24 December 1980 the Verkhovna Rada of the Ukrainian SSR ratified the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, which enabled the country to make a significant step to change approaches to policy of equal rights and opportunities for women and men.

The Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner’s for Human Rights monitoring of implementation of the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women covers following areas:

- Women's Access to Education
- Women's Access to Health Care
- Women's Wages
- Trafficking in Women
- Rights of Rural Women
- Participation of Women in the Political and Public Life

### The General Literacy Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>99.6%</td>
<td>99.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Student Ratio

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Female</th>
<th>Male</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>in the secondary school</td>
<td>92.5%</td>
<td>89.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in the elementary school</td>
<td>102%</td>
<td>88.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The Access to Education Was One of the Most Critical Issues for Roma Women

The main reasons for low school attendance rate among Roma girls are:

- poverty and nomadism of the Roma community;
- lack of motivation to make their children attend school among Roma parents;
- lack of money to pay for education, for school clothes and supplies;
- early marriage among Roma girls and early pregnancy;
- lack of personal documents.

#### Recommendations

- Carry out information campaigns among the Roma community to highlight the need to send their children to school;
- Consider using the school premises to house the 'catch-up' programmes for Roma children who missed school and evening classes for the adults.

### Women's Access to Health Care

#### In 2014, a Total of 69,883 Women Were First Diagnosed with Malignant Tumors

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>13,526</th>
<th>10,727</th>
<th>10,495</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### A Common Method of Fertility Regulation in Ukraine is Abortion

#### Share of pregnancies stopped by abortions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age when abortion was made</th>
<th>Consecutive number of pregnancy</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>first and subsequent</td>
<td>rural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>fifth and subsequent</td>
<td>urban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>fourth</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>third</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>second</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>first</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35-49</td>
<td>20.2%</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-34</td>
<td>15.4%</td>
<td>16.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-24</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;20</td>
<td>14.7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Recommendations

- Disseminate easy-to-understand information materials on family planning and reproductive health among girls and women;
- Train women on breast auto screening techniques as one of the methods of early breast cancer detection.
THE LAW OF UKRAINE “ON ENSURING EQUAL RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES OF MEN AND WOMEN” that sets forth the definition of sexual harassment and the procedure of complaint doesn’t establish any efficient mechanism of remedy.

SIGNIFICANT GENDER PAY GAP IS OBSERVED IN VARIOUS SECTORS OF ECONOMY, INCLUDING:

- the industry: 25.9%
- postal and courier activities: 35.4%
- financial and insurance activities: 33.6%

WOMEN CAN’T DRIVE vehicles with more than 14 passenger seats (except trolleybuses and trams), tractors and other agricultural vehicles, sea and river boats, or be employed at a number of industrial and agricultural positions (The effective List of hard, dangerous and harmful jobs in Ukraine adopted by the Order of the Ministry of Health # 256 of 29.12.1993 bans women’s employment at certain jobs).

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Establish specific sanctions for political parties that don’t comply with the gender quota requirement in their electoral lists.

- Revise the List of hard, dangerous and harmful jobs in Ukraine so that it complies with the principle of equal opportunities of men and women in the sector of employment;

- Establish the efficient complaint mechanism for women and men to claim sexual harassment at the workplace;

- In partnership with the association of employers, raise public awareness of the protection of victims of sexual harassment.
TRAFFICKING IN WOMEN

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Carry out public information campaigns (with a focus on internally displaced women) highlighting possible risks of human trafficking and availability of integrated support to the victims.

19 CENTRES OF SOCIAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT ARE FUNCTIONAL IN THE REGIONS OF UKRAINE

19 CENTRES OF SOCIAL AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT ARE FUNCTIONAL IN THE REGIONS OF UKRAINE

WOMEN’S ACCESS TO THE SERVICES PROVIDED BY SHELTERS FOR VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Provide unhampered access to the high-quality psychological, social, medical, legal services for the women who survived domestic violence, and develop the community systems of protection and support to the victims.
THE GENERAL LIVING STANDARDS OF RURAL WOMEN IS POOR

- % of rural women who have to cut down the food expenses and save money to buy seasonal clothes and shoes: 41%
- % of rural women who aren’t able to buy necessary medicines and pay for medical services: 48%
- % of rural women who can’t afford healthcare of a disease that requires urgent intervention or long-term care: 29%

THE MOST CRITICAL PROBLEMS OF EMPLOYMENT OF RURAL WOMEN ARE:
- **low wages** (average monthly wage of women employed in agriculture, fishing and forestry numbers to 87.9% of average men’s wage in this sector);
- **mismatch between their education and labour market needs in rural areas** (22% rural women don’t have jobs that would correspond to their experience, knowledge and qualification);
- **the absence of supportive environment to reconcile motherhood and professional development** due to undeveloped system of pre-school (the rate of children aged 3-5 covered by pre-schools in the rural areas fluctuates from 32 to 83%).

RURAL WOMEN’S ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

- % of rural women who can’t afford certain medicines or paid medical services: 48%
- % of rural women who have poor access to a dentist: 30%
- % of rural women who have poor access to an ob/gyn: 27%
- % of rural women who have lack of necessary equipment in the closest facility: 26%
- % of rural women who have poor access to a family doctor/physician: 23%
- % of rural women who have poor access to a paramedic: 13%

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

- % of rural women who did nothing: 25%
- % of rural women who tried to protect themselves/stop perpetrator: 33%
- % of rural women who sought help from other family members: 24%
- % of rural women who left home: 20%
- % of rural women who sought help from a front-line district police inspector: 18%
- % of rural women who sought help from the neighbours or friends: 10%
- % of rural women who sought help from NGOs working in the area of combating domestic violence: 2%
- % of rural women who sought help from the Centre of Social Services for Family, Children and Youth: 2%
- % of rural women who sought help from healthcare facilities: 2%
- % of rural women who called the hotline: 2%
- % of rural women who sought help from a psychologist: 1%
- % of rural women who took other action: 2%

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Ensure the access to medical services for rural women;
- Develop the remote education opportunities with a focus on rural women, whereas they enable them to learn without leaving their family, household or job;
- Provide support to entrepreneur initiatives of women in the areas of agriculture and green tourism.

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