

2022 CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATION SUSTAINABILITY INDEX

UKRAINE OCTOBER 2023







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For Ukraine

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LOCAL PARTNER

UKRAINIAN CENTER FOR INDEPENDENT POLITICAL RESEARCH (UCIPR)

Valeriia Skvortsova

PROJECT MANAGERS

FHI 360

David Lenett Alex Nejadian

INTERNATIONAL CENTER FOR NOT-FOR-PROFIT LAW (ICNL)

Jennifer Stuart

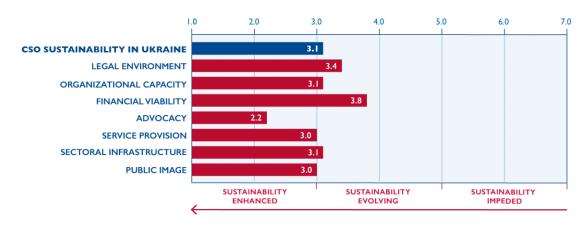
EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

Erin McCarthy, Ruta Valaityte, Jennifer Stuart, and Irina Lashkhi



Capital: Kyiv
Population: 43,306,477
GDP per capita (PPP): \$12,671.2
Human Development Index: High (0.773)
Freedom in the World: Partly Free (50/100)

OVERALL CSO SUSTAINABILITY: 3.1



Ukraine faced an existential challenge when the Russian Federation launched a full-scale invasion of it on February 24, 2022. In addition to offensives along the eastern and northern borders with Russia and Belarus, Russian armed forces regularly shelled the entire country, systematically targeting civilian infrastructure such as schools, health-care facilities, and electricity grids. The invading forces also committed horrific war crimes against civilian populations. The United Nations (UN) Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine reported that the Russian army was responsible for arbitrary executions, widespread detentions, enforced disappearances, and attacks on civilians on Ukrainian territory. According to the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, about 72,000 war crimes were recorded in the twelve months after the invasion. By the end of 2022, the regions of Donetsk, Kharkiv, Kherson, Luhansk, Mykolaiv, and Zaporizhia (in addition to the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which Russia illegally annexed in 2014) were fully or partly occupied by Russia. The country's precarious situation changed constantly throughout the year as the Ukrainian armed forces launched increasingly successful counteroffensives.

The military conflict resulted in a huge wave of internal and external displacements. About 5.9 million Ukrainians, mostly women and children, were internally displaced as of December 2022, according to the International Organization for Migration (IOM). In addition, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported that over 4.9 million Ukrainians had registered for temporary or other protection in European countries by January 1, 2023. OCHA estimated that the international community raised \$3.8 billion to help meet Ukraine's acute humanitarian needs in 2022, a significant portion of which was given by the private sector and individual donors.

In response to the invasion, martial law was decreed on February 24, 2022, and remained in place at the end of the year. Martial law imposed significant restrictions on freedom of expression. For example, journalists were not allowed to report on certain topics, such as the locations of military units and other information that might aid Russian forces. In addition, media faced dilemmas on how to report on corruption in 2022, with many journalists and watchdog groups deciding to put their public criticism of the Ukrainian government on pause and focus on documenting Russian war crimes instead.

In this difficult situation, Ukrainian civil society showed great resilience and adaptability. CSOs helped the population and even the army meet material and other needs. OCHA credited the work of CSOs and local volunteers in reaching close to 6 million people with life-saving and life-sustaining humanitarian assistance. Philanthropy boomed as CSOs raised an unprecedented amount of funding from the local population to engage in these efforts. In addition, donor organizations generously supported many public initiatives. This outpouring of funding led to a marked increase in the number of charitable organizations operating in the country. Volunteerism also increased dramatically.

The overall sustainability of the CSO sector improved slightly in 2022, with CSOs demonstrating enhanced performance in four dimensions. CSOs' financial viability was strengthened with a significant boost in funding from both home and abroad, which in turn helped improve financial management skills. Service provision improved moderately as CSOs helped nearly every segment of Ukrainian society affected by the invasion. An increase in the number of intermediary support organizations (ISOs) expanded the infrastructure supporting CSOs, and the sector's public image improved moderately as the public recognized CSOs' efforts to meet urgent needs. The legal environment, organizational capacity, and advocacy dimensions did not change.

According to the Ukrainian State Statistics Service, 99,556 public associations, 28,757 trade unions, 27,091 religious organizations, 26,846 charitable organizations, 2,212 unions of public associations, 1,762 self-organized bodies, and 318 creative unions had legal status in Ukraine as of January 1, 2023. These figures do not include organizations registered in Crimea or the city of Sevastopol, which were inaccessible during the year. According to the study *Ukrainian Civil Society under the War*, published in 2023 by Isar Ednannia, 6,367 charitable organizations were newly registered in 2022 to respond to urgent needs stemming from the war. This is a dramatic increase from the 830 charitable organizations created in 2021.

LEGAL ENVIRONMENT: 3.4

LEGAL ENVIRONMENT IN UKRAINE



The Despite the dramatic changes in the operating environment, the legal environment for CSOs' activities was unchanged in 2022. Although many useful pieces of legislation were adopted, CSOs encountered problems with the practical application of certain laws.

CSOs consider the legal framework for their work generally enabling. The main laws governing CSOs are the Law on State Registration of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs, and CSOs (2003); Law on Public Associations (2012); Law on Charitable Activities and Charitable Organizations (2012); Law on Volunteering (2011); and a 2016 Ministry of Justice order on the registration of legal entities and other bodies.

Several laws were amended in 2022 to facilitate CSOs' work. Amendments to the Law on Volunteering

increased the number of areas in which volunteers may work, guaranteed government support for volunteering, and expanded the list of allowable expenses for reimbursement. Amendments to the Law on Charitable Activities and Charitable Organizations simplified procedures for registering individuals who collect charitable donations in public in the Register of Anti-Terrorist Operation (ATO) Volunteers. Individuals included in the Register of ATO Volunteers are exempt from paying taxes on funds raised, as long as they are used to provide charitable aid to combatants and certain other categories of persons.

Several other laws and regulations affected CSOs' operations—both positively and negatively—in 2022. In March, the Cabinet of Ministers adopted Resolution No. 344, which simplified procedures for transporting humanitarian aid over Ukraine's borders. Under the new rules, only a declaration is required to import aid, thereby ensuring that volunteers and CSOs can deliver needed items more quickly. Under the 2020 Law on Prevention and Counteraction to Legalization (Laundering) of Proceeds from Crime, Financing of Terrorism, and Financing of Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, CSOs are defined as institutions with a high risk of financing terrorism. In connection with this law, banks stringently check CSOs' payments and receipts from abroad and sometimes block access to their accounts and transactions.

The ongoing war and imposition of martial law resulted in some restrictions on the freedom of assembly during the year. For example, some peaceful assemblies were not allowed to proceed due to security concerns, such as missile attacks. In addition, nighttime curfews were in place for much of the year, limiting freedom of movement. In general, however, people were still able to exercise their right to protest. For instance, people participated in peaceful demonstrations calling for the exchange and return home of Ukrainian servicemen from Russian captivity.

In an incident that raised concern in the human rights community, police conducted searches of the residences of several volunteers in the summer of 2022. According to a statement by the police, the basis for the searches was suspicions of embezzlement of donations and the sale of humanitarian aid from foreign countries. Some of the lower-profile cases resulted in the confiscation of humanitarian aid.

CSO registration is quick, easy, and free of charge. CSOs register at the national or regional offices of the Justice Department. Registration documents can also be submitted to administrative service centers. Charitable organizations and certain public associations have the option of registering online. Public associations can generally register in three days and charitable organizations in one day. Various registers for CSOs, such as the Unified State Register of Legal Entities, Individual Entrepreneurs and Public Formations, list details about registered organizations, including their address and names and contacts of founders and heads of organizations. These registers were closed to the public in 2022 for security reasons; access was partially restored in 2023. Some organizations reported problems with the processing of their registration applications or the electronic submission of documents. A draft law introduced in 2022 would simplify procedures for registering public associations, including allowing registration through the government's Diia web portal and providing a model charter.

CSOs may receive funding from international donors and physical and legal persons. They may receive government grants and compete for government contracts. CSOs are allowed to generate income by conducting economic activities (only within the framework of statutory activities) and fundraising, including through crowdfunding platforms.

Businesses and individuals that donate to CSOs are eligible for tax deductions. The value of social services received is exempt from personal income tax (18 percent) as long as the provider and recipient are both included in the register of providers and recipients of social services, which began to operate in the middle of 2022. Amendments to the Tax Code in 2022 allow for the exemption from personal income tax and military duty (tax) for charitable donations collected by individual donors on their bank cards used to provide specific types of support to the armed forces or internally-displaced persons (IDPs). Other amendments provided exemption from personal income tax for individuals included in the Register of ATO Volunteers who make donations; they were also exempted from the requirement to provide documentary evidence of expenses related to the provision of assistance for the period February 24 to May 1, 2022.

CSOs obtain legal advice from law firms and organizations such as the Pro Bono platform, Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research (UCIPR), and Ukraine Philanthropy Forum. Legal assistance is normally also available from administrative service centers and regional offices of the Ministry of Justice; however, these offices stopped operating in Russian-occupied territories in 2022.

ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY: 3.1

CSOs' organizational capacity was affected by both positive and negative developments in 2022, leaving it unchanged overall. CSOs proved their resilience by responding to the needs generated by the war and adapting to the massive security challenges. At the same time, the war had a negative impact on CSOs' ability to plan, staffing, and technical advancement.

According to the study *Ukrainian Civil Society under the War*, published in 2023 by Isar Ednannia, nearly 20 percent of CSOs reported that they reoriented their activities to meet new challenges in 2022. Only one-quarter of CSOs continued to operate in their usual fields of activity, while the majority (56 percent) of organizations combined their pre-war work with new directions prompted by the war. A vast majority—89





percent—estimate that their activities will still be relevant after the end of the war in Ukraine.

In order to adapt their activities to the changed circumstances, many CSOs defined new priorities and more clearly identified their target audiences in 2022. As attempts to find a compromise for a peaceful settlement of the conflict in Donbas became irrelevant, think tanks, for example, refocused on issues related to sanctions against Russia, the formation of negotiating positions for Ukraine, international advocacy for assistance to Ukraine, and Ukraine's accession to the European Union (EU) and NATO. The environmental organization Ekodiya helped communities affected by Russian shelling to purchase systems for filtering drinking water. At the end of the year, organizations focused on economic development began to work more actively on Ukraine's eventual economic recovery. Educational and cultural topics were also not priorities, although some organizations focused on these issues also managed to adapt to the new realities. For example, cultural CSOs provided shelter for IDPs, taught children, and held art therapy sessions. On the other hand, topics such as gender equality, the fight against corruption, the development of democracy, and decentralization took a back seat during the year.

CSOs managed to develop productive relationships in 2022 with many new constituencies, including IDPs, military personnel and veterans, and volunteers. On the frontlines of the war, insecurity and damaged infrastructure posed significant obstacles to CSOs' work. However, initiative groups were able to deliver humanitarian aid and essential items to local residents and even the military.

While CSOs were able to adjust their strategic directions in response to the war, project planning was difficult during the year due to the unstable security situation. CSOs that were founded to respond to the urgent challenges facing Ukraine during the war were often unable to prioritize strategic planning and organizational development.

CSOs struggled to hire and retain staff in 2022. According to the Isar Ednannia study, 41 percent of CSOs identified staff safety and 29 percent identified staff shortages as main challenges of adapting to the working conditions during the war. Many employees left the country because of the war. A large proportion of the emigres were managers, and their departures weakened their organizations. Military mobilization also caused many organizations to lose many of their male employees. Other employees took jobs with international organizations, whose presence increased significantly in response to the war and that generally offered higher salaries. At the same time, the professionalism of CSO employees increased considerably in 2022 as they fulfilled demanding responsibilities under extreme conditions.

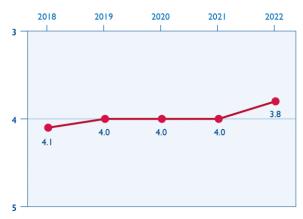
The number of volunteers working with CSOs was high in 2022. According to *Ukrainian Civil Society under the War*, nearly 40 percent of CSOs had volunteer programs. In December, a summit on volunteers in Kyiv brought together government officials, members of parliament, representatives of the armed forces, ambassadors of partner countries, and the leaders of 120 volunteer and charitable initiatives. Among the issues discussed at the summit were ways to improve legislation for volunteers and further simplify the rules for importing humanitarian aid. Under USAID's Ukraine Civil Society Sectoral Support Activity, a consortium of CSOs including Isar Ednannia, UCIPR, and the Center for Democracy and Rule of Law (CEDEM) promoted tax and other benefits for volunteers in 2022.

Many CSOs were challenged by technical shortcomings because of the war. This was especially true of organizations forced to relocate from the frontlines or territories occupied by Russian forces. CSOs lost not only their offices but also equipment such as computers and laptops. In addition, Russian attacks on critical infrastructure caused systematic blackouts that hindered CSOs' operations, including by causing internet outages. Concerted efforts supported organizations coping with damage and loss. For example, donors provided additional funds for the purchase of equipment such as generators, batteries, and power banks.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY: 3.8

The financial viability of the CSO sector increased moderately in 2022 as organizations received significantly more funding from both home and abroad, which in turn helped fuel improved financial management skills. Funding increases were focused on humanitarian initiatives. International donor funds generally benefited international organizations and grant-making organizations, which then distributed grants to smaller organizations. Domestic donations focused on helping the army and victims of the war. Due to the reduction of state funding programs for CSOs, CSOs working in areas such as people with disabilities, youth initiatives, and local community development suffered during the year.

FINANCIAL VIABILITY IN UKRAINE



According to the study *Ukrainian Civil Society under the War*, the most common sources of funding for the Ukrainian civil sector in 2022 were donations and member contributions, reported by two-thirds of surveyed organizations. International grants were reported by 21.6 percent of organizations, and 15.3 percent of organizations reported income from economic activity. Other studies indicate that a higher percentage of organizations, especially think tanks and advocacy-oriented CSOs, attract foreign grants.

Funding from foreign donors was substantial in 2022. Major foreign donors in Ukraine in 2022 included USAID programs, UN agencies, IOM, and other international organizations. According to ForeignAssistance.gov, the US government provided Ukraine with a record \$8.6

billion for government and civil society development in 2022, compared to \$93 million in 2021. Of this amount, non-US CSOs received \$86.37 million, compared to \$16.45 million in 2021. Many foreign donors delayed deadlines for implementing activities planned before the war given conditions on the ground.

Donations from individuals and businesses were an important source of income for charitable foundations in Ukraine in 2022. According to the Isar Ednannia study, approximately 39 percent of established CSOs and 47.5 percent of newly created CSOs sought charitable donations from other organizations and individuals in Ukraine. The Come Back Alive Foundation received UAH 5.7 billion (approximately \$196 million) in donations, while the Serhiy Prytula Charity Foundation received UAH 4.2 billion (approximately \$145 million) during the first year of the war. With the funds received, the foundations were able to cover the costs of equipment, training, and materials for tactical medical services, and even weapons for the military.

In addition to attracting donations directly, CSOs raised funds through special crowdfunding platforms such as Spilnokosht, the Ukrainian Philanthropic Marketplace, and Starter. Over UAH 105 million (approximately \$3.6 million) in charitable contributions was collected on the Ukrainian Philanthropic Marketplace in 2022. New platforms, such as United 24, were also created to collect donations both from within Ukraine and from abroad.

Government funding for CSOs decreased significantly in 2022 given the needs of the security and military sectors. The Ukrainian Cultural Fund received 3,384 applications for the implementation of cultural projects in 2022 but suspended all funding because of the invasion.

The concept of social entrepreneurship continued to gain traction in 2022. Several incubation and acceleration programs supported a large number of social entrepreneurs. The Ukrainian Social Venture Fund issued grants to support social enterprises totaling more than EUR 100,000 (approximately \$104,000) in 2022. The School of ME and SiLab Ukraine also supported the development of social enterprises.

The financial management skills of CSOs improved considerably in 2022 as the large amounts of funding received by many organizations—including local and regional organizations—demanded careful administration.

ADVOCACY: 2.2

The level of CSO advocacy did not change significantly in 2022.

The war altered the dynamics of CSOs' advocacy and policy-related interventions. Government officials reduced their public engagements and became largely inaccessible to CSOs after the start of the war. In both the *Verkhovna Rada*, the unicameral parliament of Ukraine, and central and local government offices, only collaboration with long-standing CSO partners was effective. Martial law also introduced many restrictions that impeded advocacy in 2022, including limits to the right to free assembly and restrictions on public information by the government. Despite this, authorities regularly consulted with verified CSOs. At the local level, the situation was somewhat more complicated as many regional and city administrations were replaced by military structures that worked in a fairly closed manner. In these localities, CSOs had minimal influence and involvement in decision-making processes in 2022.

Despite the difficult conditions, some CSOs successfully pursued their advocacy goals in 2022. In an important undertaking, the Ukrainian human rights community documented war crimes committed in Ukraine by the Russian armed forces. Immediately after the invasion, more than thirty leading human rights organizations created the Ukraine 5 AM Coalition, which began to record evidence of war crimes, raise public awareness, and advocate for bringing war criminals to justice. The effort attracted international attention, and the Ukrainian human rights organization Center for Civil Liberties received the Nobel Peace Prize in 2022 for its contribution to the documentation of war crimes and the fight against human rights violations and abuses of power.



CSOs including the National Interests Advocacy Network

(ANTS), the Center for Political and Legal Reforms, and members of the Reanimation Package of Reforms (RPR) coalition actively advocated for Ukraine's integration into Europe and pushed for reforms aligned with EU criteria. These efforts focused on judicial reform and anti-corruption, but also addressed the development of democratic and participatory mechanisms and transparency and government accountability.

Civil society also worked with dozens of experts to develop proposals for the country's eventual recovery. RPR presented the recommendations at the Ukraine Recovery Conference in Lugano in July 2022.

Feminist activists and human rights organizations have long pushed the government to acknowledge its responsibility for protecting women against gender-based violence. Their efforts ended in success when Ukraine ratified the 2014 Istanbul Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence Against Women and Domestic Violence, an initiative of the Council of Europe, in June 2022. This effort was facilitated by the country's initiation of the EU membership process.

CSOs continued to advocate for the adoption of the Law on Public Consultations, Law on Local Democracy, and Law on Bodies of Self-Organization of the Population, all three of which were still under consideration at the end of the year. CSOs also actively encouraged the implementation of the Barrier-Free Strategy, which lays out a plan to ensure full access of all population groups to various spheres of life. Partly as a result of efforts by RPR, the Law on Media was adopted in December 2022. The law, a requirement for Ukraine to join the EU, creates legal norms in the field of media. RPR also raised public awareness of anti-tobacco legislation that was adopted in December 2021 and entered into force in July 2022. The legislation prohibits the smoking of electronic and tobacco cigarettes in public places.

Some Ukrainian CSOs, including ANTS, Ukrainian Prism, New Europe, and Center for Civil Liberties, also conducted international advocacy. CSO representatives emphasized increasing international support for Ukraine, advocated for Ukraine's accession to the EU and NATO, and advocated for resources to support the population and military of Ukraine.

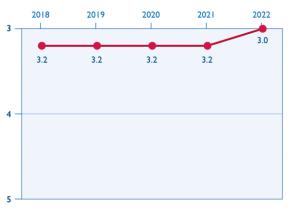
To improve the legal framework for CSOs, RPR led a group of twenty-five organizations in promoting legal reforms to better enable CSOs' activities. Their work resulted in the passage of the Law on Administrative Procedure, which regulates the interaction of authorities with individuals and legal entities (in particular, CSOs) regarding the consideration and resolution of various administrative appeals. In addition, CSOs led by UCIPR helped ensure adoption of amendments to the Law on Charitable Activities and Charitable Organizations that simplified the procedures for registering individuals who collect charitable donations in public. The Ukraine Civil Society Sectoral Support Activity actively advocated for improved tax benefits for volunteers, easier procedures to engage foreign volunteers, and other positive initiatives for volunteerism.

SERVICE PROVISION: 3.0

Service provision increased moderately in 2022 as CSOs helped nearly every segment of Ukrainian society affected by the invasion.

After the war began, CSOs focused on meeting the basic needs of targeted audiences. For the first few months of the war, domestic organizations and volunteer-led initiatives largely acted alone in these efforts, with international humanitarian donors only effectively mobilizing later. The main recipients of support were IDPs, military personnel, and vulnerable populations such as women with children and people with disabilities. For example, regional Caritas branches, organizations of the Save Ukraine network, the Ukraine Shelter initiative, and the Ukrainian Red Cross all worked with IDPs. Many organizations and civil initiatives mobilized to provide accommodations and food, evacuate people from occupied and near-frontline territories, and provide psychological support. Other services included training, help with





employment, and support for IDPs in adapting to new communities.

In a major initiative, the Ukrainian Volunteer Service, in partnership with the SoftServe company, developed the Palyanytsya.info platform. Platform users can perform quick searches of more than 800 organizations in all regions of Ukraine to identify CSOs that help IDPs, the elderly, children, and other vulnerable people with housing, food, medical care, and evacuation. Organizations such as Legal Hundred provided free legal aid to active military personnel, veterans, and their family members on issues such as military service and social security. Jurfem assisted victims of sexual violence, which increased significantly in territories occupied by the Russian armed forces, as well as gender discrimination.

Most organizations also sought to continue to offer services to their usual clients in 2022. However, services related to the environment or creative pursuits were less prevalent during the year.

Ukrainian CSOs provide their services free of charge thanks to the support of individual and international donors. On moral grounds, most CSOs do not demand payment for their services.

The government did not hinder CSOs' ability to provide services in 2022. Although most government funding for CSOs was refocused on the needs of the war, the government recognized the value of CSO services, and many CSOs worked with local authorities on humanitarian issues.

SECTORAL INFRASTRUCTURE: 3.1

The The infrastructure supporting CSOs improved slightly in 2022 as the war triggered an increase in the number of hubs supporting CSOs.

A number of organizations and projects continue to promote the organizational development of CSOs. For example, Ednannia implements USAID- and EUsupported projects to build CSOs' sustainability by developing technical, institutional, adaptive, and influential capacities. The Marketplace, an online platform, continued to link providers of organizational development services and CSOs that need them in 2022.

In addition, new hubs providing material, technical, organizational, and legal assistance to local and relocated organizations were established in 2022. For example, CSO hubs were formed in Chernivtsi and Lutsk under

SECTORAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN UKRAINE 2018 2019 2020 2021 2022



the Ukraine Civil Society Sectoral Support Activity. Some organizations from occupied territories moved to safer regions. For example, the NGO Zakhody moved to Khmelnytskyi from Maryupol, where it actively works with

CSOs and IDPs who were forced to leave their home cities due to Russian aggression. The Zakhody Hub coworking center was opened in Khmelnytskyi to provide conditions for individuals and teams to work online and offline.

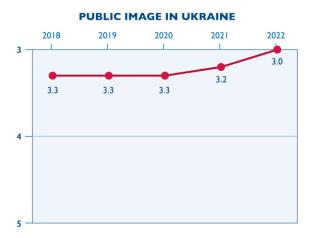
According to the Gromadskyy Prostir website, 145 CSOs in Ukraine provide grants on the local and national level. In 2022, local grant-making organizations focused their support on war victims, IDPs, doctors, and others. The International Renaissance Foundation, Ukraine's largest charitable foundation, disbursed about UAH 800 million (approximately \$27.6 million) in grant support for civil society in 2022. Some organizations regrant international donor funds to other CSOs. For example, the Center for Public Monitoring and Analytics provided grants for CSOs in Ternopilska oblast aimed at helping IDPs and other vulnerable groups. Community foundations regrant funds raised from both local communities and foreign donors. In 2022, the Kherson Community Fund Zakhyst provided UAH 4.3 million (approximately \$148,000) to families with children, and also supported Kherson's medical facilities.

CSOs had multiple opportunities to network in 2022. For example, on December 5, the ninth annual Civil Society Development Forum, organized by Isar Ednannia, brought together 3,500 participants from various sectors to discuss the most important trends affecting Ukrainian civil society. The event took place both in person and online. RPR continues to unite twenty-five organizations working to build an independent, democratic Ukraine. The Coalition of Legal Reforms for CSOs continues to promote reforms and better legislation for CSO activities.

Although training for CSOs took a back seat 2022, several opportunities were offered. Many training sessions addressed issues of safety, medical care, stress resistance, and mental health caused by intensive work in war conditions. To help develop the overall capacity of CSOs, CEDEM offered a program in which fifteen organizations were mentored by fifteen other organizations as they developed plans for advocacy and financial sustainability, in addition to their capacity to address inclusion. CSOs expressed interest in training on topics such as digitization and transitioning to an online environment, the development of security policies, and audits.

CSOs and the government pursued active partnerships in areas related to the war effort. For example, the authorities worked with CSOs to develop volunteerism, simplify the import of humanitarian assistance products, and provide support to IDPs. Businesses helped fund CSOs' services. For example, large foreign-owned companies transferred donations to Ukrainian charitable organizations to support victims of the war.

PUBLIC IMAGE: 3.0



CSOs' public image improved moderately in 2022 as the sector was perceived to provide critical support to the population and cooperate with the government on urgent issues.

Mentions of CSOs in Ukrainian media increased almost ten times from February to November 2022, according to *Civil Society Under the War*. Nearly 600,000 publications in the mass media and social networks mentioned CSOs and their activities after February 24, including 97,940 mentions in November alone. The greatest attention was paid to charitable organizations, foundations, and the work of volunteers. The organizations mentioned most often were the Come Back Alive foundation, the official fundraising platform United 24, and Sprava Hromad, which gathers donations for the army. Media outlets such as

Detector Media and Liga Net regularly highlight the activities of CSOs. Detector Media even has a separate Media for Change division dedicated to civil activism and initiatives. At the same time, the main television news program *United News* did not invite CSO representatives to participate in its programs very often during the year.

According to a survey by the Razumkov Center in November, public levels of support for CSOs increased significantly in 2022. Eighty-five percent of respondents said that they trusted volunteer organizations, compared to 64 percent in 2021, and 60 percent said that they trusted public organizations, compared to 47 percent in 2021.

No negative rhetoric from the government regarding CSOs' activities was noted in 2022, a slight improvement in comparison to 2021. On the contrary, government officials evaluated their cooperation with CSO partners positively. For example, in a speech on International Volunteer Day, President Zelenskyy commended the work of civil society and especially volunteers. The President recognized several organizations and charitable foundations, such as Veteran Hub, Army SOS, and PLAST, in his speech. Businesses also appreciated CSOs' efforts in 2022.

Ukrainian CSOs primarily disseminate information about their activities online. The most popular platforms are Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, TikTok, and Telegram.

Older CSOs generally strive to be publicly accountable. According to a May 2022 study by the Zahoriy Foundation, the main reason that organizations report to the public is to promote and protect their reputations. Charitable organizations and foundations usually report on the receipt and use of donations. Newer organizations are less aware of the need for accountability and transparency.

U.S. Agency for International Development

1300 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20523 Tel: (202) 712-0000

Fax: (202) 216-3524

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