

**DLCO "Centre for International Security"
National Institute for Strategic Studies
Ministry of Temporarily Occupied Territories and IDPs
NATO Information and Documentation Centre in Ukraine**

SECURITY PASSPORT OF UKRAINE: RESULTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS



***Kyiv
2018***

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

The project "Security Passport of Ukraine: National and Regional Dimensions" was implemented by NGO "Centre for International Security" in October-December 2017 with the support of the NATO Information and Documentation Center in Ukraine in partnerships with the National Institute for Strategic Studies and the Ministry of Temporarily Occupied Territories and IDPs.

The study was conducted in six regional centers of Ukraine: Vinnytsia – October 5-6, Uzhhorod – October 12-13, Kramatorsk – October 19-20, Dnipro – October 26-27, Kharkiv – November 1-2, Kherson – November 9-10. The field stage included quantitative and qualitative research (questionnaires and focus groups). Sampling quota includes gender and age, professional affiliation (representatives of law enforcement agencies, civil service, education, civil society, students), which is representative for population of the region in which the study was conducted. The total number of questionnaires processed is 572.

The National and Regional Security Index of Ukraine for the project was based on the Global Peace Index (GPI) and the adapted methodology of the Institute of Economics and Peace.

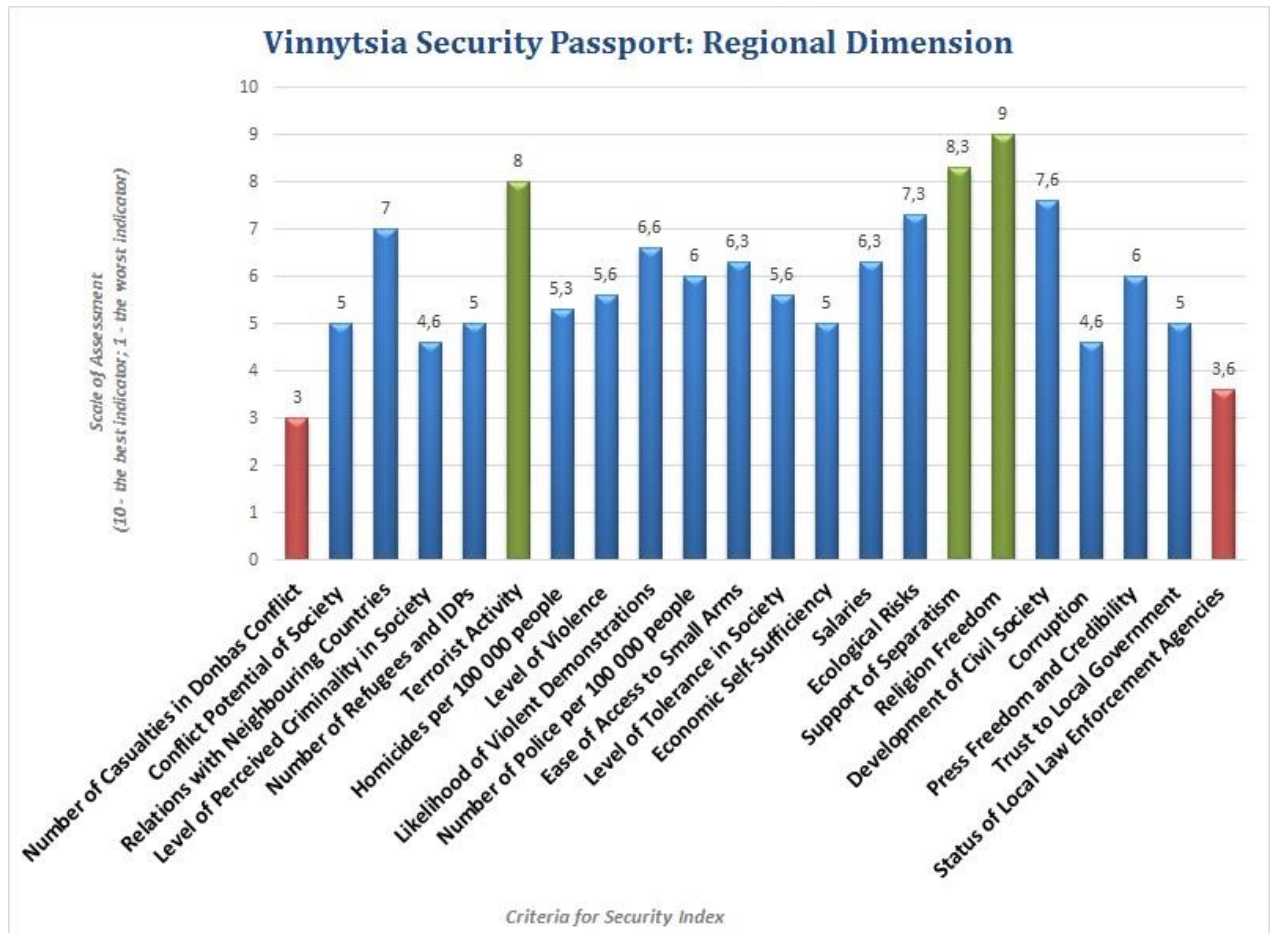
In the aftermath of the regional stages, round-table discussions were organized with representatives of local authorities, law enforcement agencies and public activists.

You can find results of the survey following link:

https://intsecurity.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/Pasport_bezpeky_Ukrainy.pdf

VINNYTSIA REGION

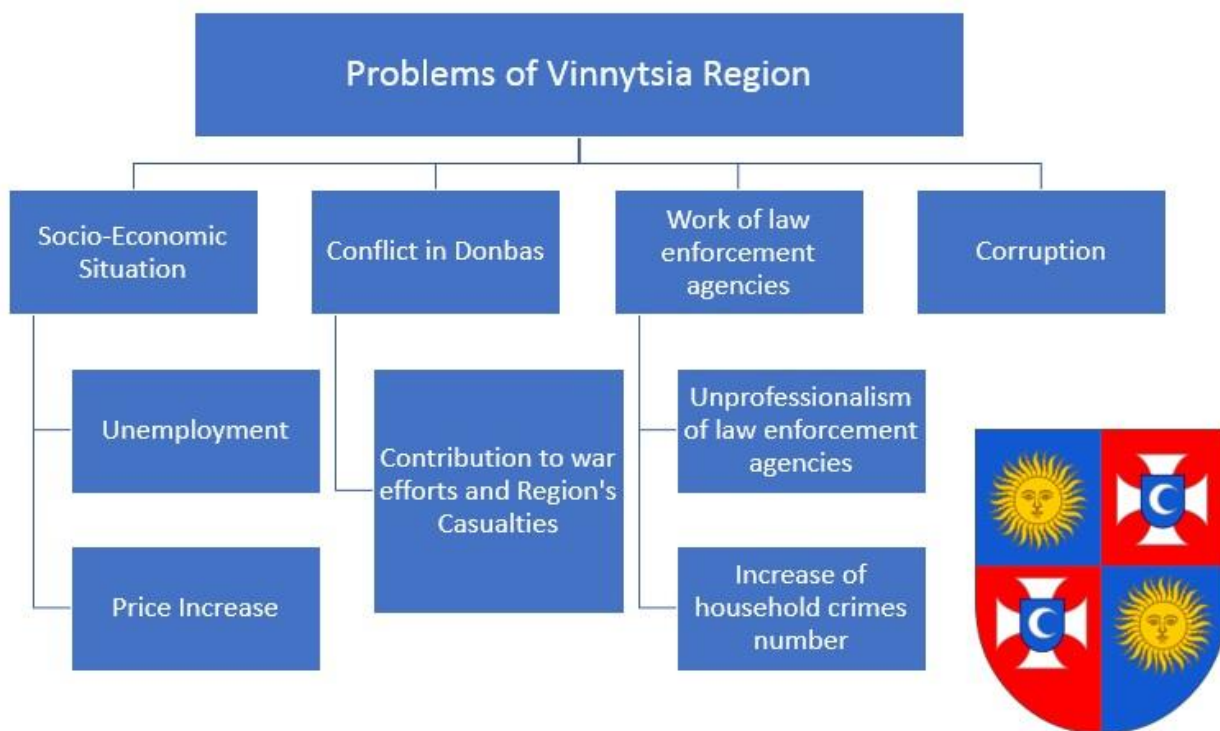
Vinnytsia is a dynamic regional center in Central Ukraine, where local authorities demonstrated the ability to quickly improve infrastructure and implement effective management practices at all levels.



Among issues that are of greatest concern to residents, the following all-Ukrainian problems stand out:

- **Unsatisfactory socio-economic situation.** Current problem in its various manifestations is fundamental for Vinnytsia residents. Particularly noticeable today is the phenomenon of unemployment (in the city there are only a few large employers who are unable to provide jobs for the entire population, especially the youth); inflation of the national currency (which is manifested in the growth of prices and the low level of wages), closure of many enterprises – all of these factors undermine economic potential of the region. In general, living standards in Vinnytsia grow very slowly, which leads to an impoverishment of the population, especially the representatives of older age groups.

- **Armed conflict in the East of Ukraine.** The Vinnytsia oblast is a region that geographically located quite far away from the conflict-afflicted area. However, a significant number of Vinnytsia residents took part in the antiterrorist operation. The losses incurred by the region are troubling the local society – about 61% of respondents consider this to be one of the main problems. At the same time, causes of the conflict for many residents of the region remain incomprehensible. Another consequence of the war for the region is the comparatively large number of internally displaced persons.
- **The problem of corruption.** About a third of those surveyed consider corruption an actual threat to the region. It not only hampers the successful and lawful conduct of business, provision of social benefits to the population, but also affects the overall direction of the state's development, hindering its pace. In this context, the problem of corruption is directly related to the insufficiently rapid implementation of reforms and distrust towards activities of authorities.



At the same time, it is necessary to highlight the specific problems of the security environment of the region, which deserve special attention in view of their urgency and the level of threat they pose:

- **Environmental protection.** This issue is relevant for majority of regions of Ukraine, however - in each of them it has its own specifics. In Vinnytsia, it is associated with certain communal infrastructure problems. An actual problem is the unsatisfactory state of supplying the population with drinking water. A

common tool for counteracting this threat is the use of wells, however - in conditions of contamination of local waters, as indicated by survey respondents, it also carries some risks.

• **The work of law enforcement agencies and criminal situation.** Despite the implemented reform in the respective sphere, residents emphasize the absence of positive changes. Activities of the new police is seen more as a PR-measure – in a practical way, there is a lack of professionalism among officers, which prevents them from competently fulfilling their tasks. The consequence is an increase in the level of crime – in case of Vinnytsia, they are mostly household-committed.

Recommendations

To improve security climate in the region and to level out the negative impact of certain factors of its development, it is proposed to:

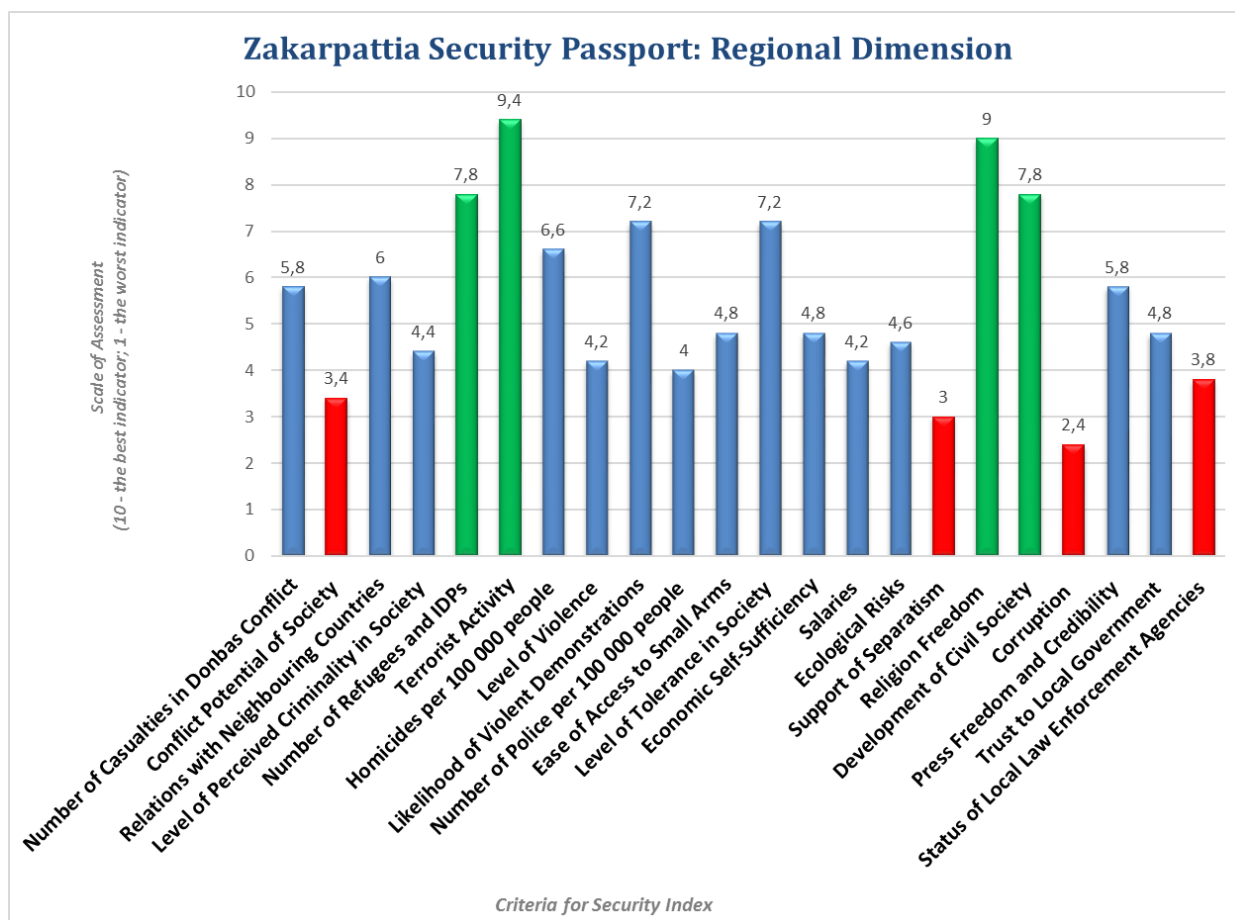
- contribute to the stimulation of business initiatives of the population in small towns of the Vinnytsia oblast in the framework of the program to support small and medium-sized enterprises, private initiatives and innovations;
- create a regional map of the cluster economy, analyze the current situation, define production chains that have been broken due to negative trends in economic development and suggest ways to restore or diversify them;
- contribute to development of the IT sector in the city, given the rapid development of this industry in the region (the Vinnytsia oblast ranks third (after Lviv and Kharkiv) in terms of development of the IT sector in Ukraine);
- design a program for development of small-scale farming, aimed at supporting mainly agrarian regions of the Vinnytsia oblasts. Farms should be given access to highly profitable technologies (growing nuts, snails, mushrooms, etc.), to overcome the deep traditionalism and extensive nature in the agriculture of the region;
- intensify efforts to use tourist potential of the region, primarily based on historic venues and monuments of the XVI-XVIII centuries. It is especially promising for metropolitan and foreign audiences, who are eager to study respective pages of history;
- intensify efforts to assist internally displaced persons, first, by supporting the institution of the scientific and educational sphere evacuated to the region - Vasyl' Stus Donetsk National University. Improving its potential through construction of a university campus will have positive educational, economic and social impact;
- implement a special public awareness campaign "Faces of corruption" in social networks, whereby NGOs in close cooperation with law enforcement anti-corruption bodies should ensure the filling of the group/page "Black List of

Vinnytsia" with photos and stories of dishonest civil servants, law enforcement officers, teachers, doctors;

- prepare project proposals for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to obtain financial assistance for implementation of the Vinnytsia water supply improvement program;
- continue comprehensive rehabilitation programs for ATO veterans suffering PTSD, involving local authorities, medical institutions and civil society;
- use in Vinnytsia the Donetsk oblast experience of cooperation between NGOs and the National Police, including League of Young Policemen program, designed to form a relationship of trust between law enforcement officers and youth in order to prepare future human resources for the police force;
- initiate regular consultations between the public, representatives of law enforcement agencies, State Emergency Service on security situation in the region in order to have an up-to-date current picture, determine the level of threats and develop possible operational response to them.

TRANSCARPATIA

The Transcarpathia (Zakarpattia) is a special region for Ukraine. It is cut off from the main part of the country by the mountainous backbone of the Carpathians. However, the mental distance for the population of the region is affected not by geographical obstacles - it is much deeper, and comes from sources of historical, cultural and ethnic nature, forming a fertile ground for the actualization of national and specific threats affecting the security of the state.



Among the complex problems typical for different regions of Ukraine, the most relevant for Transcarpathia are the following:

- **A complex socio-economic situation**, which acquires various manifestations. The most painful is the problem of unemployment. This issue is especially acute for young people, who have problems with finding the job with an average or high level of wages. Also, the population is concerned about the problem of inflation – a sharp increase in prices against the backdrop of low wages and pensions. All this leads to labor migration, which has always been relevant for the inhabitants of this region, but in recent years has become threatening. This

situation creates unfavorable conditions for attracting foreign direct investment - in new industries, because it is hard to find enough qualified workers.

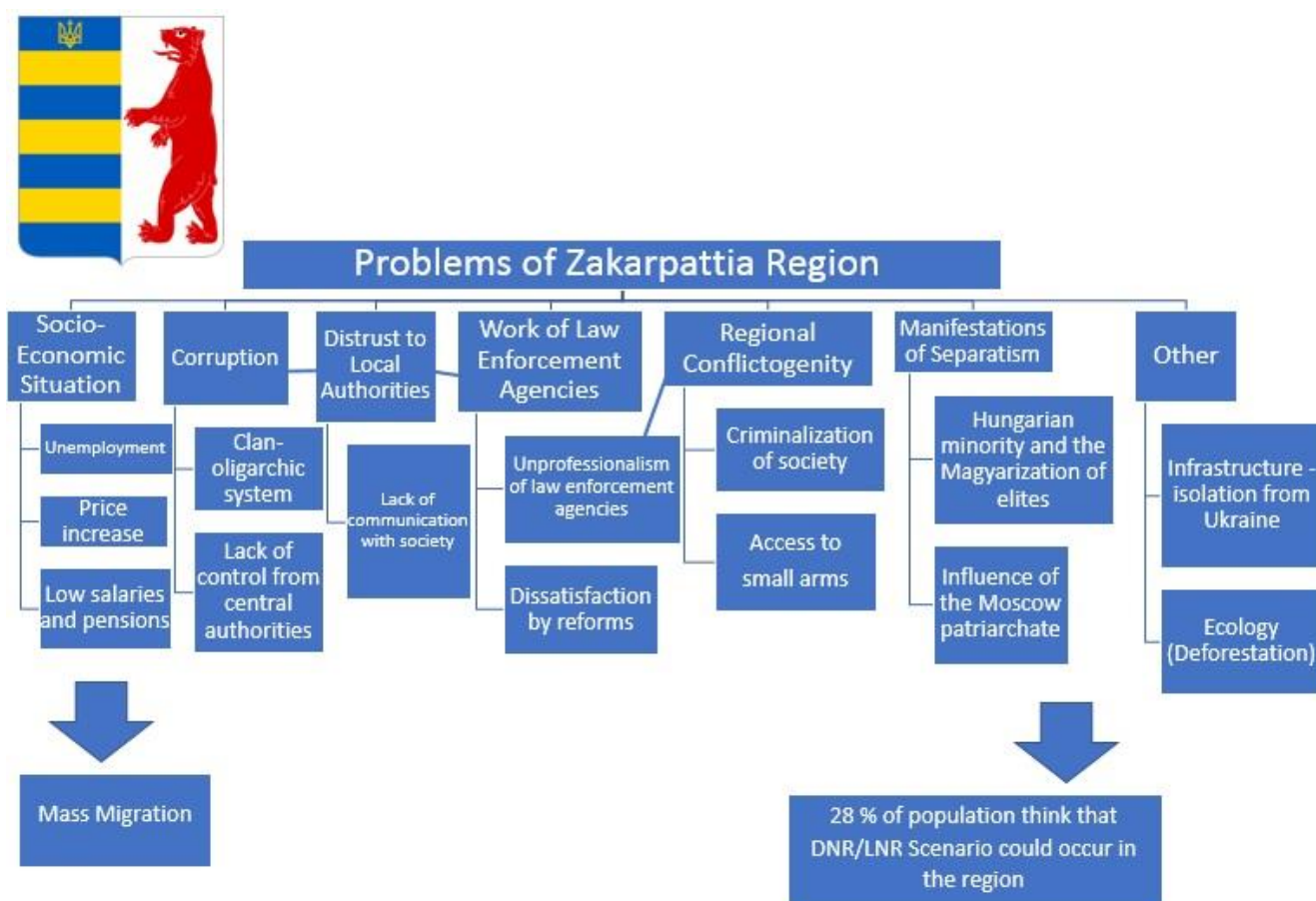
- **Armed conflict in the East of Ukraine.** Despite the considerable geographical distance from the front line, the people of Transcarpathia closely follow the events in Donbas and Crimea. Among causes of the war, the local population sees the weakness of Ukraine as a state, manifested in the continued ignoring by the central government of threats to national security, as well as the actual aggressive actions of the Russian Federation – the realization of the Kremlin's imperial ambitions. People are dissatisfied with the efforts of the central authorities in resolving the situation in the East.
- **Lack of dialogue** between authorities and population is becoming one of the main reasons for mass discontent. People complain about the lack of constant communication with authorities. This prevents the public from understanding national policy, strengthening distrust to state institutions, making people vulnerable to enemy propaganda.
- **Dissatisfaction with reforms.** Recognizing that Ukraine needs changes, most of the population of the region sees the level of implementation of reforms negatively. This is partly due to a lack of information on the content of the reforms, in part – to their incompleteness. People wait for the government's decisive action, but many decisions are half-measures.
- **Feeling of personal insecurity at the household level.** The dynamics of the population's propensity to engage in conflict, easy access to light and small arms, and the increase in the level of violence and crime lead to the formation of an unfavorable security environment. The population's concern is also the behavior of paramilitaries (such as the "Right Sector" or "Azov").

Specific regional challenges for the Transcarpathia:

- **Smuggling and corruption.** Its distinctive feature, nepotism and mutual complicity within the authorities hinder development of the region. The problem is exacerbated under conditions of weak central government control over what is happening in the region, where its own clan-oligarchic system exists. The Transcarpathia, due to its geographical location, is a regional center for smuggling and illegal migration. Customs is a stable source of enrichment for both local elites and many ordinary people who use the convenient location of the region.
- **Magyarization of regional elites.** Its representatives often take a pro-Hungarian position, openly criticizing the actions of the Ukrainian president and government. This destroys the already fragile level of trust of the people of the

Transcarpathia to central authorities, provoking further distancing of the region from the influence of Kyiv and rapprochement with Hungary, whose authorities demonstrate readiness to do more for the population of the Transcarpathia than Ukraine.

• **Manifestations of separatism.** The scenario of Transcarpathia joining Hungary today looks non-realistic, but Hungarian law and populist parties are actively using the "Transcarpathian question" for domestic political purposes. At the same time, the Russian Federation continues to support pro-separatist organizations like *Podkarpatskaya Rus*. An important tool of such a policy is the activities of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate), which relies on some support from the inhabitants of the region. This church often takes an anti-Ukrainian stance, and in few cases open support of the "Ruthenian" separatism. A significant proportion of the respondents – 28.3% are afraid of the implementation of the "DPR/LPR" scenario in the region under Hungarian flags. Unlike the Donbas, where separatist slogans have no objective basis and have only been used by Russia to camouflage the occupation, ethnic separatism in Transcarpathia is a significant threat. It can become a direct challenge to the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine.



Transport isolation. The region is cut off from the main territory of Ukraine. Regular communication through the Carpathian Ridge is provided by the international highway Kyiv-Chop and the railway routes Lviv-Mukacheve-Uzhgorod, Lviv-Perechyn-Uzhgorod. In fact, only seven passes with different road quality connect the region to other parts of Ukraine. Air communication with the region is absent for the third year. These routes are vulnerable to weather conditions or possible sabotage enemy operations.

• **Ecological situation.** The actual threat to Transcarpathia is illegal deforestation, resulting not only in damage to the state in general, but the threat of landslides and floods in the region is also actualized.

Recommendations

To improve the security climate in the region and level out the negative impact of certain factors of its development, it is proposed to:

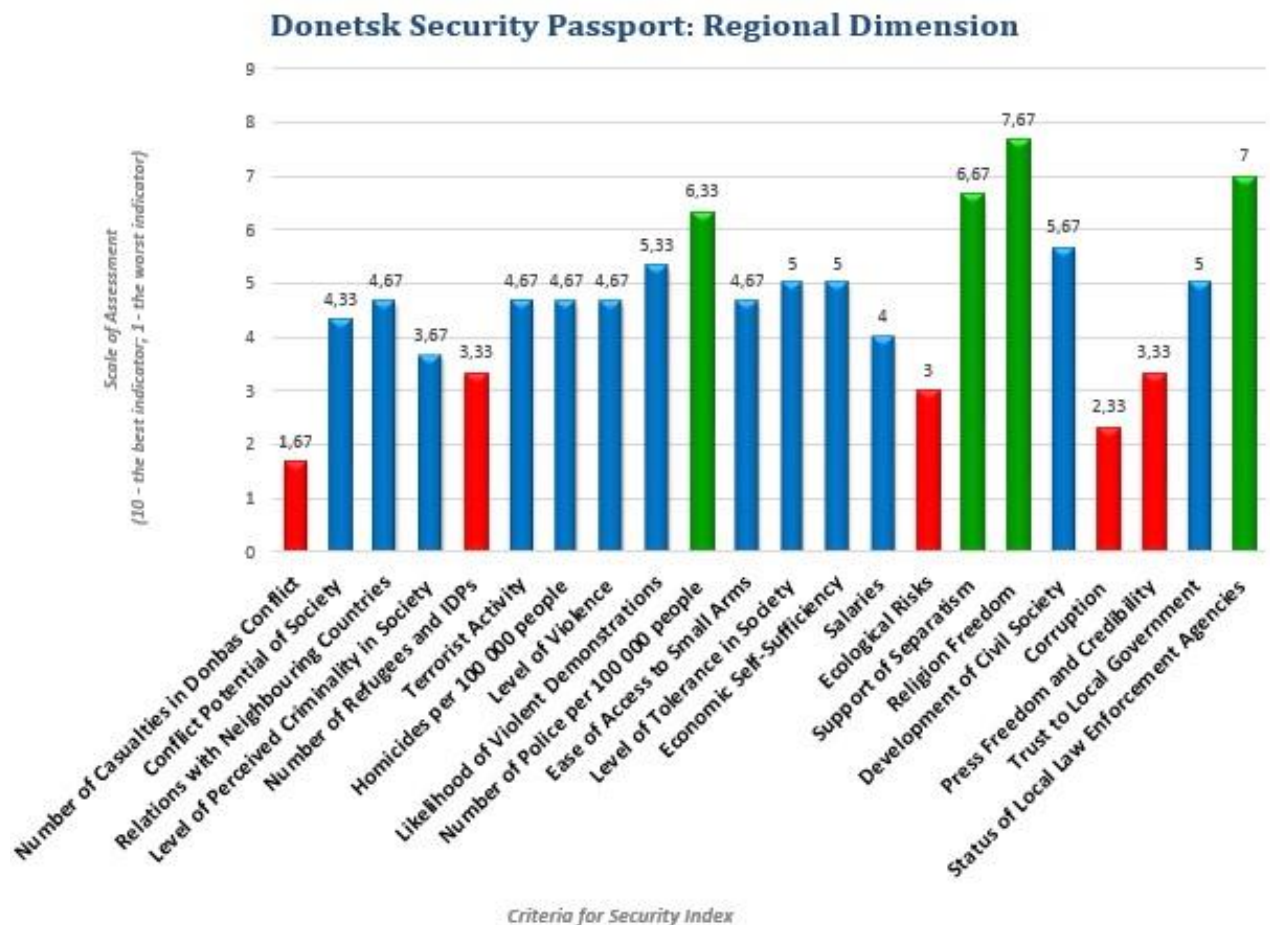
- increase the amount of budgetary funding of the social sphere in the region in accordance with its strategic importance in the face of Hungary's increasing financing of socio-economic initiatives in the region (in 2017, Ukraine allocated almost 10 times less funds than Hungary);
- facilitate the creation of jobs in the region through programs to support small and medium-sized businesses, further attract foreign investment. To this end, it is proposed to ensure the work of the "Opportunity Center", where small businesses can access support and receive regulatory assistance from the state through simplified procedures, develop small business incubators where small businesses can share resources and enjoy a favorable atmosphere for their development;
- develop a program for the use of tourist and recreational potential of the region - primarily using mineral waters in sanatoriums, recreation complexes and ski resorts. It should be aimed at supporting the existing tourism industry and developing new tourist destinations to adapt services to market requirements, creating a favorable image of tourism-related professions;
- promote creation of "industrial parks" in order to incentivize the socio-economic development of the region;
- establish a regional development bank with the involvement of local and central executive bodies, EBRD, selected foreign banks/funds to assist in development, funding and monitoring of investment projects in specific conditions of the Transcarpathia;
- create a single regional web resource where innovators and researchers can access information on types of support available in various areas, learn about competitions and programs of international funds that provide financial

assistance, get advice on specifics of applying and searching for partners in research or implementation of innovative production models;

- introduce environmental practices in the field of agriculture (the so-called "transhumance farming"), introduce mechanisms of innovative agriculture (construction of vegetable stores);
- introduce the state program "Transcarpathian Farmer" with a view to providing financial support for private initiatives – in farming, small industries - at the expense of the regional and local budgets;
- organize training courses for representatives of local authorities – urban and rural mayors – to develop their skills in effective planning and use of budgetary funds in the framework of the decentralization reform;
- develop transport infrastructure of the region (restoration of regular operation of the Uzhhorod Airport and new checkpoints on the international border), which will connect the region to other parts of Ukraine and European partners in order to provide better accessibility to tourist places;
- regularly organize festivals of Ukrainian culture in places of compact residence of the Hungarian national minority within the framework of promotion of the Ukrainian "soft power" in relations with ethnic groups;
- continue holding festivals of Armenian, Hungarian, Jewish, German, Roma, Romanian, Slovak cultures on the territory of the Transcarpathian oblast in the framework of promoting the thesis on the cultural diversity of the region and state support for the rights of national minorities;
- intensify the work on rehabilitation of ATO veterans through their involvement in group initiatives (a promising project - ATO veterans' construction of housing for themselves in the form of special townships, using the latest construction technologies);
- introduce the practice of a "social barometer" that measures the level of public confidence in representatives of local authorities and law enforcement agencies (opinion polls, an interactive web-site);
- ensure more efficient use of modern information technologies in combating crime. Develop a horizontal, effective and impartial warning system to provide operational units with real-time information about crimes, criminals and suspects that can be used where necessary (from stationary police posts to the patrol mobile service).

DONETSK REGION

Kramatorsk has been performing unusual for itself functions of the "capital" of the Donetsk oblast for 3 years already. Tough security and social situations in the region have significant impact on the population of the city situated 60 km from the frontline. The region faces a number of specific problems related to the conflict, but at the same time, challenges common to the whole country.



Donetsk oblast has the following problems, region-specific and nationwide alike:

- **Conflict with the Russian Federation**, which led to a massive exodus from the non-controlled territory, destruction of the economic potential of the Donetsk region and a sharp deterioration in social standards. Attitude of the population towards causes of this conflict is varied: direct aggression of the Russian Federation, interests of officials and oligarchs, different mentality among people of the East and West of Ukraine, geopolitical competition of Russia and the West.

- **A complex socio-economic situation** characterized by a decline in living standards due to rising prices, high tariffs, halting enterprises and unemployment. Inflation neutralizes the relatively high level of salaries and pensions, characteristic of industrial professions of the population of the region. A significant number of large enterprises remained on non-controlled territory, resulting in broken production links in the supply of raw materials. The economic blockade of uncontrolled territories of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions introduced in March 2017, led to a reduction in the output of certain types of industrial products and forced enterprises in the controlled area to focus on cooperation with suppliers from other regions of Ukraine. Among negative consequences – severance of economic ties with the Russian Federation, which until 2014 was a main destination of the export for many enterprises in the region.

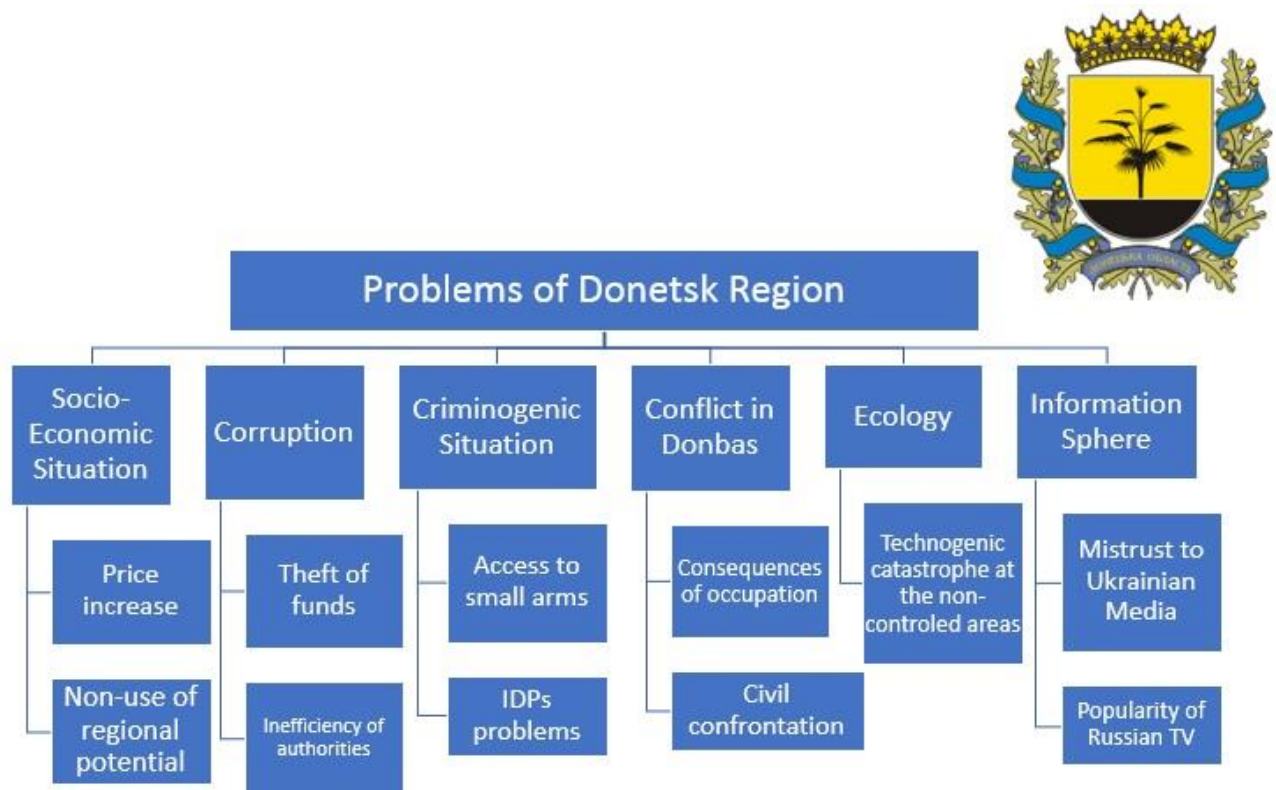
- **Corruption among officials**, law enforcement officers, employees of medical institutions and education establishments. Significant funds are being transferred to the region from the state budget and foreign aid sources, aimed at restoring infrastructure, developing the economy and social sphere. But given the low level of project management skills in local communities, the potential of assistance coming to the Donetsk oblast is not fully used. The population of the region has a low level of confidence in both central and regional authorities and somewhat better attitude towards local authorities. At the same time, reformatting of local authorities after the 2014 events almost did not happen, which carries the risks of preserving the existing clan system and corruption practices.

- **Deterioration of crime situation**, stemming from the conflict, which has been going on for almost four years in the region. A sharp decline in the standard of living of the population and the availability of weapons led to an increasing number of economic crimes. Incidents of careless handling of weapons have also increased. The police, overall, is effectively fighting the growing number of crimes, but objectively fail to warn all cases. Comparing different law enforcement agencies, attitude of the population of the oblast favors the police.

- **Dissatisfaction of the population** with the pace and content of reforms. The population of the Donetsk oblast expects improvement of the social and economic situation in the short term. Therefore, negative perceptions are most poignant for healthcare and pension reform. From the healthcare reform, residents of the region expect, first, quality service and cheaper drugs. The pension reform is seen as a latent raise the retirement age. So, while in 2017 pensions for miners increased significantly, other categories of employees were dissatisfied with the size of the payments. As for education, a negative attitude

persists toward the 12-year school and the language of teaching (the population of the region almost does not use the Ukrainian language to communicate);

- Preservation of artificially inspired **separatist sentiments**, in result of the Kremlin's information campaigns in 2014-2018, communications with the population in non-controlled territories as well as relatives in the Russian Federation. Events of 2014-2015 left a mark on the psychological state of the population, comparable to **post-traumatic syndrome**. This leads to a negative perception of information and materials that have propagandistic goals or opinionated judgments. The level of trust to Ukrainian countrywide media is the lowest in Ukraine.



Recommendations

To improve security, socio-economic and socio-political situation in the region, it is recommended to:

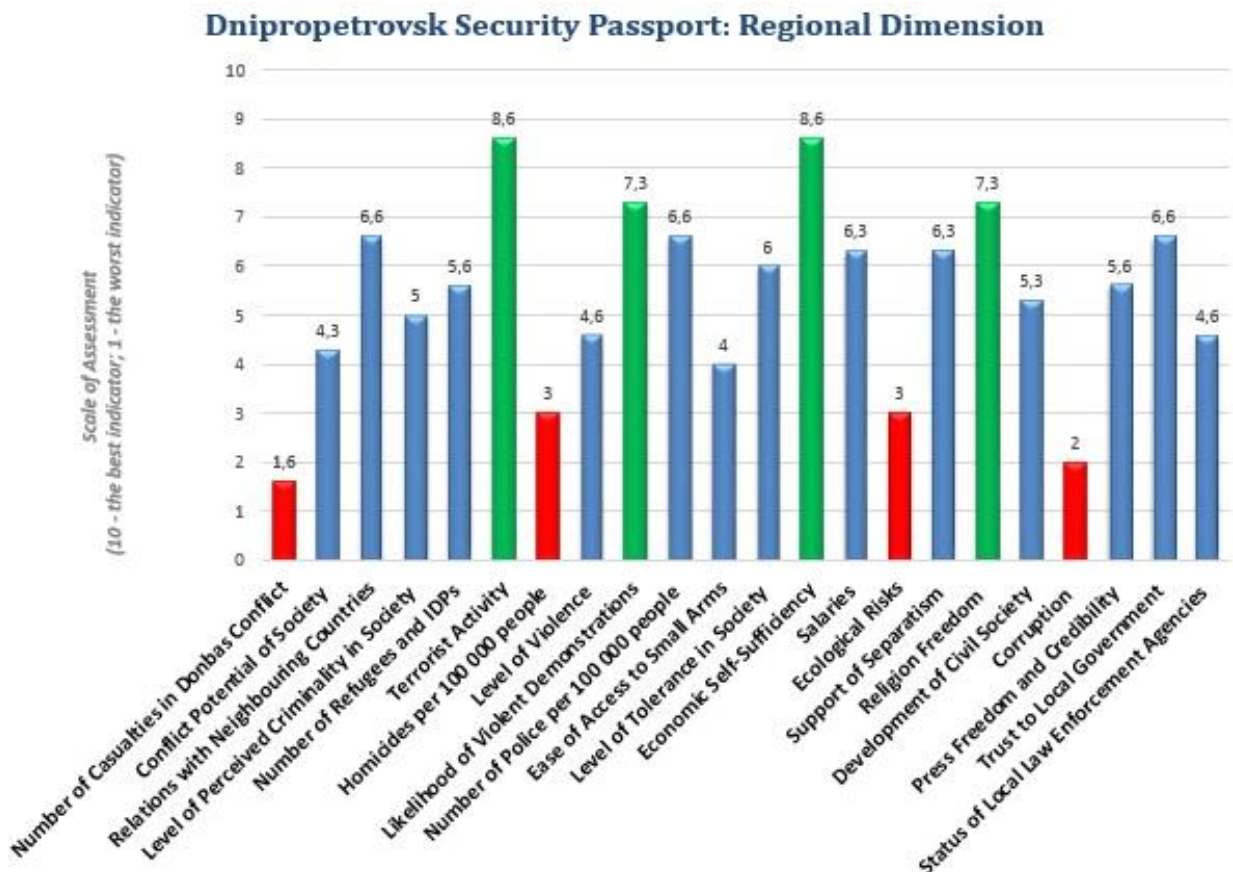
- develop a regional program for professional retraining with the closure (reduction) of large industrial production. Priority areas are services, agriculture, small and medium-sized enterprises, self-employment, work on infrastructure logistics projects;
- develop separate employment programs for adults above 45 years of age. Preserve young professionals by providing employment for graduates of local universities;

- modernize traditional industries in the region (metallurgy, coal mining) with emphasis on environmentally friendly production;
- develop regional programs to support small and medium-sized farms, diversify product suppliers through development of local agricultural production (influence on pricing);
- conduct measures to overcome feelings of anxiety, depression and other symptoms through counseling, therapy and professional psychological support to facilitate negative and/or traumatic experiences, strengthening skills of psycho-social adaptability;
- conduct trainings and seminars for IDPs and people suffering from post-traumatic syndrome on the issues of community development opportunities, strengthening of a socially responsible civic position, development of leadership abilities, and the like;
- develop capacity-building and training programs on community activism and responsibility;
- introduce mechanisms to facilitate public consultations at the local level, for example through online platforms;
- ensure decentralization and rejection of vertical command methods of decision-making (maximum involvement of local population in decision-making, infrastructure development, financial planning of territories development);
- support initiatives that enhance ties with other regions of Ukraine (through sports, cultural events, educational projects);
- create tools to encourage active representatives of IDPs to seek employment in managerial positions;
- adapt regional program of national-patriotic education within the framework of the Strategy for National and Patriotic Education of Children and Youth for 2016-2020;
- carry out effective measures against separatist organizers of pseudo-referendums (through lustration, a ban on holding public office and work in educational institutions);
- implement regional programs for construction of affordable housing and jobs for IDPs. Establish a commission on examination of residential facilities. Support IDPs that have suffered material damages;
- ensure support of independent media by increasing quantity and quality, and funding media initiatives at the expense of donors;
- introduce special control over effectiveness of national reforms at the local level (exemplary region);

- coordinate activities of the OSCE monitoring mission with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SES) in the Donetsk oblast (regular meetings and consultations) on prevention of man-made disasters, both in the controlled and in the temporarily occupied territories;
- equip and upgrade checkpoints (with tents for SES paramedics, development of safety protocols, installation of individual shelter sites, improvement of the sanitary zone and the line of contact, installation of surveillance cameras on checkpoints to reduce corruption on the ground);
- develop a state regulatory policy of satellite broadcasting in order to prevent the broadcasting of Russian media;

DNIPROPETROVSK REGION

Dnipropetrovsk oblast is a region that suffered the most from the Russian aggression compared to other regions of Central Ukraine. The oblast provides the largest number of conscripts to the ranks of the Armed Forces, and now serves as a strategic rear for military operations in the Donbas.



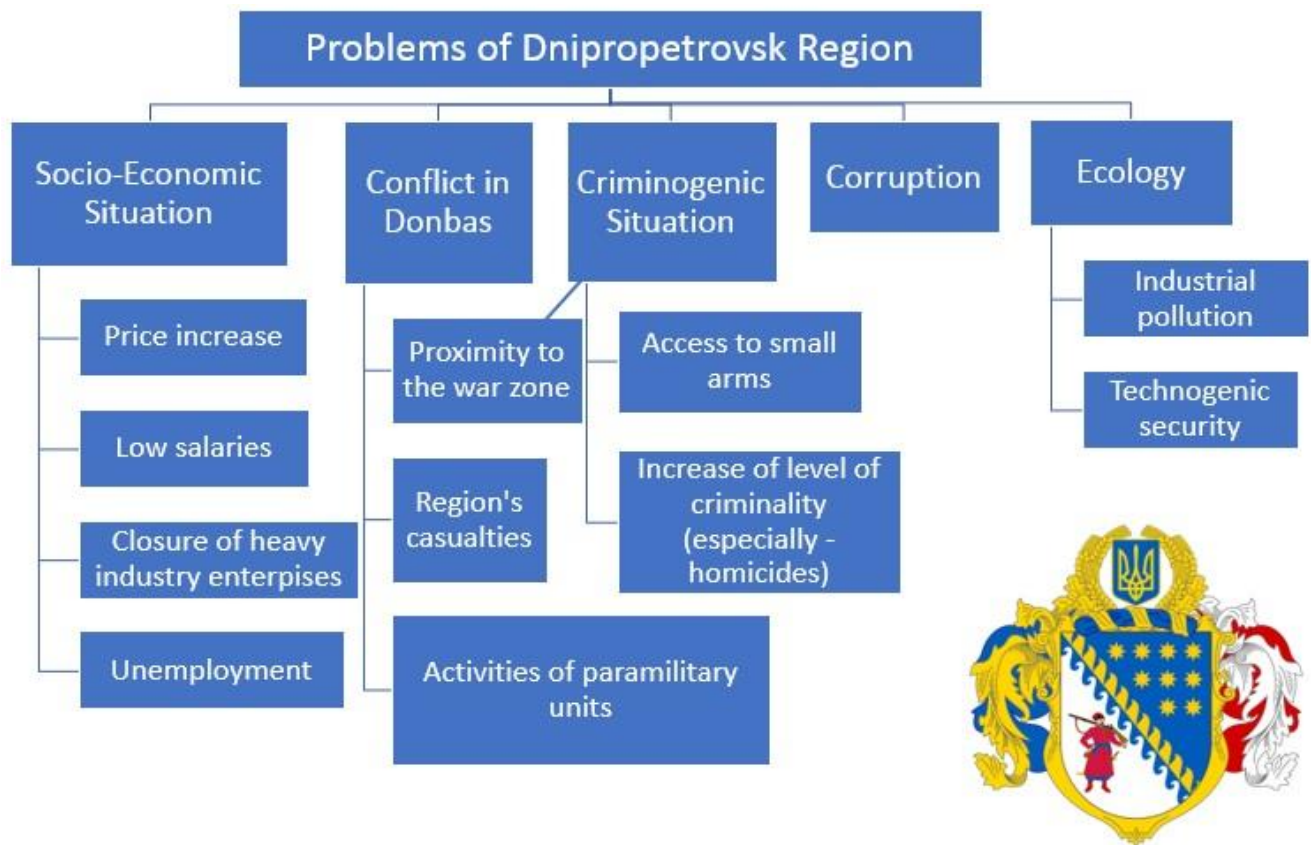
The Dnipropetrovsk oblast has the following problems, common for entire Ukraine:

- **Deteriorating socio-economic situation.** Closure of large industrial enterprises in previous years led to an increase in unemployment in the oblast. The largest enterprises of the oblast are controlled by big business, which are slow to raise social standards for its workers. The absence of competitive salaries leads to mass migration of the population, especially of young people. A part of the male population of the region chooses the contract service in the army, which makes it possible to guarantee a stable income for the family. Because of the proximity to the conflict zone in the Dnipropetrovsk oblast, there is an unfavorable business environment for attracting foreign investment.

- **Corruption.** For 35% of survey respondents, it is the main problem that hampers development of the region. Specifically, corruption was noted in law enforcement agencies and courts, unfair tariffs and murky tenders, which are used by businessmen close to the authorities, as well as delays in implementation of infrastructure projects (repair and construction of bridges).
- **The aggression of the Russian Federation in the Donbas,** which negatively affects all spheres of life in the Dnipropetrovsk oblast, and, above all, carries the risks of developing post-traumatic syndrome among combatants. At the same time, almost 49% of the respondents in the survey noted that they are in favor of the non-aligned status of Ukraine. In 2014, Dnipro became one of the main destinations for internally displaced persons from temporarily occupied territories, and now 73,000 IDPs are registered in the Dnipropetrovsk oblast (as of the end of 2017 according to the data of the Ministry of Social Policy).
- **Complicated crime situation and lack of sense of security.** In this context, the results of the reform of the law enforcement system, in particular the police are seen mostly negatively by residents.

The following regional problems were highlighted:

- **Environmental protection.** Due to the presence of extractive and metallurgy enterprises on the territory of the oblast, technogenic pollution of air, soil and groundwater is observed. Recultivation of land occurs at a low pace, certain areas face extreme demographic and industrial load.
- A significant number of oblast cities have a **single-industry structural economy** and are dependent on large industrial production. The economic crisis after the events of 2014, the decline in world prices for raw materials and the fall in industrial production led to a worsening socio-economic situation in such cities. In turn, this led to economic migration of the population to the oblast center, Kyiv, or abroad.
- **Infrastructure.** Due to the remoteness of certain districts in Dnipro, a low level of connectivity of the periphery and the center is observed. In the oblast, the network of highways is not sufficiently developed, and railway is the most important means of transport. The transport potential of the Dnipro River is almost unused, especially for transporting large and heavy goods. Implementation of current infrastructure projects is delayed (for example, bridges across the Dnipro River in the oblast center).



Recommendations

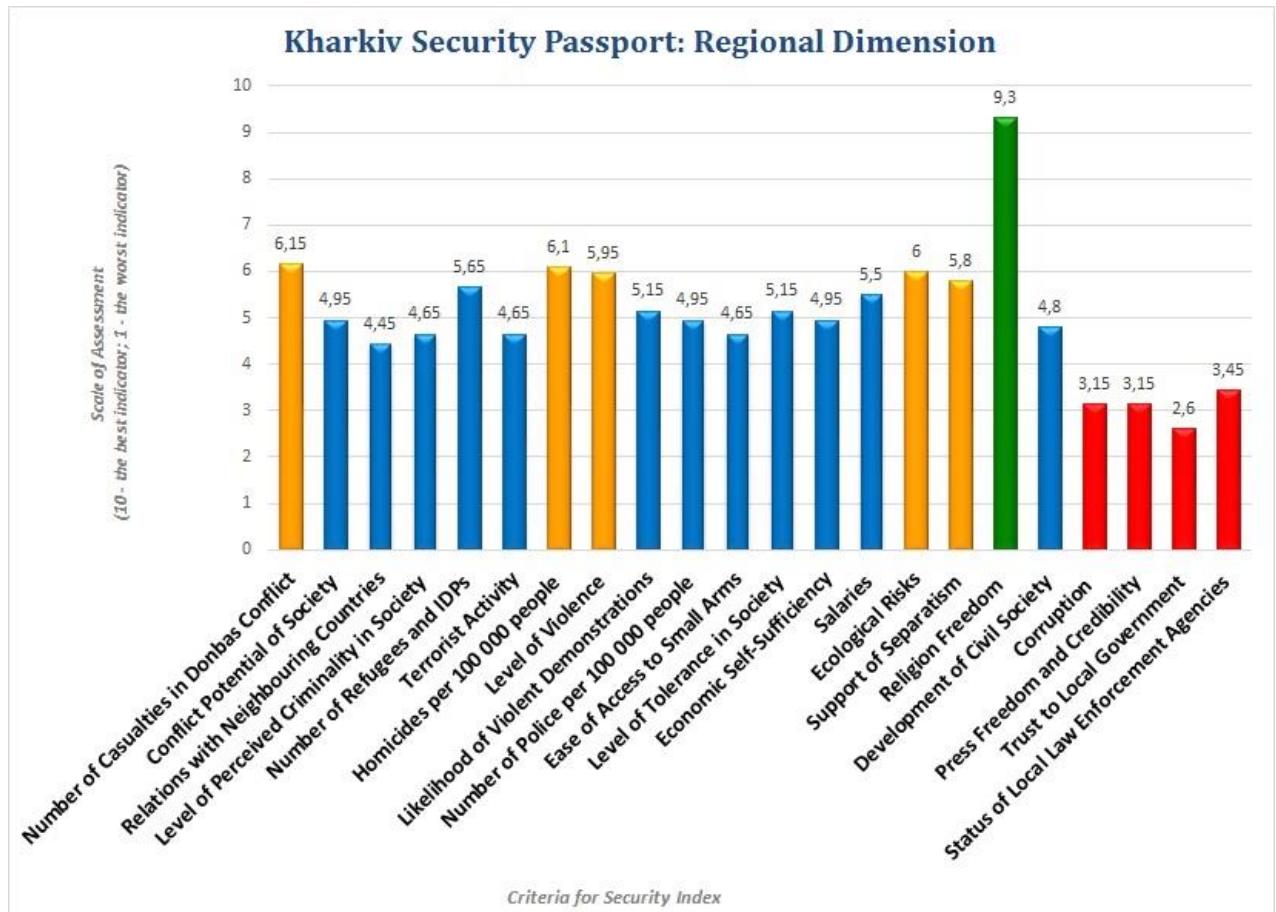
To improve the security, socio-economic and socio-political situation in the region, it is recommended to:

- increase community awareness of problems of individuals or groups of people who have post-traumatic stress disorder (former combatants, IDPs, etc.) and develop mechanisms to support such individuals in communities;
- involve international observers in monitoring the environmental situation in cooperation with the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SES) and the public;
- establish project offices under the head office of SES for implementation of specific environmental initiatives (involving the public);
- initiate, on a regular basis, regional programs for rehabilitation of ex-servicemen, and provision of economic and psychological support;
- use the experience of cooperation between the National Police in the Donetsk oblast with NGOs and launch the League of Young Policemen in the Dnepropetrovsk oblast;
- strengthen and systemize the interaction between law enforcement agencies, local and regional authorities (regular inter-agency consultations and meetings);
- carry out preventive measures to combat illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons;

- introduce a systemic approach to assessment of security in the oblast (analysis and development of short- and long-term policy documents to prevent current threats);
- investigate the effectiveness of preventive measures to certain types of crime;
- conduct awareness-raising activities on the status of implementation and the results of reforms in various sectors (police, education, medicine, pensions, legal proceedings, etc.);
- develop a strategy for solving the infrastructure problems of the oblast, contribute to development of river navigation along the Dnipro River.

KHARKIV REGION

Kharkiv is the main city of the Slobozhanshchyna, an industrial and agricultural region in the North-East of Ukraine, bordering the Russian Federation and the area of the anti-terrorist operation. Owing to this fact, and due to Moscow's active efforts to fuel pro-Russian and separatist sentiments, the situation in Kharkiv and the Kharkiv oblast remains difficult.



The following nationwide problems are relevant for the Kharkiv oblast:

- **Dangerous socio-economic situation** due to rising prices and tariffs, low wages, a reduction in the number of available jobs, which leads to unemployment. It should be noted that the map of interests and satisfaction of the population's needs in Kharkiv itself, which has large industrial production of strategic national importance, differs significantly from the predominantly agricultural areas of region. There is a difference in perceptions between city dwellers and rural residents - Kharkivites are more skeptical, pragmatically and negatively perceive the reality, activities of central and local authorities;
- **Difficult crime situation** is explained mainly by the problems of the socioeconomic sphere and by the significant number of internally displaced persons.

Important aspects are accessibility of small arms (due to proximity to the ATO zone), post-traumatic syndrome of ATO participants, destructive influences of Russia aimed at public disorientation and intimidation of the population (sabotage in Balakleya in March 2017, terrorist acts in Kharkiv in 2014-2015). Another regional problem is hostile takeovers, also known as raider attacks on companies (for example, on state enterprise "Electrotyazhmash" in January 2016) and farms. Nevertheless, it is worth noting that the systemic work of law enforcement agencies, existence of regional programs to improve security of the population, the level of consolidation and coordination of law enforcement agencies, are exemplary for other regions of Ukraine with a similar risk map (Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhia, Odesa oblasts);

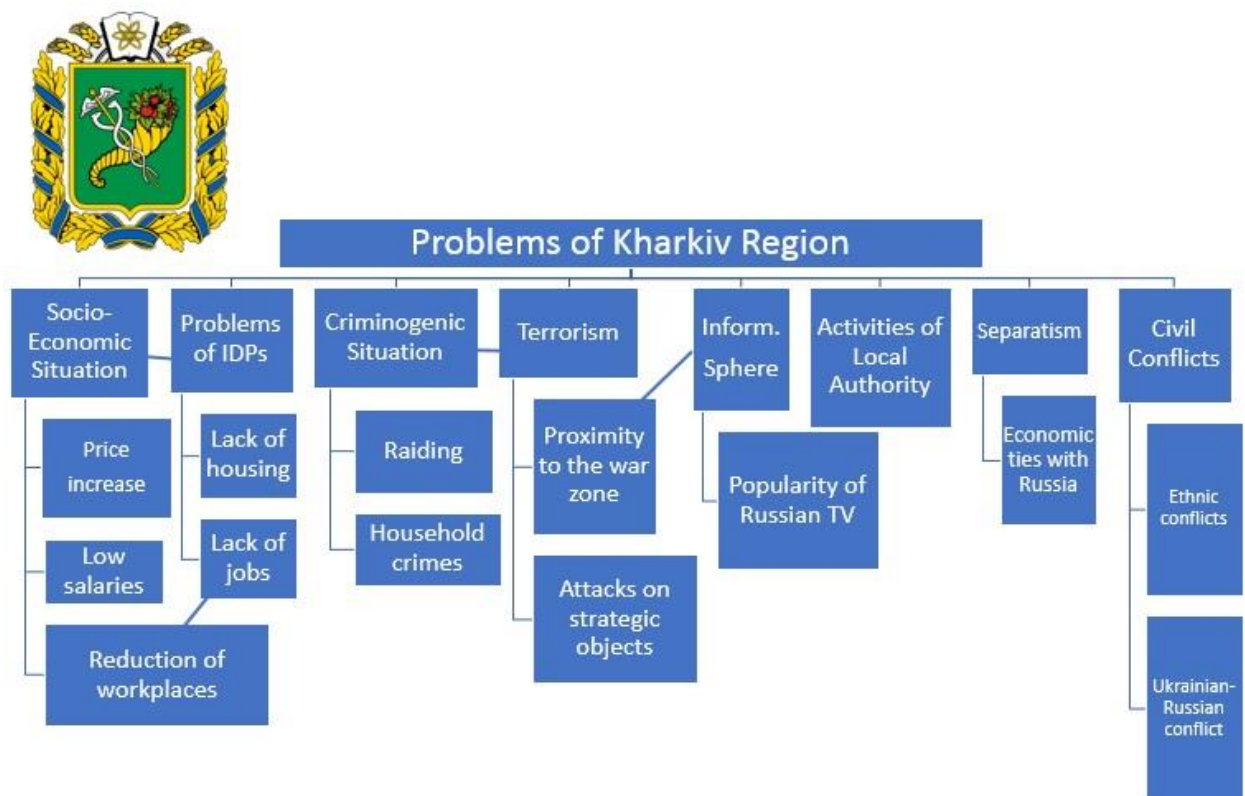
- **The problem of corruption** at the state and household levels covers all areas of society (law enforcement system, procurement procedures and local authorities).

The Kharkiv oblast manifests evident risks affecting security situation in the region:

- **Traditionally close economic ties** between small and medium-sized businesses with the Russian Federation reduce the positive impact of reform policies and European integration.
- **Separatist sentiments** remain popular in the narrow circles of their supporters, who are now in the "underground". Almost 23% of inhabitants of the oblast believe that there are favorable conditions in the Kharkiv region for implementation of the "DPR/LPR" scenario. A considerable conflict potential is preserved, which, if necessary, can be used to destabilize the situation. At the same time, the level of protest mood in the society today is insignificant due to the lack of mobilizing drivers;
- **Integration of internally displaced persons** is an important task for central and local authorities. Compared to other oblasts of Ukraine, the largest number of settlers from the Donbas moved to Kharkiv - almost 161,000 people (according to the Ministry of Social Policy, as of November 2017), which are predominantly positively perceived by residents. The primary problem is the lack of housing – the systemic work of the state (in particular, the Ministry of Temporarily Occupied Territories) is needed in this area. Another problem is the lack of jobs, insufficient attention (in comparison with Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts) of donor programs to create of opportunities for self-employment or re-training of IDPs;
- **The ambiguous attitude towards local authorities** is conditioned by the complex competitive nature of the local political landscape. In the region there are several groups of influence, which allows simultaneously keep the balance of power and oversee the situation in the Kharkiv region. The population has a predominantly

positive attitude towards the activities of local authorities (for cleanliness, comfort of the city), while being more reserved – towards the central ones. At the same time, the level of trust in local self-government bodies is low, which is a result of active involvement of local politicians in the events of 2014-2015;

- **Terrorist and subversive activities** are still relevant for the region due to proximity to Russia and the area of the antiterrorist operation, the vulnerability of strategic facilities in Kharkiv (factories of the military industrial complex), the memorable events of 2014. This predetermines a sense of insecurity among the population, undermining the credibility of activities of law enforcement agencies;
- **The Russian information field**, despite the restrictive measures of Ukrainian authorities, remains accessible and relatively popular in the region. The popularity of Russian media causes a high level of information vulnerability, the spread of anti-Ukrainian propaganda. At the same time, the level of trust to Ukrainian national and local media is critically low. The main source of information is Internet, social media and personal communication.
- **Social conflicts in Kharkiv** have two dimensions. The first one concerns religious and domestic interethnic discord in the student environment. The second, more dangerous, comes from the existing public split in the rival publicly pro-Ukrainian and pro-Russian parts of the population with their cultural and mental attitudes, while maintaining a broad indifferent paternalistic mindset of the masses of the population. This fact causes a rather low threshold of public tolerance.



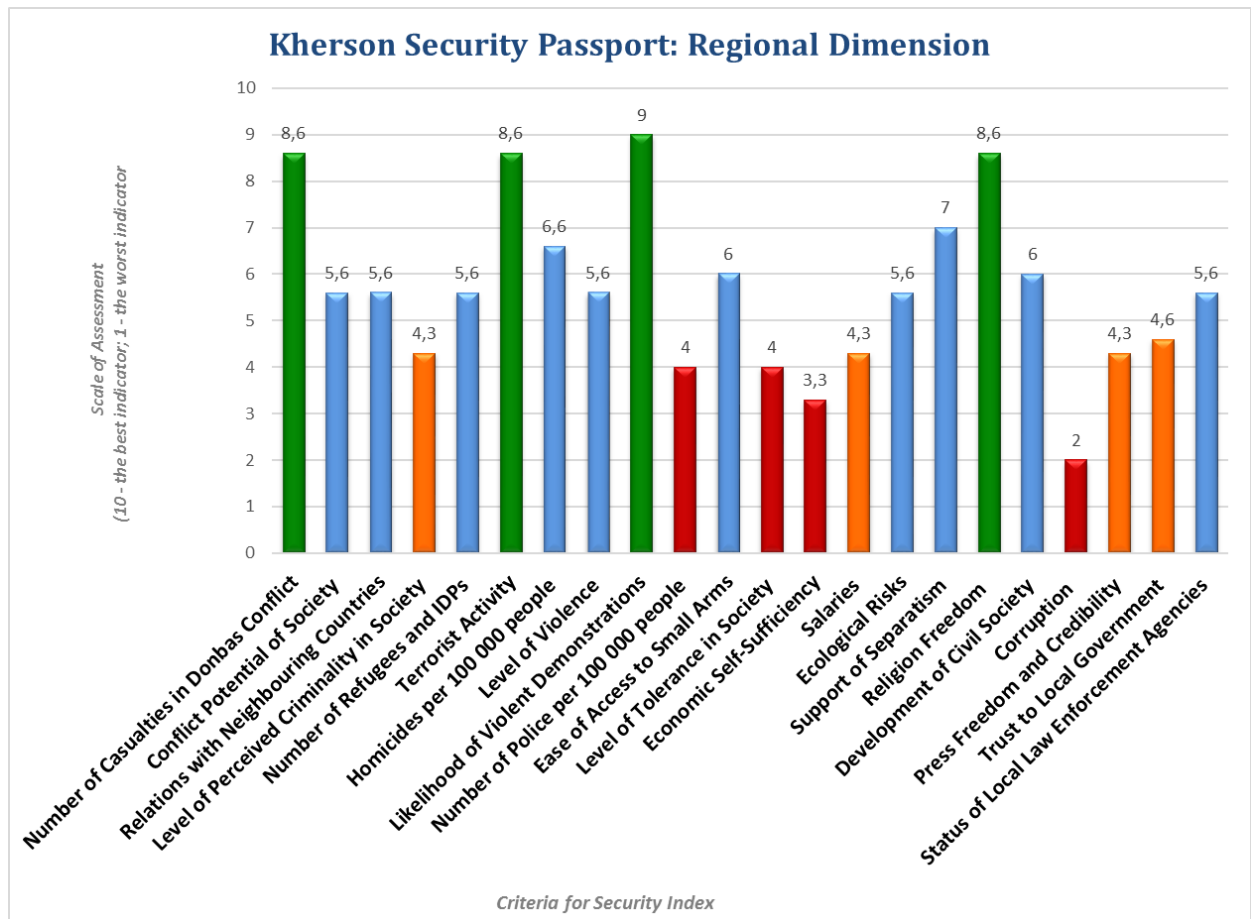
Recommendations

To improve the security situation in the oblast and to level out the negative impact of certain factors of its development, it is proposed to:

- develop regional programs for professional retraining in connection with the closure (downsizing) of large industrial production. Priority spheres should include services, agriculture, small production, self-employment, work on infrastructure logistics projects, security (police, armed forces). Employment programs for adults above 45 years of age;
- develop regional incentive programs (simple algorithms, transparent business start-up mechanisms) for small and medium-sized businesses, taking into account the region's economic needs;
- ensure creation of a regional cluster economy map, identify broken production chains and propose their diversification;
- organize monitoring of compliance with new traffic rules, conduct a public awareness campaign;
- implement oblast-level rehabilitation programs for former servicemen, economic and psychological support;
- implement preventive measures to combat illicit trafficking of weapons;
- ensure a more systemic approach to security assessment in the region (analysis and development of strategic planning documents for short- and long-term perspectives);
- conduct an information campaign content regarding the existing social and economic problems of the non-controlled territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions;
- implement a regional program for construction of affordable housing and jobs for IDPs, providing tax incentives for small businesses of IDPs;
- develop regional programs for national-patriotic education of young people;
- raise the level of public awareness on issues of European integration and Ukraine's cooperation with NATO, popularization of the European and Euro-Atlantic vector among the young population (changing public mentality).

KHERSON REGION

Located in the South of Ukraine, the Kherson oblast, with the illegal annexation of the Crimea by the Russian Federation, has become a "de facto" border region. In the oblast, low living standards persist, and structural problems remain unresolved. However, the geographical position opens new prospects for Kherson in development of tourism potential and transit opportunities.



Problems of the Kherson oblast are typical for most of agricultural regions of Ukraine:

- **Socio-economic problems.** The economy of the region is based on agriculture and the sphere of seasonal tourism (in summer the Kherson oblast is visited by around 3,500,000 tourists comparing 1 million inhabitants). Southern regions of Ukraine (except for Odesa city) have low level of salaries, which in conditions of increasing prices for basic products and increasing utility tariffs leads to impoverishment of the population. The problems of the agricultural sector are mainly due to loss of a large market, which was the tourist Crimea, the densely populated Donbas and the Russian Federation. The most urgent problem of socioeconomic nature is

unemployment (in particular, seasonal unemployment), which worries 38% of the region's inhabitants. Therefore, the processes of migration of the population outside the Kherson oblast have been observed for many years, which adversely affect the demographic situation. The weak economic self-sufficiency of the region can be explained not only by the nature of agricultural production, but also by certain regional development characteristics and corruption (nepotism) on the highest level of regional power. These factors reduce investment attractiveness and block opportunities for intensive use of the region's transit and agricultural potential. With development of large-scale infrastructure projects (construction of new roads, restoration of port operations), improvement of the quality of tourism services, investments in the agricultural sector, Kherson can become a "successful Ukrainian history", a "cover page" for the future peaceful reintegration of the Crimea;

- **The conflict with the Russian Federation and issues of IDPs** are relevant for the Kherson oblast mainly because of the situation on the annexed Crimean peninsula (through geographical proximity), although the issue of war in the Donbas is also an important problem for the local population. There is a disproportion in the structure of the resettlement environment. The most active and skilled IDPs migrated to other regions, due to low wages here. The socially unprotected IDPs (large families, single mothers, pensioners, people of pre-retirement age) remain in the Kherson oblast, which creates an additional burden on the social budget. Almost 18% of respondents noted that in the oblast there are prerequisites for implementation of the "DPR/LPR" scenario;

- **The deterioration of the crime situation** is a matter that worries the Kherson people. At the same time, the police reform is assessed mainly positively (prompt response), although the corruption component in the work of law enforcement agencies and the lack of qualified personnel were pointed out by respondents. In general, the number of patrol police in the Kherson and large cities is insufficient; while the situation in rural areas is even worse (there are not enough district police officers and investigators). The criminalization of business at the local level, in particular because of the new status of the border area, agricultural raidership constitute threats to the region.

At the same time, it is necessary to highlight the following specific regional problems:

- **Inefficient work of local authorities** raises concerns of the inhabitants of the region. Predominantly negative assessment was given to the work of the city authorities of Kherson. The city does not repair roads, there are problems with the work of transport, there are a significant number of homeless animals roaming the streets, only central streets are lighted in the dark. Moreover, local authorities are blamed for behind-the-scenes distribution of the local budget; unwillingness to

stimulate small business development; corruption and lack of cooperation with the public. Of particular note the the problems in the work of the newly created territorial communities, related to the struggle for influence in the area with respective district state administrations; lack of awareness of further interaction of local authorities and territorial communities; their inadequate attention to social, law enforcement and defense issues.

- **Local government capacity.** State authorities in the Kherson city do not effectively control the situation in the whole region. In result, regional structures receive distorted and outdated information about the state of affairs on the ground. There is virtually no power vertical, feedback and analysis, which leads to a dissipation of power.
- **Lack of state information policy,** in particular in the context of the policy of reintegration of the occupied Crimea. Reforms implemented by the state – police, pension, healthcare – are not explained to general public. Some planned reforms (land, privatization of state enterprises) are perceived negatively. This gives a room for speculation and manipulation by the Russian media (which are relatively popular in the Kherson oblast) and by various political forces, which also negatively affects stability in the region;
- **Environmental problems** are concentrated around the destruction of biosphere reserves, clogging of the delta of the Dnipro River (artificial islands of mud, which interfere navigation), environmental damage from the work of the Kakhovka hydroelectric power station. Also, the potential challenge is the risk of destruction of the Kakhovka hydroelectric power station through subversive activities, lack of healthcare facilities in major cities and recreational areas, environmental pollution from garbage dumps and the like. Pollution of the environment in the border areas is caused by the operation of the plant "Ukrainian Chemical Products" (the former "Crimean Titan"), which, after the annexation of the Crimea, stopped allocating funds to the budget for environmental damage. The dangers of its activities to the environment are proved by inspections of Russian occupation control bodies;
- The oblast scores the **low indices on the scale of tolerance of the society**, which can be explained by its transit character (negative demographic trends due to the departure of the active population), regional psychosocial characteristics, and objective factors – the presence of ethnic minorities (Meskhetian Turks), IDPs (mostly Crimean Tatars) and consequences of the crisis phenomena and protest actions (the annexation of the Crimea by Russia in 2014, the blockade of the Crimea in 2015-2016). The region lacks systematic work with national and religious minorities. In areas with high concentrations of ethnic communities, there are no local integration/adaptation programs for the population, so processes for the autonomization of minorities are taking place. As a result, the interests of minorities

are not upheld at the district level. Also, the discontent of the local population is caused by the work of institutions providing administrative services, which, in the face of growing numbers of IDPs, have not increased staff to improve their efficiency.



Recommendations

To improve the security situation in the oblast and level out the negative impact of certain factors on its development, the following is proposed:

- create a regional cluster economy map, identify broken production chains and offer their diversification, taking into account traditional links that were broken by Russian occupation of Crimea;
- ensure establishment of processing enterprises and energy-efficient facilities for storage of fruit and vegetable crops;
- ensure reorientation of markets for agricultural products to the domestic market, the search for partners abroad through the use of natural logistical advantages (the Dnipro River, access to the Black Sea);
- overcome the non-competitiveness of products of the local agricultural sector at the international level through lending programs and attracting investments on favorable terms, providing state financial support at the initial stage of a business operation;
- develop a regional tourism business strategy, taking into account the increased inflow of tourists to the Kherson oblast after the illegal annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation. Ensure coordination of local organizations working in the

tourism sector, with a view of creating a regional map of sightseeing objects and marketing information materials in the form of a single tourist product. Expand funding of infrastructure projects (with emphasis on the transport industry);

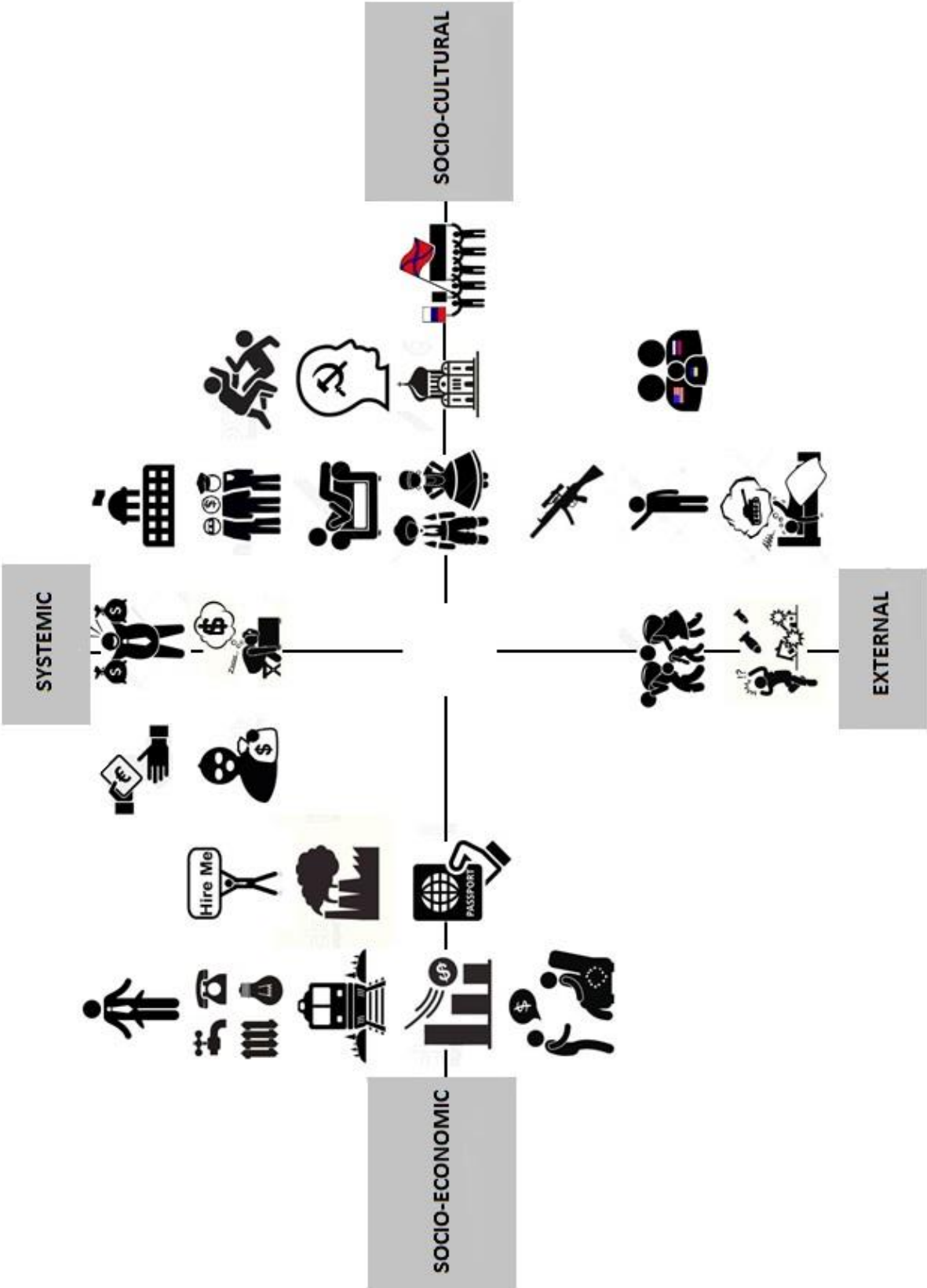
- use the experience of cooperation between the National Police in the Donetsk oblast with NGOs, launch the League of Young Policemen in the Kherson oblast;
- ensure the use of the “Sheriff” program implemented in the region until 2017 (community work that included certain security functions), which was funded by the state employment service and local budgets. At the same time, pay attention to cooperation in this area with the National Police;
- develop local programs for adaptation/integration of ethnic communities with joint efforts from the oblast state administration, district state administrations, territorial communities and representatives of national minorities;
- strengthen and systematize interaction between law enforcement agencies, local and regional authorities (regular inter-agency consultations and meetings);
- ensure the organization of joint events and projects with participation of law enforcement agencies, the public and IDPs in order to increase the level of communication, increase public confidence in law enforcement agencies;
- ensure development of social entrepreneurship by stimulating local businesses and attracting IDPs, ATO veterans, which in turn will positively influence their integration and adaptation;
- develop a strategy for social and economic development of Kherson until 2030, based on principles of project management aiming to achieve concrete results in solving the basic problems of city life support (the existing strategy was adopted in 2009 and does not take into account the changes that affected the city after 2014);
- develop regional stimuli programs (simple algorithms, transparent business start-up mechanisms) for small and medium-sized businesses, taking into account the region's economic needs;
- bring attention of international donor organizations to solving environmental problems of the Dnipro River delta, protection of biosphere reserves, pollution from "Ukrainian Chemical Products";
- implement a number of steps to improve the system of administrative services in the region for people who live in temporarily occupied territories, turning Kherson in a kind of "showcase" for Crimeans. Among priority measures for this end it is necessary to build high-quality roads from checkpoints to district centers (where inhabitants of the Crimea are provided with administrative services) and to Kherson; adequately equip checkpoints; at the level of territorial communities, stimulate job creation for purposes of intensification of the region's economic development.













GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS















- Develop a system of standard profiles of cities and towns in Ukraine depending on the structure of the economy and the social map of problems. Design development strategy irrespective of regional specifics based on city profiles (thus avoiding the division of the country into East and West, North and South) which will include:
 - a) city passports, including the economic structure (enterprises operating in the city, their condition, markets for goods they produce), effectiveness of authorities and local elites, employment, the socio-demographic map (fertility, mortality, migration), social infrastructure, staffing, security situation, transport logistics;
 - b) classification of typical profiles of Ukrainian cities;
 - c) map of risks and development scenarios per city.
- Develop the study on the oligarchic-clan structure in the regions (clan map);
- Create alternative channels for informing central authorities about the real state of affairs in the regions (for example, through public networks, consultative meetings, etc.) in order to prevent misinformation about the real situation on the ground;
- Create "target groups", which will act on the principle of project management to solve specific problems of specific regions;
- Improve the system of security passport indicators, based on the Global Peace Index, with threat ranking, assignment of ratios, etc.;
- Ensure regular preparation of regional passports through the established network of state and public organizations to monitor dynamics in specific problem indicators (twice a year);
- Improve the legal framework that will guarantee the protection of private property;
- Create high-quality information content aimed at leveling the Russian propaganda measures, primarily in social networks and on regional Internet resources;
- Implement a national media campaign to publicize in an accessible form the tasks and achievements of the reforms in the state (police, education, pensions, healthcare etc.);
- Ensure the adoption of a law on internal affairs bodies as a basis for the effective operation of law enforcement agencies.

ANNEXES

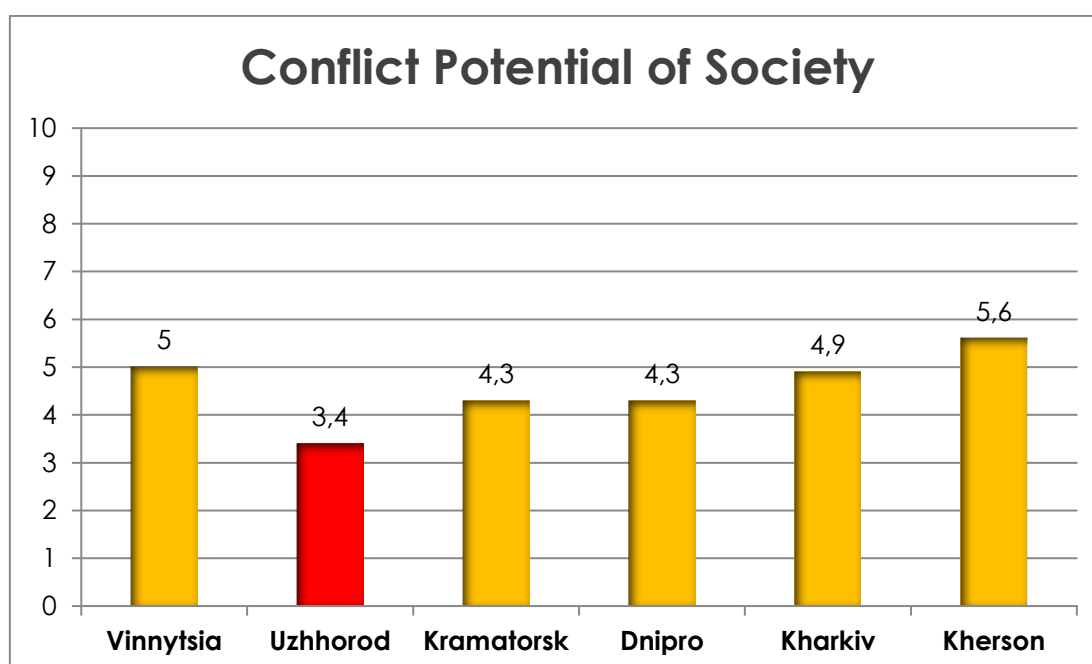
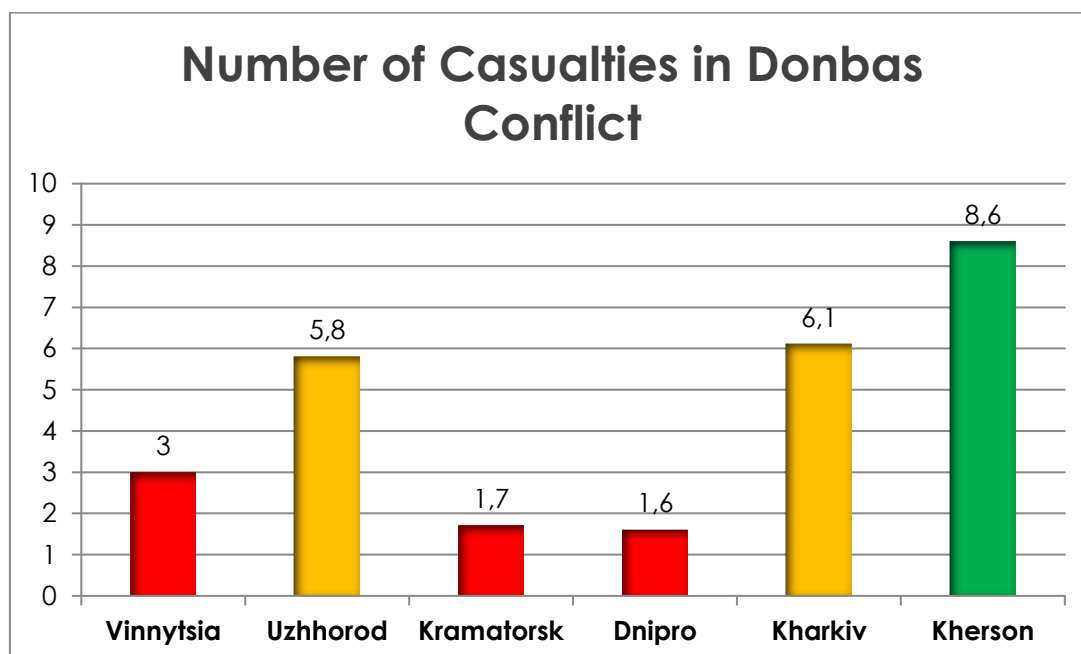
THE COORDINATE SYSTEM OF SECURITY RISKS ORIGIN

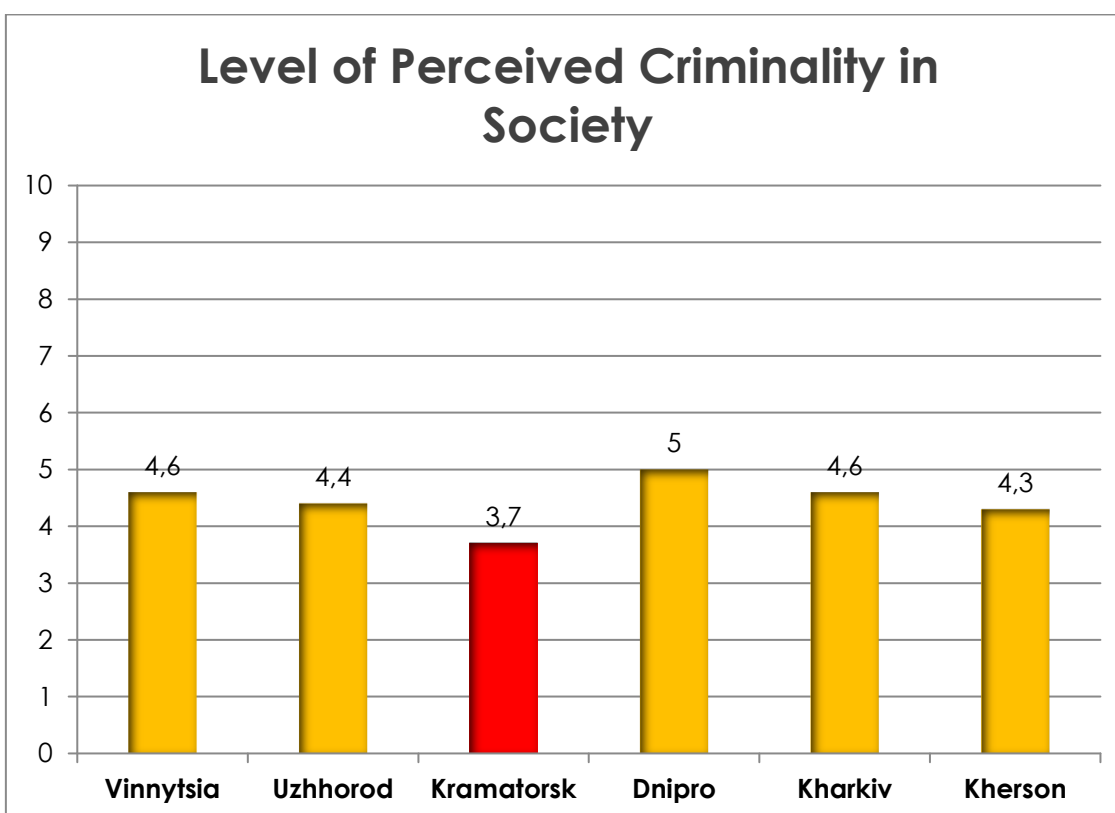
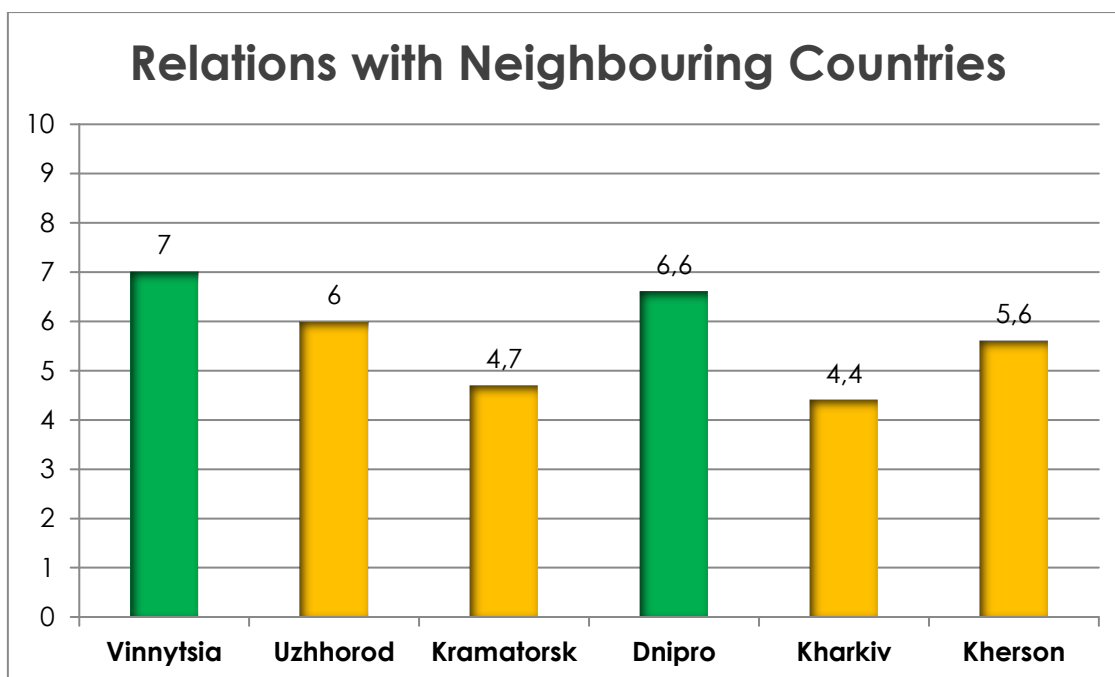


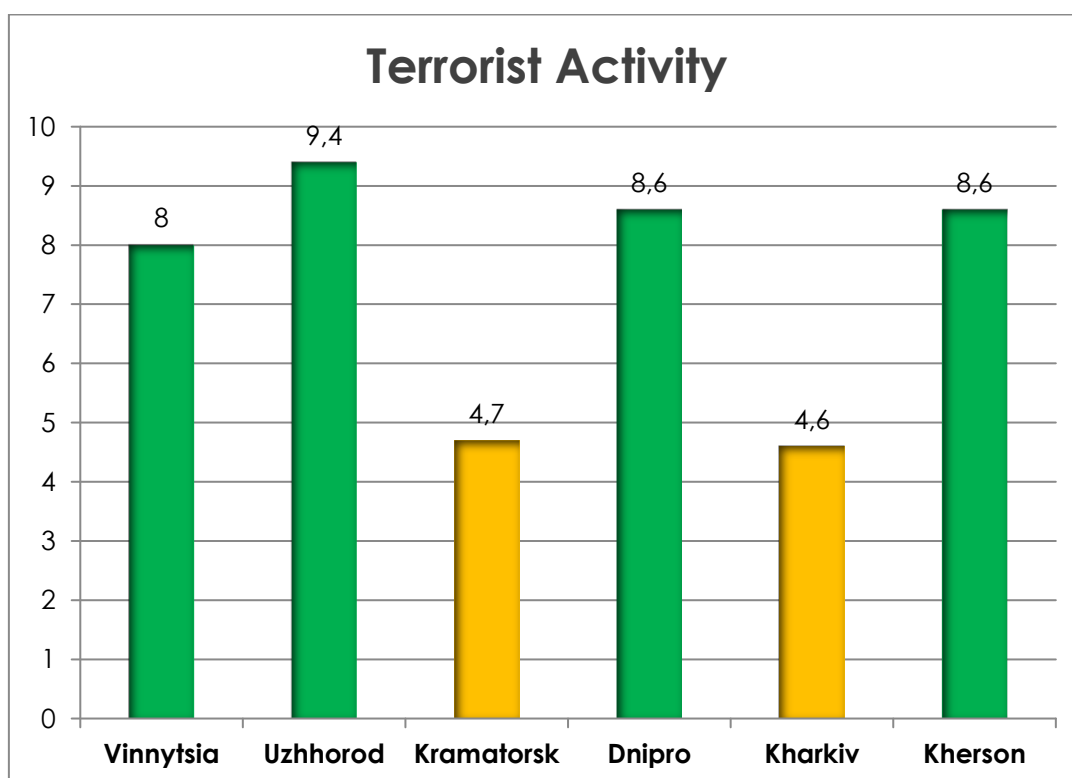
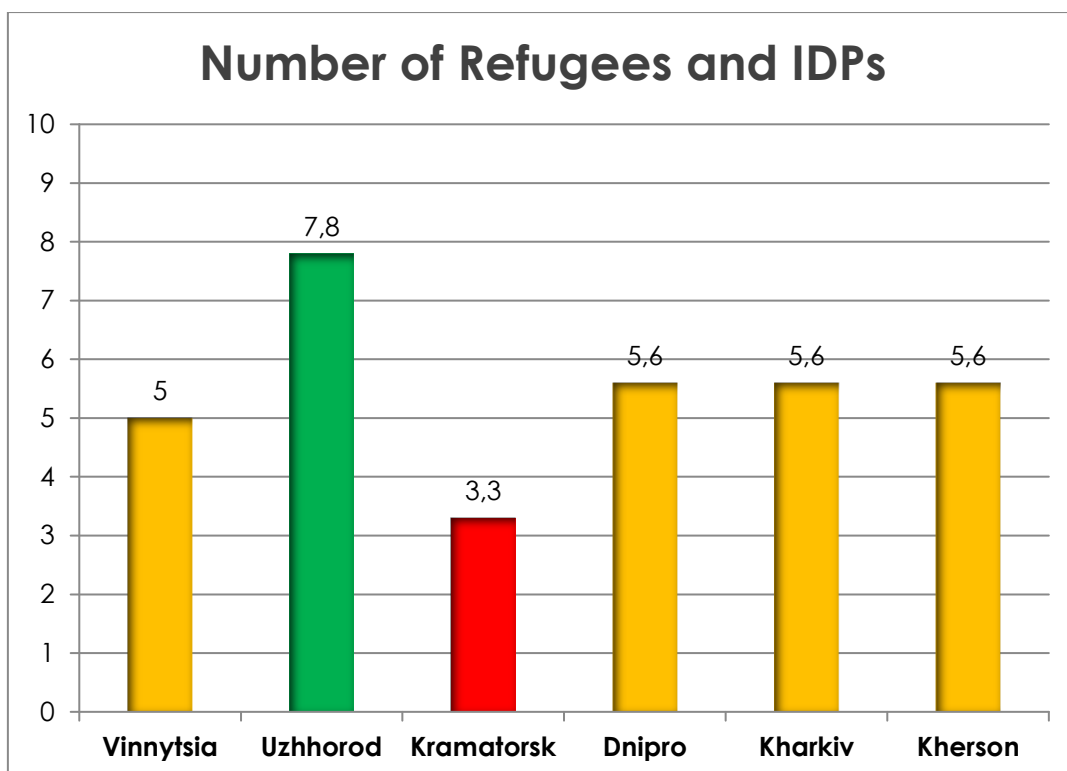
	Poverty (Low Pensions and Wages)
	Corruption
	Oligarchic Clans
	Ineffectiveness of Authorities
	High Tariffs
	Unemployment
	Crimes
	Ineffectiveness of Law Enforcement Agencies
	Patronage / Nepotism
	Intolerance of Society
	Infrastructure
	Ecological Risks

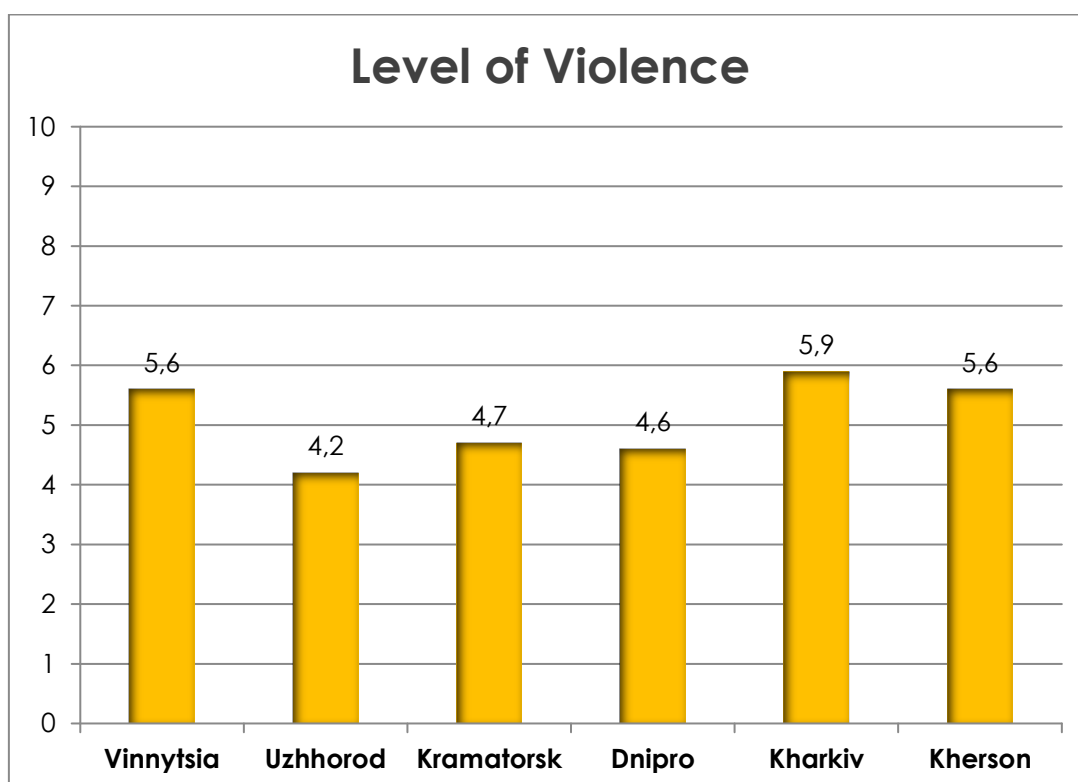
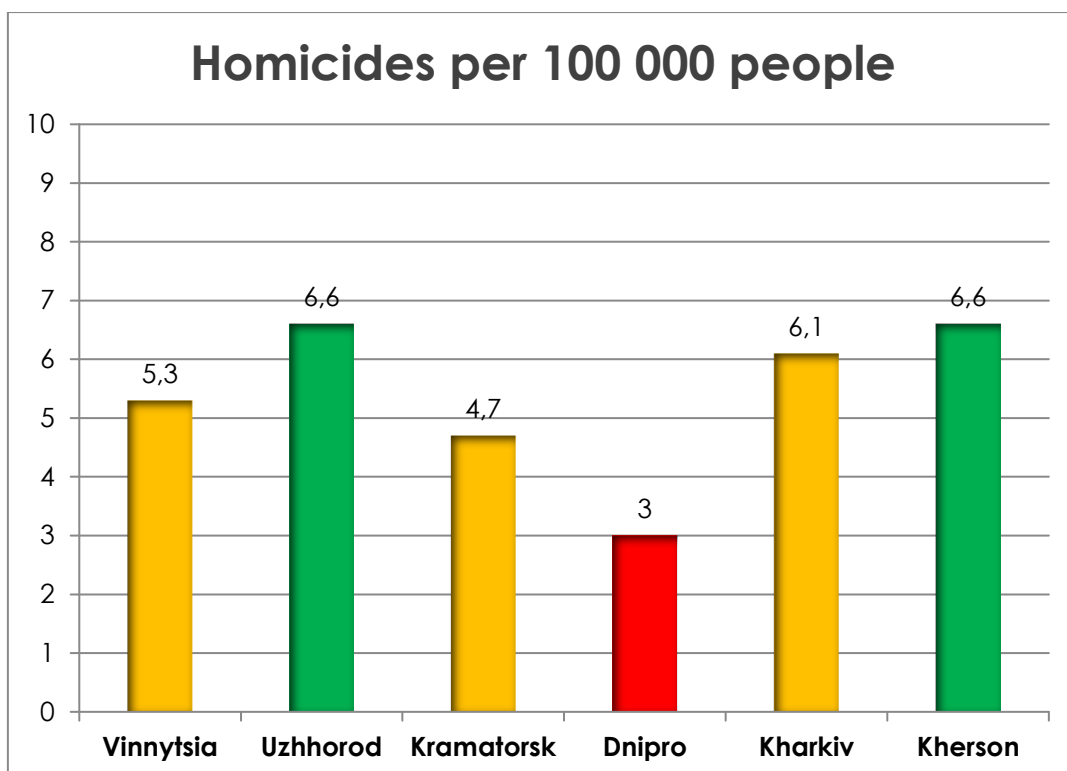
	Low Mobility of the Population
	Paternalism
	Ineffective Economic Model
	Migration
	Regional Diversity
	Religious Tensions
	Separatism
	Lack of Foreign Investments
	Ease of Access to Small Arms
	Refugees and IDPs
	Radicalism
	External Influence on the Elite
	Russian Aggression
	Posttraumatic Stress Disorder

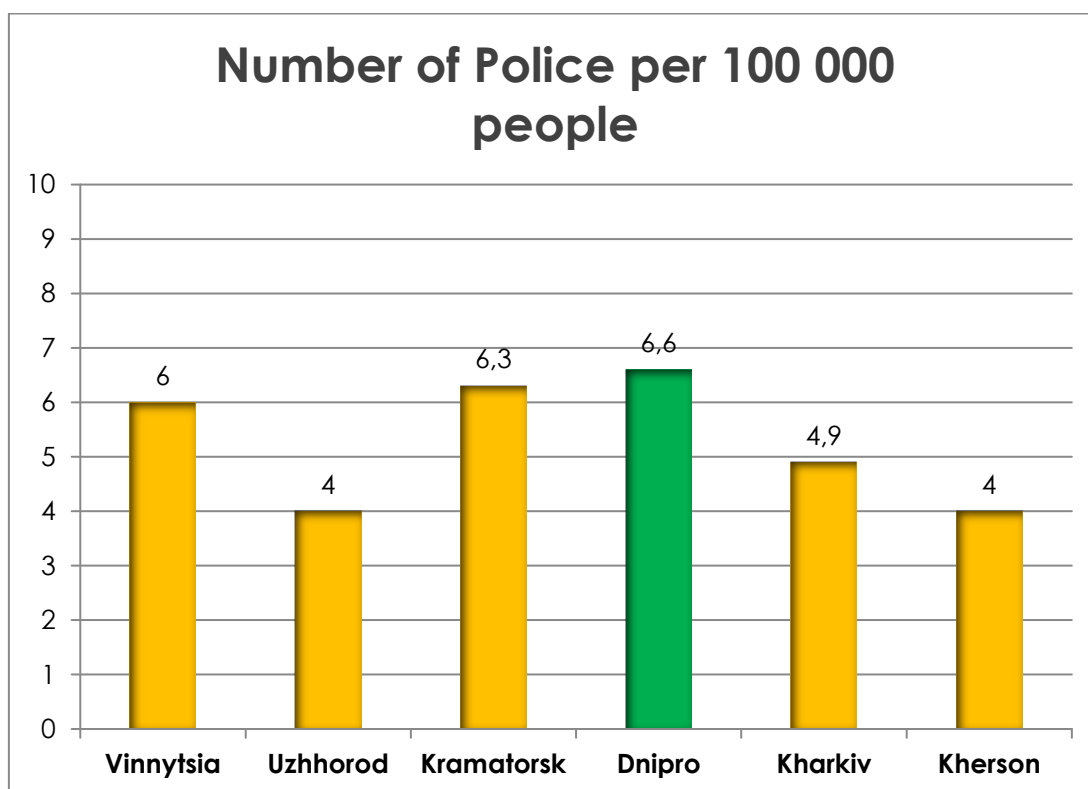
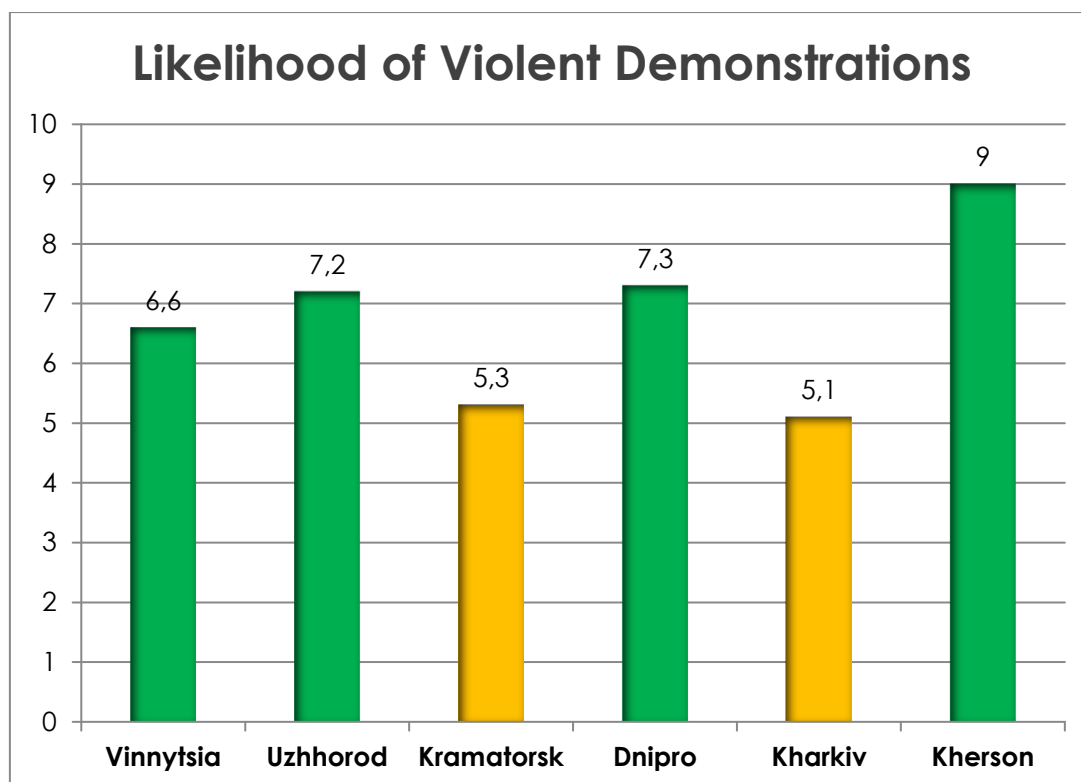
REGIONAL INDEXES

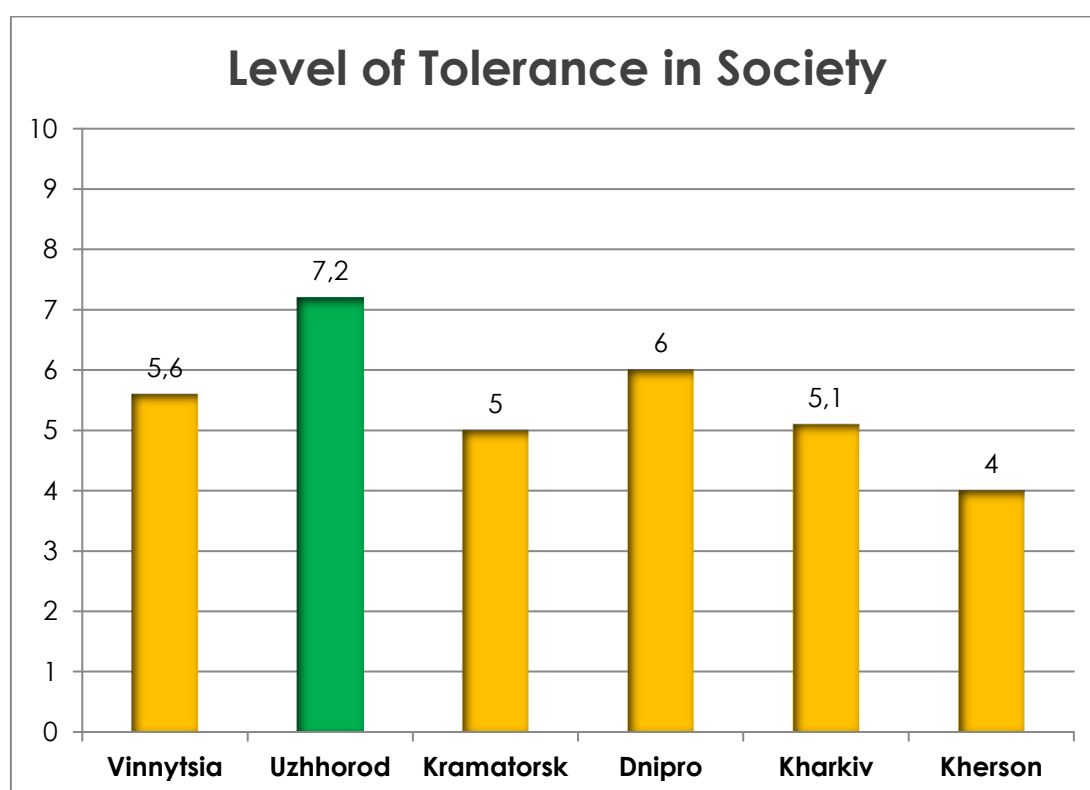
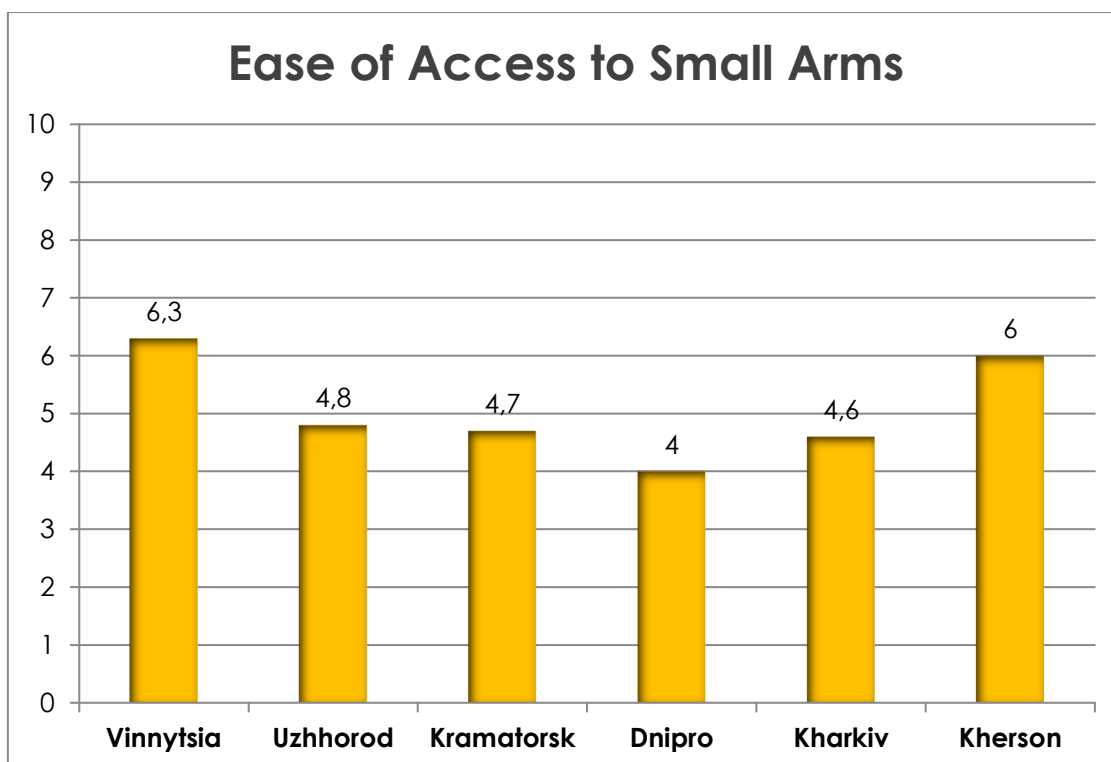


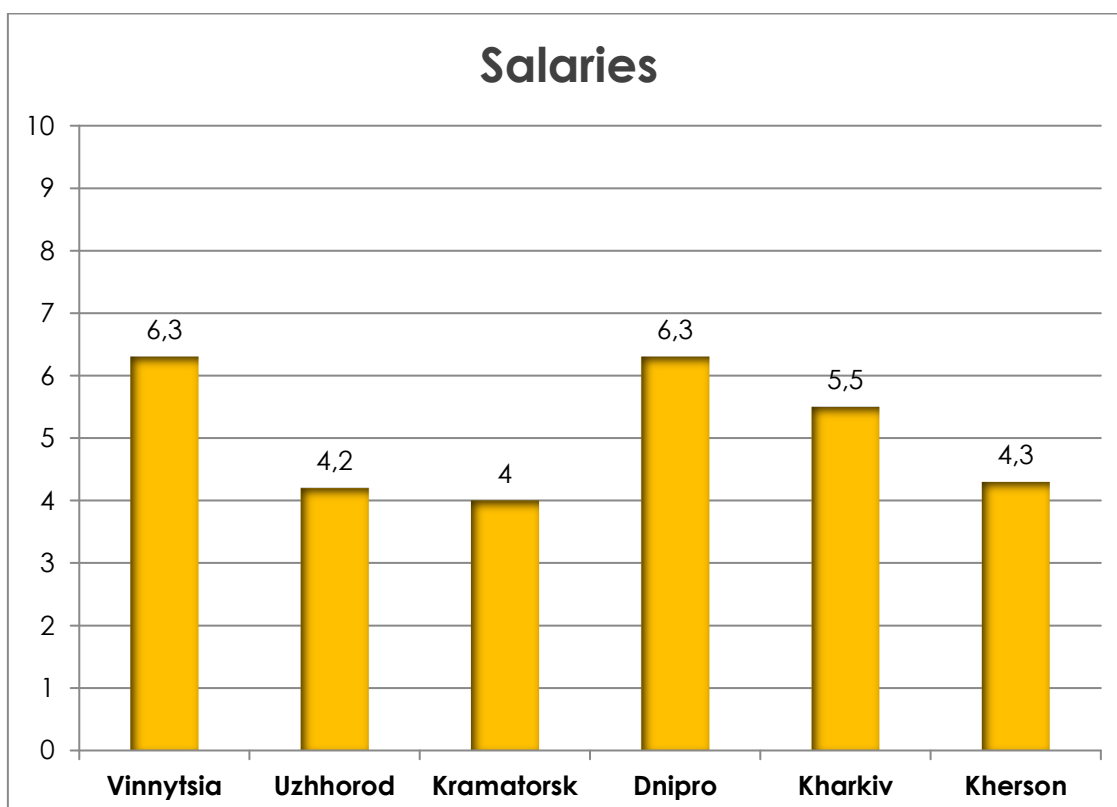
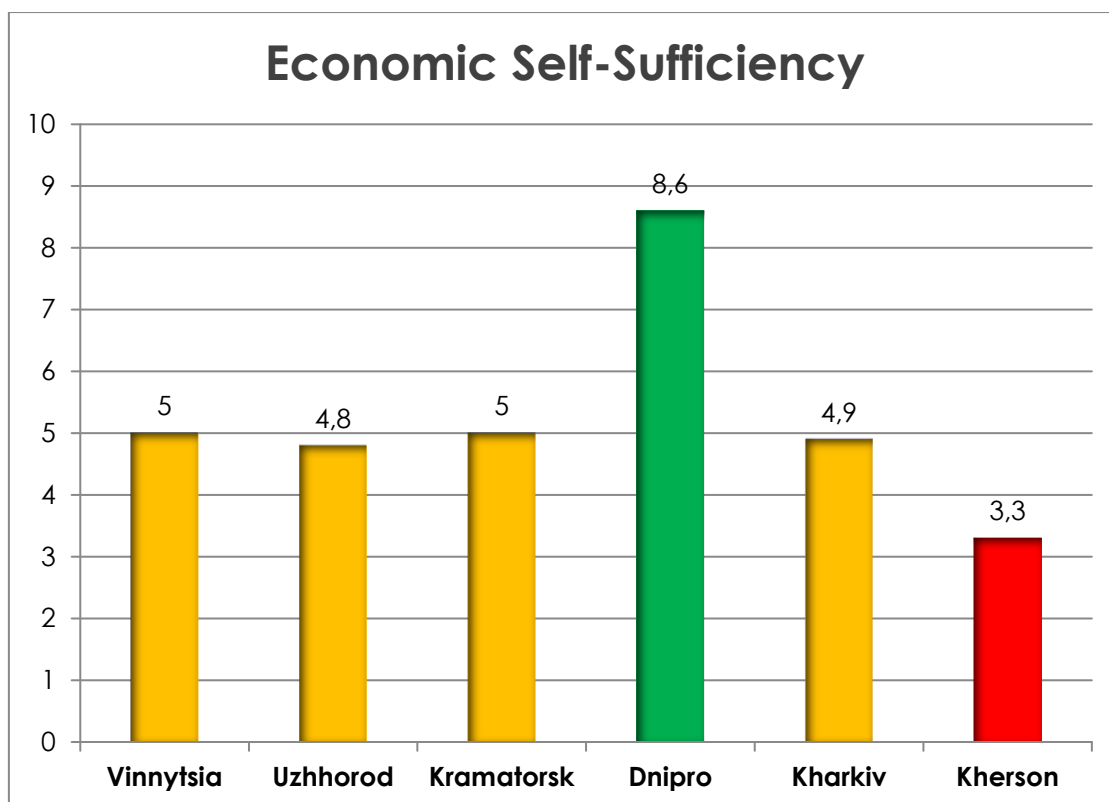


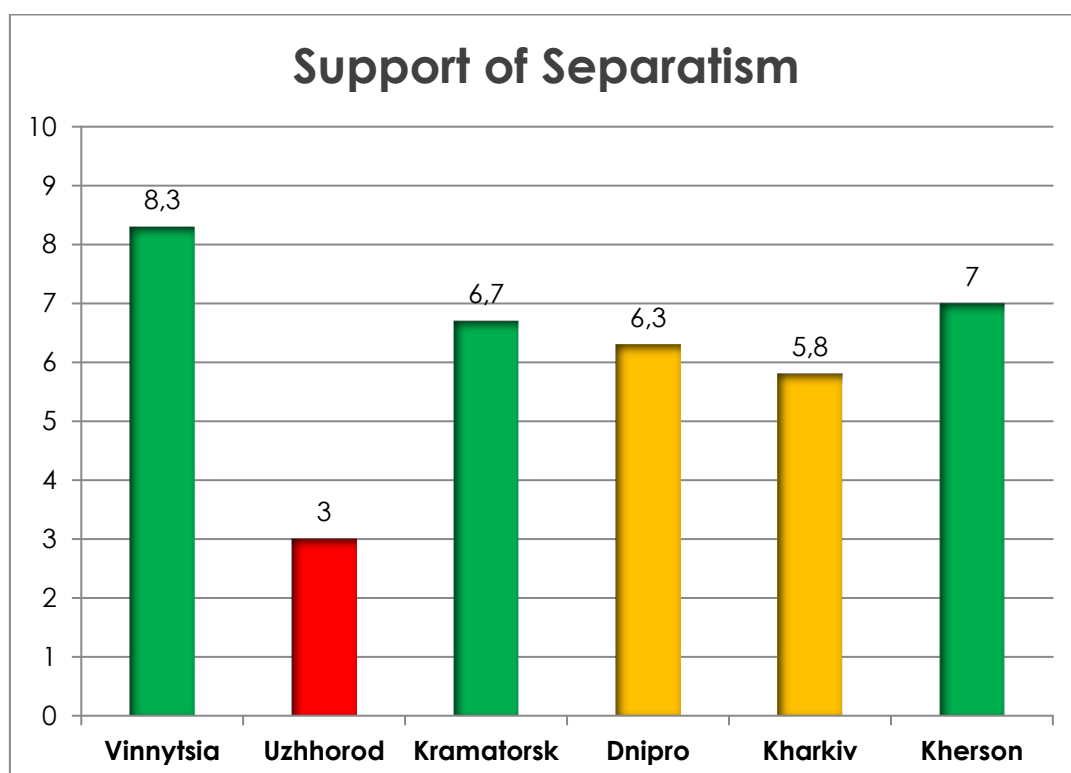
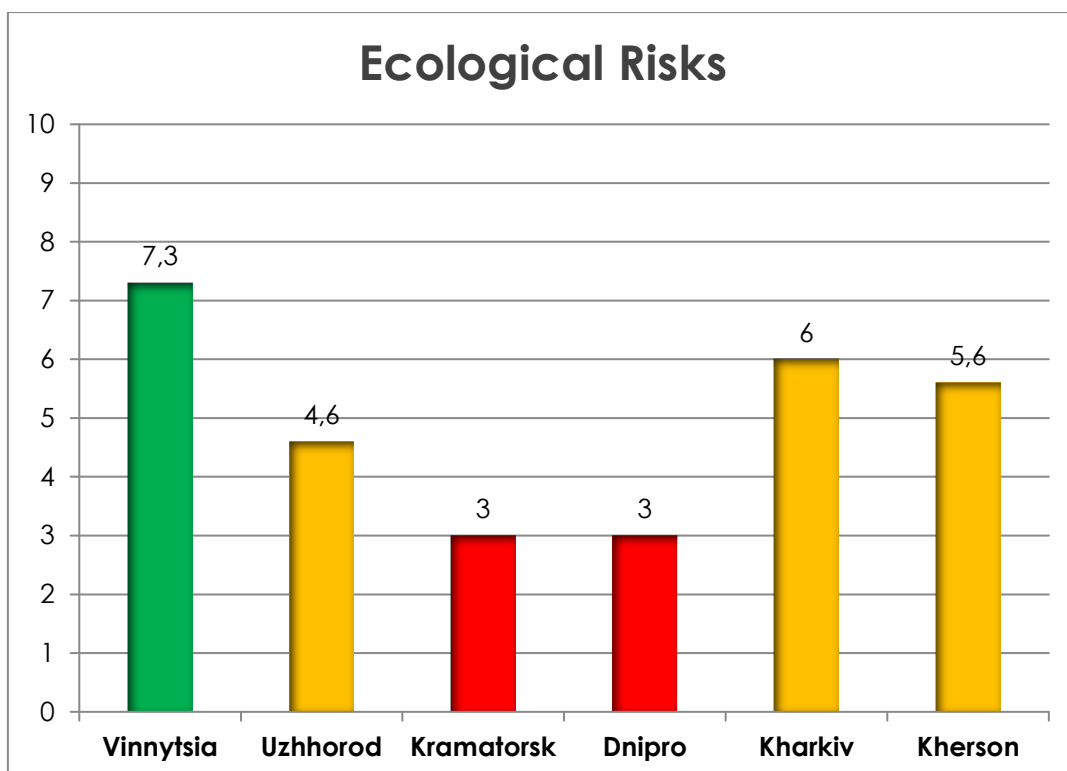


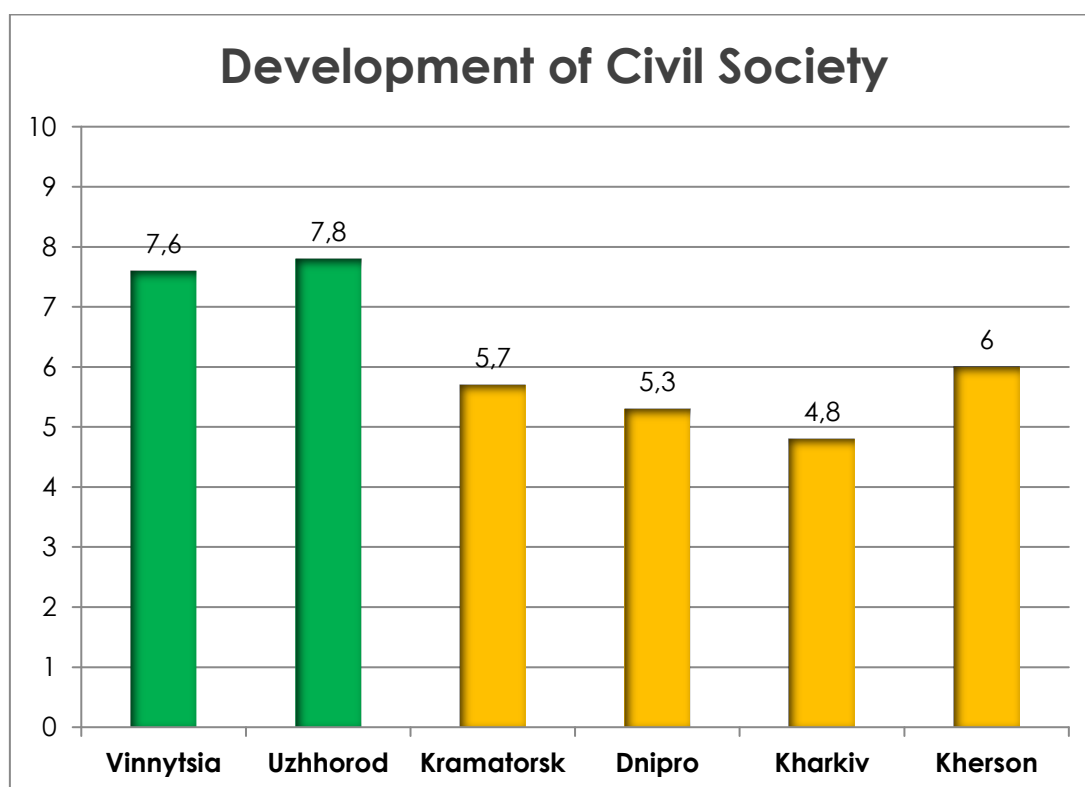
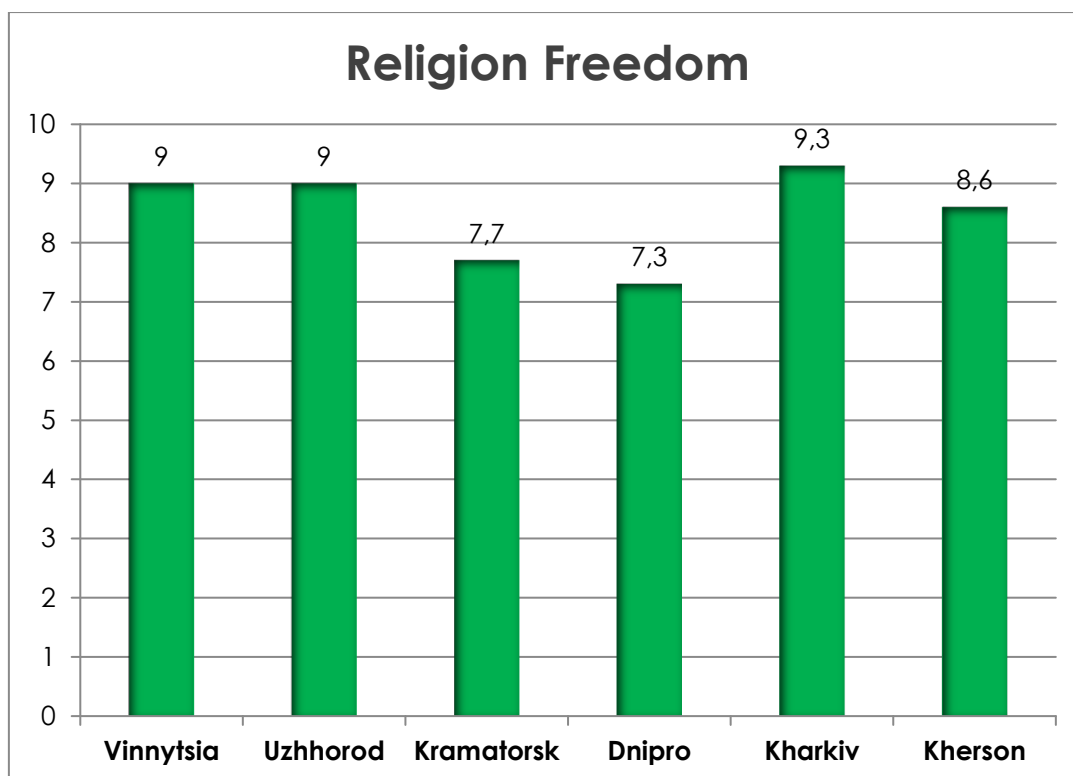


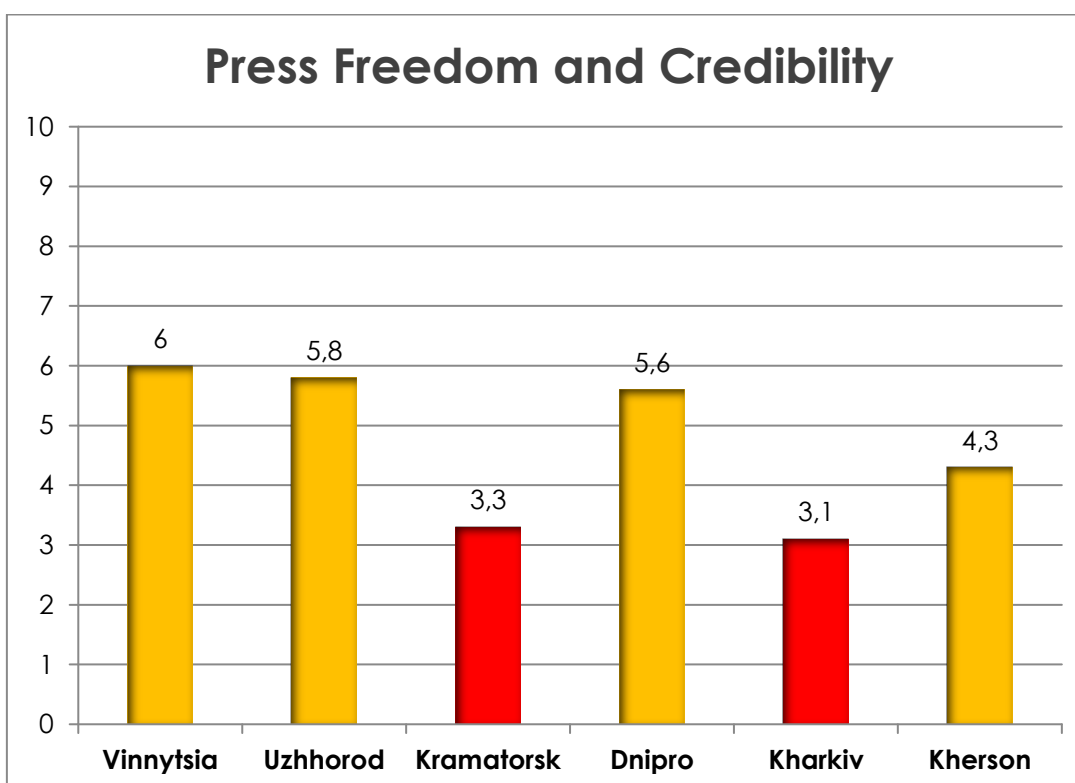
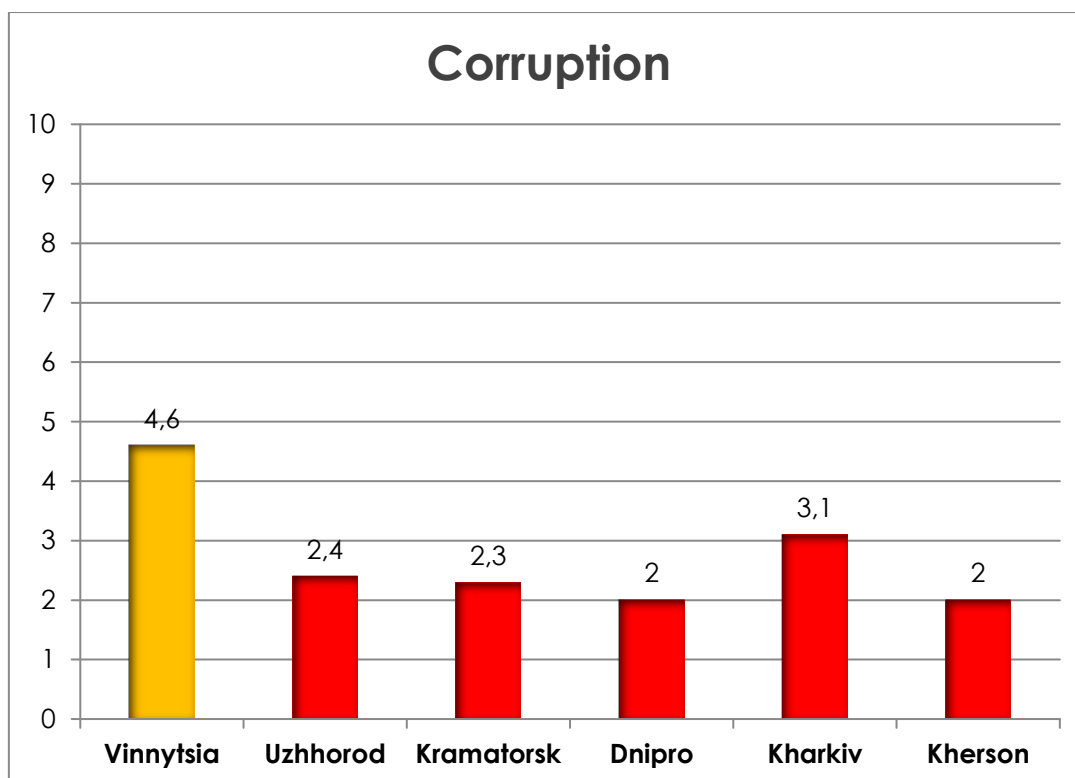


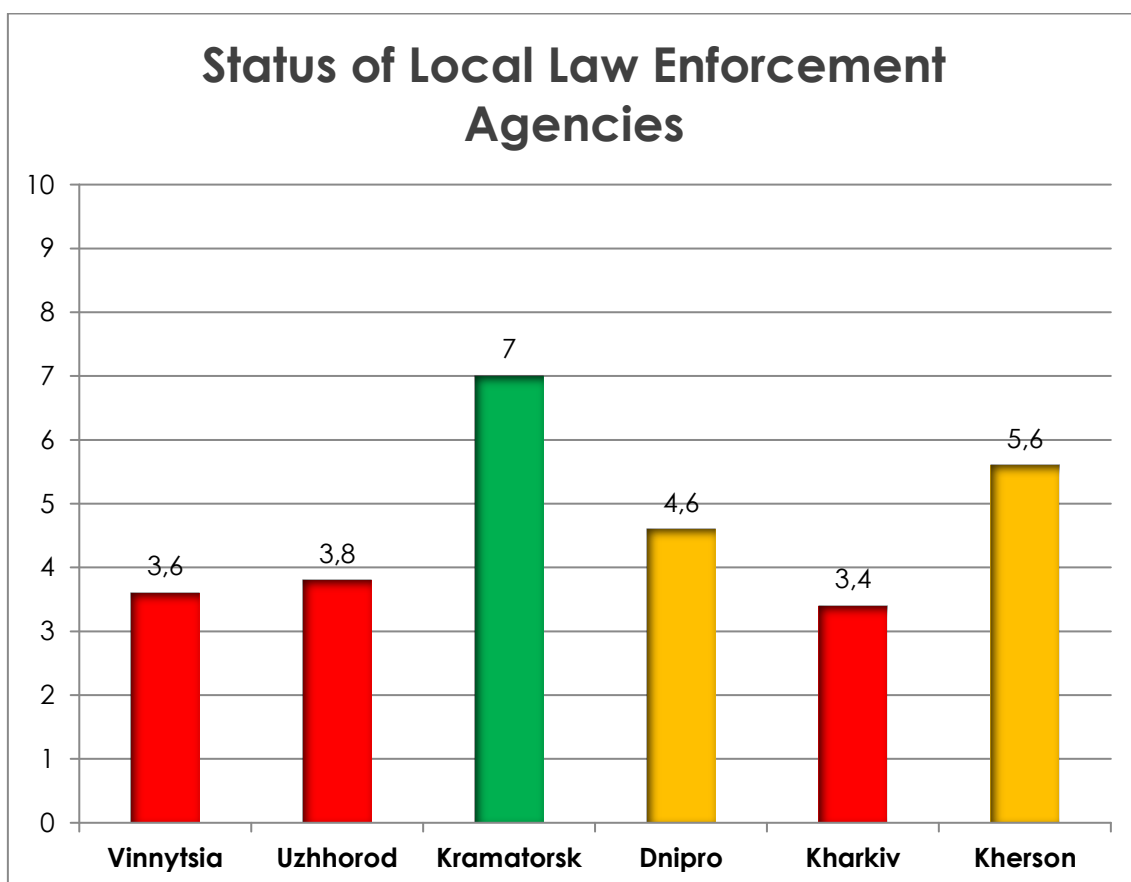
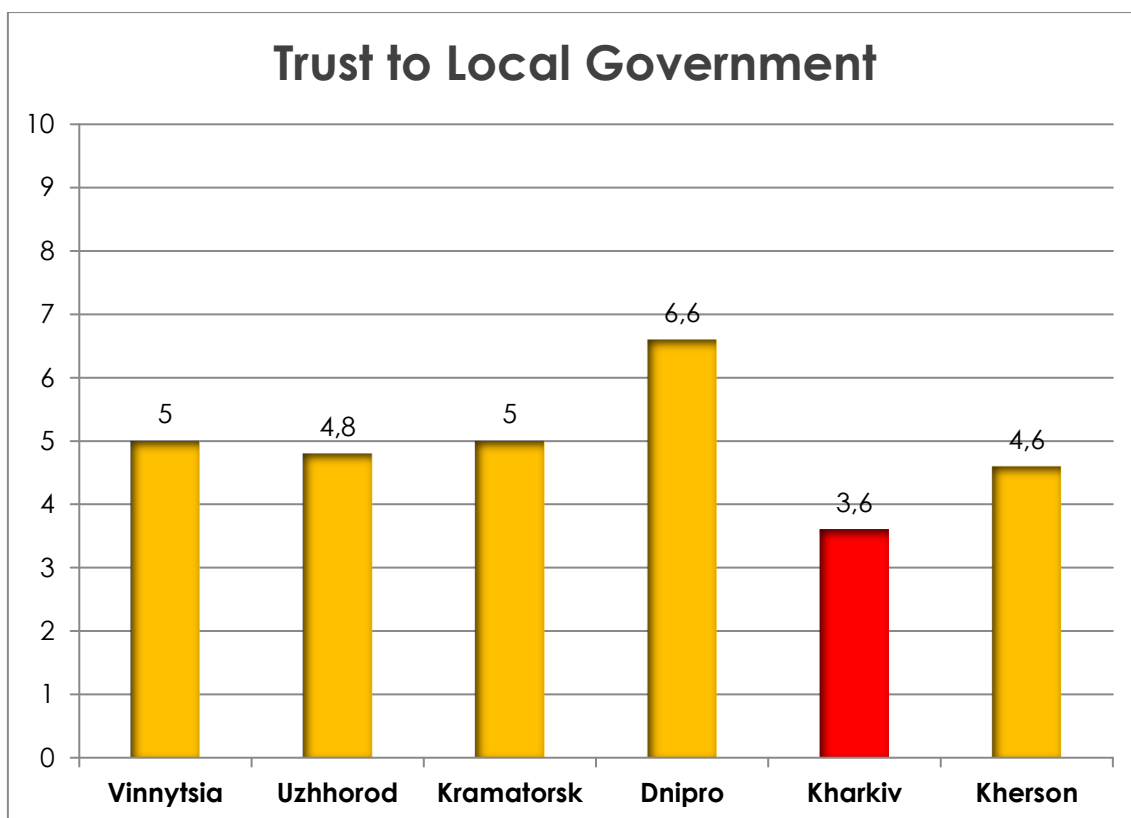












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The authors of the study express gratitude to the regional partners:

- Vinnytsia Regional State Administration;
- Vinnytsia Chamber of Commerce and Industry;
- Vasyl' Stus Donetsk National University;
- Transcarpathian Regional State Administration;
- Uzhgorod National University;
- Donetsk Regional Military-Civil Administration;
- Kramatorsk City Council;
- Donbas National Academy of Civil Engineering and Architecture;
- Dnipropetrovsk Regional State Administration;
- Dnipro Alfred Nobel University;
- Kharkiv Regional State Administration;
- V. N. Karazin Kharkiv National University;
- Kharkiv National University of Internal Affairs;
- Kherson Regional State Administration;
- Kherson State University.

And, personally, to Svitlana Mitryayeva, Tetyana Brezhneva, Ihor Todorov, Oleksander Nepriitskiy, Denys Chistikov, Maxim Yeligulashvili, Yuriy Shchedrin.

Sociological Research contractor:

Centre for Applied Studies, <https://cpd.com.ua>

Media support for the project:

Centre Media, <https://centre.today>

Obozrevatel, <https://obozrevatel.com>

Radio Hayat, <https://qha.com.ua>

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