розвитку кікбоксингу в Україні

**Ключові слова:** джерелознавство; рубрика; оцифрування; репортаж; журналістика