





EVALUATION OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STRATEGY(2016-2019)



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Abbreviations

Action Plan – Action Plan for Implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy

ATO – Anti-Terrorist Operation

CCU – Constitutional Court of Ukraine

CMU – Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine

HRMMU – Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine

IDPs – Internally displaced persons

ILO – International Labour Organization

IOM – International Organization for Migration

NGO – Non-governmental organization

NPM – National Preventive Mechanism

OHCHR – Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

OUF – Operation of the United Forces

Strategy – National Human Rights Strategy

TOT – Temporarily occupied territories

VRU – Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine



Introduction

In 2015, the first comprehensive National Human Rights Strategy (hereafter referred to as the Strategy) and the Action Plan for its Implementation (hereafter the Action Plan) were adopted. The Strategy's development was informed by Ukraine's international commitments, and the recommendations of the United Nations human rights treaty bodies as well as European integration commitments. It should be noted that both documents are the result of a compromise reached in the dialogue between national authorities and wider society, with the involvement of international organizations

The National Strategy covered 25 sectors or areas that were tentatively divided on the basis of various principles: six focus on civil rights; six look at discrimination against, or the rights of, social groups such as women, children and minorities; another six consider various aspects of conflict and occupation; four focus on social and economic rights; two deal with what are considered political rights; and one is on awareness of human rights. The Strategy outlines 34 strategic goals, within which approximately 160 expected outcomes should be achieved. To accomplish these ambitious objectives, the Action Plan includes 134 thematic blocks and almost 700 specific actions.

At the stage of development it was already clear that both the Strategy and the Action Plan were compromise documents that reflected the maximum expectations of civil society, and demonstrated political will to implement even "unpopular" – yet important – human rights initiatives. At the same time, it would be too optimistic to say that these documents are measured and balanced in terms of the feasibility of the actions proposed and their analysis of the reforms, strategies and action plans already in place.

Therefore, the analysis below intends to recommend approaches and methods that may be helpful for the development of subsequent human rights strategic or operational documents. It is important to emphasize that the purpose of this analysis is not to evaluate the implementation of the Strategy *per se*, and that the results and conclusions of numerous efforts to monitor the Strategy and the Action Plan were taken into account as the basis for this analysis.

Analysis of the mechanism to monitor implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan

Any strategic document should ultimately set out a path to achieving the expected outcome; otherwise there is a high risk of the document having a declarative nature and not being efficient. Globally, national human rights strategic documents are usually produced based on collections of best practices and are accompanied by the development of approaches and recommendations for monitoring the implementation of these documents. Indeed, factors such as clear wording of the expected outcome and the ability to measure it (through quantitative and qualitative indicators), as well as transparency of the monitoring mechanism (both institutional transparency and the openness of data) facilitate understanding of the weaknesses and strengths of policies and reforms, and the level of effectiveness of approaches; eventually they can provide practical tools for protecting and promoting human rights.

As clearly formulated indicators were not available to evaluate the progress of the Strategy, there was a need for an implementation plan or plans (there could be both narrow thematic or one general

¹ See Human Rights Indicators: A Guide to Measurement and Implementation, United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), Geneva, November 2012, pp. 50-67, https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/Human rights indicators en.pdf.



implementation plans) that would define the priority steps in the short-term, and suggest measurable indicators and outcomes that reflect key areas and key challenges, based on the Strategy as a roadmap.

Based on this approach, in 2015, shortly after the adoption of the Strategy and the Action Plan, international organizations, including the United Nations, highlighted the need to improve the monitoring mechanism, as the Strategy defines the monitoring mechanism and procedure too generally, with a rather fanciful system of indicators, and missing baseline data. After all, the Strategy stipulates the need for and importance of monitoring, but states that "In order to monitor implementation of the Strategy, the President of Ukraine and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine may establish relevant subsidiary bodies that could include representatives of state authorities, civil society institutions, representative bodies of indigenous peoples, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, international organizations, Members of the Parliament of Ukraine, researchers and other experts". But in practice, such bodies were not established and all the reporting activities were entrusted to the Government, and specifically to the Ministry of Justice, which has to submit annual reports on implementation of the Action Plan by 10 December every year, and discuss the results of its implementation with the public.

One of the attempts to remedy the situation was an initiative to introduce civic monitoring. In February 2016, the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights and civil society representatives (a total of 70 NGOs joined the initiative) under the overall coordination of the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to monitor implementation of the National Human

Rights Strategy until 2020. ² Since 2016, the findings of the civic monitoring of implementation of the Action Plan have been presented every six months, and have provided an alternative assessment of the progress of the planned activities.

In the absence of a system of indicators, baseline data and clear measurable outcomes, it was fair to expect a lack of consistency in the assessments of progress made by the Government and by the public. For example, in 2018, according to the Ministry of Justice, 46 per cent of the measures set out in the Action Plan had been implemented, while the results of civic monitoring put the figure at just 29 per cent. 3 Differences in assessments cannot only be explained by a critical attitude from the public or the desire of the Government to show better results. First of all, it is due to the different approaches to evaluation and different understandings of the content of the relevant activities, resulting from the lack clearly stated outcomes performance indicators.

Excerpt from the Methodology and Methods of Monitoring of the Implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy until 2020:

V. Evaluation

- Evaluation shall be carried out by the Coordinating Body in order to:
- determine the actual impact of the National Strategy and Action Plan on the human rights situation in Ukraine;
- receive relevant and up-to-date information on the effectiveness of national human rights policy;
 - identify urgent human rights issues;
 - identify any need to amend the Action Plan in force; and
 - plan strategically in the field of human rights
- 2. The evaluation shall be carried out every year by the Coordinating Body following the preparation of the annual report on implementation of the Action Plan.
- 3. For the purpose of the Evaluation, the Coordinating Body shall:
- analyse relevant information on implementation of the National Strategy and Action Plan by implementing agencies (statistics, survey data, reports of non-governmental organizations, etc.); and
 - evaluate data obtained from the analysis of information

In seeking to improve monitoring of the Action Plan and the Strategy, in November 2018, the Ministry of Justice approved the "Methodology and Methods for Monitoring Implementation of the National

² http://hro.org.ua/index.php?id=1468224816.

³ https://zmina.info/news/urjiad vikonav lishe 29 planu dij nacstrategiji z prav ljiudini ugspl/.



Human Rights Strategy until 2020"⁴ and the Action Plan for its Implementation. In practice, this is an operational document that regulates the Coordinating Body's data collection processes, but does not introduce a system of indicators that would be in line with international best practice and evaluate the status of achievement of the expected outcome. The document addresses the issue of impact assessment, but does not set out any procedures or techniques for doing so.

⁴ https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z1353-18.



Monitoring methodology for the Strategy

From the very first year of implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan, it became evident that monitoring was an issue. At the request of the Office of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights and the Ministry of Justice, UNDP supported a workshop on monitoring national strategic instruments within the human rights framework for the central executive authorities (responsible for implementing measures included in strategic documents) and civic activists.⁵

In addition, throughout 2017 and 2018, a number of working meetings of NGOs were conducted to monitor implementation of the Action Plan. At these workshops, indicators were developed to capture progress against the objectives and expected outcomes of the Strategy. The conclusions and experience gained form the basis of further work in this area.

A number of lessons were learned from these efforts.

One of them concerns the **scope of monitoring**. It became clear from analysis of implementation of the Action Plan that:

During the workshop, the participants tried to develop indicators to monitor strategic documents in three thematic areas: combatting torture, gender equality and protection of the rights of internally displaced persons. The participants approached the task differently: one group tried to develop indicators on the basis of the Action Plan, while the other focused on the Strategy. The first group was actually unable to cope with the task with regard to the first thematic area, and therefore it switched to the approach chosen by the other group.

- in the short term, no real changes can be demonstrated in the field of human rights, and therefore the Action Plan is primarily of tactical significance, as it can been used to identify the least effective implementing agencies, irrelevant or unfulfilled actions, lack of budgetary funding and so on; and
- Considering the scope of the Action Plan (135 actions broken down into smaller measures), the monitoring will be either hard to implement effectively, or it will be limited to a technical assessment (listing the actions completed, not completed, on track). Both variants do not compliment effective implementation of the Strategy Goals.

Therefore, the analysis and development of the monitoring methodology was focused on the strategic document – the National Strategy – rather than on the Action Plan, which is of operational nature.

The next lesson concerned the very expectations of the monitoring. After all, in addition to the absence of a monitoring mechanism, neither the Action Plan nor the Strategy contained baseline data, or – often – a measurable expected results. The expected results of the Strategy are too broad and general, while the outputs of the Action Plan, on the contrary, often boil down to developing specific legal act, conducting a training event, and so on.

For monitoring purposes, the researcher should first have **established a monitoring framework**, and second **gathered baseline data** from the first year of implementation of the Strategy and the Action Plan. Not doing this makes it impossible to conduct analysis, or determine positive or negative trends, progress or regression. However, in many cases, the statement of whether or not a goal has been achieved would still be subjective.

Therefore, in our opinion, analysis of implementation of the Strategy concerns the evaluation of trends, changes and progress in a particular sector, rather than implementation or non-implementation as such.

Selection of indicators and their number. Given the need for a comprehensive analysis to assess progress, the proposed monitoring framework was based on a system of indicators containing **three types of indicator: structural, process-oriented** and **result-oriented**⁶ (see Annex I). The selection of

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⁵ http://dhrp.org.ua/uk/news/1533-20160921-ua

⁶ Developed based on the publication *Human Rights Indicators – A Guide to Measurement and Implementation*, UN Office of the High Commission for Human Rights (UN OHCHR), Geneva, Nov. 2012, pages 50-67, https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Publications/Human rights indicators en.pdf; and Rajeev Malhotra: 'Delivering development and good governance: Making human rights count', *World Bank Legal Review*, Vol. 6, February, 2015.



particular indicators also takes into account the SMART criteria (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, time-bound) and the RIGHTS methodology (relevant and reliable; independent in its data-collection methods from the subjects monitored; global and universally meaningful but also amenable to contextualization and disaggregation; human rights standards-centric; transparent in its methods, timely and time-bound; simple and specific).

Selecting the appropriate number of indicators was also critical since, as noted above, the Strategy provides for nearly 160 expected outcomes within 25 objectives. Accordingly, even a purely mathematical calculation would require 480 indicators to measure every expected outcome. However, this number of indicators would make the monitoring framework too complex to apply.

Therefore, the proposed approach envisaged using all three types of indicators for thematic areas, to enable evaluation of progress in the area in general. The proposed monitoring framework is not a complete framework. Rather, it aims to demonstrate an approach that can be tailored for the purposes of various studies – for example, analysing a specific strategic area or highlighting observance of the rights of persons with disabilities, which is cross-cutting for all areas of the Strategy.

Sources of data collection. The key criteria for the development of indicators are measurability, reliability, and possibility of disaggregation. Therefore, various sources were used such as statistics, responses to requests for public information, national and international expert reports, and so on. In our opinion, this combination of sources can make monitoring impartial and reliable. **The proposed approach to the monitoring framework focuses on publicly available sources of information and data from reputable sources that can be verified and used.** The sources can be divided into several groups:

International:

- Reports from international organizations, assessments by international experts; and
- International ratings (preference was given to the periodically updated ratings that enable trends to be tracked).

National:

- Statistical information (which is publicly available on the websites of the relevant public authorities);
- Reports by government agencies and national institutions;
- The websites of public authorities; and
- Data provided within the framework of requests for information in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Access to Public Information".

As a result, monitoring frameworks were developed for each strategic area. These are provided in <u>Annex I "Monitoring framework for assessing the implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy"</u>. The monitoring framework includes 209 indicators, including 65 structural, 79 process and 65 result indicators.

The group of experts used these indicators to analyse data that are publicly accessible.



General conclusions from the findings of monitoring

The development of approach to the monitoring methodology and the indicator system (see Annex I) and the data collection process for its validation identified several gaps and challenges that should be addressed as the Strategy is updated and when the new Action Plan drafted in the future, as well as in other strategic human rights documents:

1. Wide coverage and too-broad wording.

The Strategy was developed with wide involvement of the public through open consultations and with the participation of international partners. Therefore, the development team was tasked with finding compromise wording that could cover a human rights area as widely as possible, reflecting the recommendations of international bodies, facilitating

For example, the strategic area of Ensuring the right to Fair trial stipulates that the expected outcome is "access to justice is provided to everyone" that will remain relevant all the time. Depending on the challenges that arise at some moment, it will always have a different meaningful content. In a clearer format, it may include physical access to the premises for persons with disabilities, staffing of courts and access to courts for men and women living in rural areas, etc.

implementation of Ukraine's human rights obligations, meeting the challenges caused by the conflict, addressing systemic problems that had remained frozen for years, and so on. As a result, the document is quite complex and broad in scope, which is one of its advantages, because the expectations laid down will remain relevant even after many years of implementation. However, this should have been offset by clarity in the Action Plan, which should have been focused on a defined and measurable outcome. Otherwise, there is a great risk of the document becoming declarative without real implementation mechanisms, which in fact boils down to "for everything good and against everything bad". Given the above, in the course of the analysis, a methodology was developed for prioritizing areas for inclusion in strategic documents. In addition, during the expert evaluation, several measures were proposed that – given the progress of implementation of strategic objectives and the context – are considered to be priorities and require an appropriate response from the state.

2. Different levels of wording of strategic areas. Some strategic areas are formulated in accordance with a certain right (right to life, personal inviolability, education and so on), while others are based on the principle protecting vulnerable groups (protection of the rights of children, indigenous peoples, gender equality, and so on) or a problem, such as a strategic area on the issues or violations of rights caused by the conflict and annexation of Crimea. This approach has both strengths and weaknesses. On the one hand, it helped to achieve a compromise between the stakeholders involved in drafting

the Strategy and facilitated further advocacy to address issues that had remained unresolved for a long time (for example, ratification of the Rome Statute and the Istanbul Convention). However, this differential approach has led to a number of inconsistencies and problems for evaluation of the Strategy. In particular, the analysis identified *intersection/duplication* of certain areas, which necessitated constant review of the indicators for various strategic areas (partly referring to other sections, partly duplication or specification of context) and cross-analysis. It is practically impossible to

A striking example in this regard is gender equality. In fact, access to justice, the right to education, the right to health, and other issues cannot be fully analysed without taking into account the reach of different social groups, including the access of women and girls to justice, education, enjoyment of labour rights and involvement in decision-making. At the same time, the strategic area of gender equality, as its wording is too general, limits its scope of analysis only to women's economic involvement and participation in social and political life, which cannot be considered full-fledged analysis. Therefore, for evaluating progress in this area it is also important to take into account data on progress in other strategic areas.

avoid challenges such as duplication, but this should be taken into account during the analysis.

⁷ <u>https://mfa.gov.ua/ua/press-center/news/39699-komentar-mzs-ukrajini-shhodo-nacionalynoji-strategiji-u-sferi-prav-lyudini.</u>

⁸ Provided in a separate document.

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 - **3.** The next issue is closely related to the above, namely the *lack of flexibility in the areas that addressed particular problems.* Even a simple transformation of the problem or a change in legislation in a particular area could make this area irrelevant. For instance, the areas of the Strategy that focused on resolving and preventing human rights violations caused by the conflict have to be substantially revised, as they are not fully applicable to the current context and do not conform to the terminology of the legislation currently in place. Therefore, when formulating the areas of a strategic document, it would seem advisable to focus on more long-term challenges and trends, while for the purposes of the Action Plan (which should tackle the problem in the short- or medium-term) a clearer/less flexible approach can be fully justified, that indicates the degree of severity of the issue/problem and its priority.
 - 4. Duplication of other strategic documents. Another benefit of analysing the Strategy rather than the Action Plan is that while the Action Plan contains about 700 actions in all strategic areas, it is not the only document contributing to achievement of the strategic goals. At the development stage of the Action Plan, there was a task to preliminary analyse existing action plans and strategies to avoid duplication and complementarity of documents. However, as there was little time for the Action Plan to be developed, it was impossible to carry out this preliminary analysis. At the same time, when developing indicators for the Strategy, it was considered appropriate to take into account the indicators used for evaluating other strategies, such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).9 This approach saves time in gathering information and enables better tracking of the interlinkages between and coherence of policies in different areas, and makes it easier to identify gaps and irregularities. Therefore, to ensure comprehensive analysis of the Strategy's implementation, other strategic documents focusing on similar areas need to be taken into account, to provide a more balanced and complete picture of the progress of reforms. In this context, the evaluation and development of the monitoring framework included mapping 10 of existing national strategic documents. According to our estimate, there are about 50 extant documents related to implementation of the Strategy that should be taken into account when analysing implementation, and when developing a new Action Plan. (see Annex II "Map of strategic and thematic acts, the implementation of which intersects with the National Strategy in the field of human rights and the Action Plan for its implementation").
 - 5. Common challenge of non-systematic evaluation of strategic documents. As noted above, the monitoring framework was designed to use indicators from other strategic documents, including the SDGs. This approach would not only provide certain interconnected picture, since in one way or another the Strategy is intended to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs. It also makes it possible to use already-measured baseline data that had been lacking for the purposes of analysing the Strategy. However, when the monitoring framework was piloted (for piloting purposes, requests were sent for access to public information and information from the State Statistics Service website was used), it was revealed that not all the SDG performance indicators are collected on an ongoing basis, as some remain unmeasured or are not measured regularly, while monitoring of some others is in place. Introduction of a monitoring framework should be followed up with relevant data that are collected on a regular basis using the same methodology, otherwise there is a risk of biased estimates.
 - **6. Lack of disaggregated statistics**. Another challenge identified is the absence or limited availability of disaggregated data. For the purposes of assessing progress and identifying gaps, analysing disaggregated data by sex and other indicators could be very helpful, for example in rural poverty analysis. However, as noted above, not every public authority collects sex-disaggregated data or does not collect it on every matter. For example, there is open access to sex-disaggregated State Statistics Service data on social and economic indicators, but law enforcement bodies usually only provide sex-disaggregated data following a specific request. **This problem is systemic for Ukraine and needs a systemic solution, as the principles of good governance and achievement of the SDGs require a human rights-based approach to policy development, and the principle of "leaving no one behind" requires such data to be available**.

⁹ http://www.un.org.ua/images/SDGs_NationalReportUA_Web_1.pdf

¹⁰ We only focused on the national documents. Action plans of individual agencies were not taken into account.

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 - 7. Realistic timing to achieve the goal. As already noted, the Strategy is of an indefinite nature, not only because it does not define the timeframe, but also because of how the expected results are formulated, almost half of them are very general. It was planned that most of the actions in the Action Plan would be completed by the end of 2016, while some were planned for 2017 and beyond. At the stage when the Action Plan was in development, it was planned for the Action Plan to be reviewed every year to reflect new context and needs, but this was not put into the text of the Cabinet of Ministers Decree that approved the Action Plan.¹¹ In practice, the process for amending the Action Plan in 2018 proved to be inflexible. Moreover, many of the proposed changes were limited to postponing the deadlines, clarifying
- Examples of wording that is too general can be found in virtually every area of the Strategy:
- an efficient system aimed at ensuring combating criminal acts against life is established (Ensuring the right to life);
- support is provided to victims of enforced disappearances and their families, prevention, termination and punishment for such acts, compensation to the victims families is provided (Ensuring the right to freedom and personal inviolability);
- independence, impartiality, efficiency and institutional capacity of judicial system is ensured (Ensuring the right to a fair trial); and
- efficient system for the protection of childhood is established (Ensuring the rights of the child).

wording and changing the implementing agencies rather than changing the substance of the actions. The Action Plan implementation process proved that the initial deadlines were too ambitious, not feasible and not supported by either political will or adequate budgetary funding. This is partly because the strategic documents are not adequately budgeted, and integrated monitoring and evaluation frameworks have not been developed for them. One of the lessons learned is that it would be more efficient – in terms of resources, time and results-orientation – to develop less ambitious but more accurate implementation plans for a shorter timeframe (e.g. for three years) that will enable more adequate planning and prevent the need to make changes during the mid-term review.

- **8.** Political and institutional coordination mechanism as a prerequisite for ensuring effective implementation of the Strategy. The four years of implementation of the Action Plan allow the assumption that the coordination mechanism envisaged by the Action Plan needs improvement. For that reason, the Ministry of Justice introduced a methodology and method for monitoring implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy until 2020 and of the Action Plan. However, the Ministry's Order on adopting the methodology has not significantly improved this situation. It sets out a coordination mechanism for the cross-sectoral activities assigned to one agency, while the need for policymaking in different areas proves that higher-level government coordination is required.
- **9.** Moreover, effective implementation of both the Action Plan and the Strategy *ultimately requires cooperation and coordination between various authorities*. While the Action Plan, as a government document, sets out tasks for the executive authorities, and other bodies are involved with their consent, the Strategy essentially requires coordinated interaction between the executive and legislative branches and the involvement of local authorities. The latter is especially important in the context of decentralization, as a number of functions and tasks are being transferred to the local level.

¹¹ http://hro.org.ua/index.php?id=1468264094.



The benefit of interaction between the Government and the Parliament has been proved by the experience of piloting the monitoring framework, which clearly demonstrated that systemic changes are almost impossible without adequate legal regulation, as otherwise only some practices change. Therefore, the public has repeatedly requested the Parliament to promote the policies and reforms

envisaged by the Strategy. In 2018, NGOs even prepared a kind of a roadmap¹² for the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the fulfilment of which would have facilitated implementation of strategic areas. Thus, the role of Parliament is critical in ensuring adequate implementation of the Strategy. The Parliament can deliver both at institutional level (through the establishment of relevant working bodies on Strategy implementation, both thematic and general) as well as through appropriate activity planning and inclusion of key draft laws in the respective annual plans for legislative activities.

- A striking example of the lack of parliamentary support is the issue of positive actions on the part of the state in the exercise of freedom of peaceful assembly (regardless of whether it will be a separate law or amendments to current law). In the course of reporting on the implementation of relevant items of the Action Plan, the Ministry of Internal Affairs indicated that certain measures would be regulated by a special law, and therefore, there was no need for sectorial regulation. Accordingly, the progress in the respective strategic area is moderate.

+ Instead, a positive example would be the adoption of legislation to combat domestic violence, which resulted in the criminalization of domestic violence. During the first year, the courts issued 81 sentences on the relevant article of the Criminal Code

When widening the range of stakeholders

and actors involved in developing a comprehensive national human rights roadmap, it should be borne in mind that the development and consultation process is as important as the ultimate outcome. Here again, the international community positively remarked on the openness and transparency of the process of developing the 2015 Strategy and the Action Plan in 2015. However, it is regrettable that the time for development was extremely limited, which precluded public discussions and consultations with stakeholders in the regions of Ukraine. *Regional consultations would entail additional costs, time and organizational challenges, but would enable greater consideration of the regional context and more involvement of the regions in the implementation process, evaluation of progress and results*; this is of utmost importance. Indeed, the decentralization process has become a challenge for the implementation of human rights programming in Ukraine, especially in terms of social and economic rights, as local authorities have neither the experience nor the appropriate local budget planning skills to meet the needs of the community.¹³

10. The need to provide specific funding for delivering on the commitments. One of the key factors for the effective implementation of comprehensive government action plans, strategies and programmes is allocating adequate funding from the budget. However, the Strategy and Action Plan did not provide for adequate budget funding. In fact, those strategic objectives that required additional budget funding were only fulfilled when they formed parts of other programmes or action plans (such as development of a free legal aid system). The other objectives remained declaratory in intent (for example, compensation for losses for various population groups, as is envisaged in a number of strategic areas). All the stakeholders mentioned this challenge from the early stages of the drafting of the Action Plan. Therefore, subsequent operational plans should take this lesson into account and be based on budget funding, whether national or local. In addition, during the development phase, the measures envisaged under the programmes, action plans and strategies that have already been adopted can be analysed, and the funding already allocated could be taken into account to ensure complementarity and non-duplication of efforts.

¹² http://hro.org.ua/index.php?id=1544367755.

¹³ This has repeatedly been emphasized in the annual reports of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights since 2016.



Results of monitoring by the areas of the National Strategy

To make the analysis clearer, a system of scores has been introduced, which is very conditional and cannot be considered an impartial criterion. A scale from -100 to 100 was used:

-25 - slight rollback

 -50 – negative trends are being recorded, for which the state is not taking appropriate steps

-75 - policies have been introduced that have a negative impact on the situation in the area

-100 - the situation in the field is critically dangerous

0 – no progress

25 – minor progress

50 – a number of positive steps have been taken, but no systemic results have been achieved

75 – great progress has been made

100 – the result has been completely achieved

The analysis reveals some progress in implementation of the Strategy. At the same time, the most advanced areas were related to new challenges. This is because the political will is there and/or legislative and executive branches of government worked effectively. Also, because the necessary implementation legislation has been introduced, there has been progress in combatting domestic and gender-based violence, while unwillingness to ratify the Istanbul Convention indicates a stereotyping of the problem and a low level of awareness among the authorities.

However, in some areas experts have noted negative trends and even rollback. These are areas such as countering discrimination, protection of the rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples, the right to health care, and ensuring the rights of citizens of Ukraine living in settlements in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts (temporarily occupied territories), where state authorities are temporarily not fulfilling or are only partially fulfilling their duties.

Interestingly, the scores are very close to the findings of monitoring conducted by the CSOs of implementation of the Action Plan since 2016, as in the areas measured on the proposed scale, the average progress of the Strategy is 28 per cent. Estimates for all the areas are presented in <u>Diagram 1</u>. It should also be noted that the analysis did not show that the result clearly depended on a particular set of indicators: in some areas, progress against structural and process indicators was poor, but the result was still achieved. This was mostly due to non-systematic political decisions and due to conflict related issues. A detailed breakdown by indicators is available in <u>Diagram 2</u>.

In addition to general evaluation of implementation of the Strategy, the analysis – which was initially designed to analyse implementation of the Strategy – has ultimately:

- provided grounds for proposing a monitoring framework and approach that can be used to assess progress on effective implementation of the Strategy, or to be taken into account when developing subsequent strategic and implementation documents; and
- made it possible to identify and confirm certain gaps and inconsistencies in strategic documents, a mechanism to evaluate and coordinate their implementation, and potential ways to address them in the future. It is critical to emphasize that these methods are suggestions and do not require the development of completely new strategic documents. On the contrary, the proposed solutions would take into account and proceed from the existing array of strategies and plans in the field of human rights.



In addition, this approach involves:

- o continuing to ensure wider involvement of all stakeholders in open consultations on the development of new (or amendments to current) strategic documents, so that each stakeholder can speak, and the level of needs and threats can be assessed more objectively;
- o taking into account and using other sectoral/thematic plans and strategies currently in place to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication, which may also include liaison with international and donor organizations;
- o during the development of subsequent implementation documents, assessing the ambition of the plans in terms of their feasibility, the relevance of the problem and the focus on the result (as a document with fewer measures and realistic timing may lead to more tangible results than provisions that are too general);
- o introducing a system of monitoring and evaluation directly during the development of the document, and clearly defining the baseline data and expected results;
- o improving the practice and system of data collection in general, and introducing disaggregation as an important component of the human rights-based approach, as it enables assessment of the needs of various groups of people, identification of the most vulnerable groups, and so on;
- o providing financial support for planned activities; and
- o finally in order to ensure effective implementation of national objectives involving political decision-making effective interaction with the Parliament, and on the other hand the involvement of local authorities, to ensure implementation of initiatives at regional level.



Ensuring the right to life

Structural: 8.3% Process: 25% Result: 0% Total: 20%

Ensuring the right to life depends on many elements, and is directly linked to reforms in several: law enforcement, the judiciary and the penitentiary system, and so on. Therefore, the analysis of progress closely resembles the analysis of other sections of the Strategy: combatting torture, ensuring the right to a fair trial, and areas related to the conflict.

According to the report of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) on the human rights situation in Ukraine (based on the work of the United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU) for the period from 16 November 2019 to 15 February 2020), "Parliament continued to develop draft laws on remedy and reparation for deaths and injuries of civilians, and for the loss of property, including housing, which could lead to a comprehensive state policy of remedy and reparation to civilian victims of the conflict...

...Human rights violations within the administration of justice in conflict-related criminal cases continued. Impunity also remained pervasive, notably in cases related to the conflict, the violent deaths and killings at Maidan and in Odesa on 2 May 2014, and attacks on human rights defenders, activists and media workers. By contrast, National Police apprehended three suspects in the 2016 killing of journalist Pavel Sheremet".

Effective investigation of deaths during the Revolution of Dignity is indicative of ensuring the right to life, in particular in its procedural sense. However, even six years after the tragic events on Maidan, no one has been prosecuted for murders and violent deaths, and the investigations are ineffective and increasingly politicized.

The death statistics in places of detention once again highlight the duty of the State to protect the lives of persons in custody, as well as its procedural duty to conduct effective and independent investigations into the circumstances of deaths.

In addition, proper investigation, as a procedural part of the right to life in cases of violent deaths, clearly reveals the ineffectiveness of the investigation, in particular in high-profile cases such as those of Kateryna Handziuk, Iryna Nozdorovska, and so on.



Combatting torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

Structural: 33% Process: 63% Result: 5% Total: 25%

Analysis of implementation of the Strategy in this area reveals that today, the State has established appropriate national institutions to prevent and combat torture. The mandates of these institutions are generally sufficient and consistent with the recommendations of the international community and relevant international bodies.

The institutions in question are functional – they are generally staffed, have adequate funding from the state budget and are actually performing their functions. This is particularly true for the activities of the National Preventive Mechanism, which has increased the number of monitoring visits and is using systematized approaches in its work. This applies to the State Bureau of Investigations (SBI) to a lesser extent, as its territorial departments each cover several oblasts, which complicates both initiating and investigating cases. Evaluation of the SBI reports does not suggest that investigating cases of torture is a priority for the Bureau.

No systemic changes have been identified in addressing systemic problems in the field of combatting torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (including effective investigation, healthcare in places of detention, compensation to victims and so on).

In particular, a legal framework on strengthening the responsibility for torture, cruel and degrading treatment, ensuring its inevitability, proper conditions of detention, etc. has not yet been adopted.

It is significant that the very definition of *torture* enshrined in Article 127 of the Criminal Code of Ukraine is not in line with international standards, and thus prevents the criminal prosecution of those in power.

As a result, institutions for combatting and preventing torture operate within a framework that does not fully meet international standards or address real challenges. This jeopardizes the effectiveness of their work. A striking example is the paltry number of court decisions under Article 127 of the Criminal Code, although the annual reports of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights by themselves contain dozens of relevant negative examples, not to mention cases recorded by NGOs.

The progress achieved in terms of structural indicators affects the result indicators, as the positive changes in the institutional framework continue to be counterweighted by procedural gaps in the legislation, and therefore the result indicators do not record any positive changes or these changes are very insignificant, and it is too early to talk about their sustainability.

Another important component of preventing torture is shaping a general culture of zero tolerance and non-acceptance of torture. However, during the reporting period, a deterioration of the situation with regard to public tolerance of ill-treatment was noted. This suggests that awareness-raising activities in this area are unsatisfactory.

From the Commissioner's report (Chapter 7.1): "Notwithstanding that the right to protection from torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is guaranteed by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Constitution of Ukraine, the results of monitoring visits to the vast majority of places of detention of various types prove that such violations are common.

Beatings, infliction of other bodily injuries, excessive use of restraints and special means to restrain persons in places of detention, prolonged isolation in unsuitable premises, non-provision of analgesics to severely ill patients, including cancer patients are the violations revealed during the monitoring visits of the National Preventive Mechanism. However, bodily harm is often not documented, as requested by the UN Guiding Principles on the Effective Investigation and Documentation of Torture, Other Cruel,



Degrading Treatment or Punishment (partially implemented in Ukrainian law) and effective regulations, and the victims are not provided with healthcare". ¹⁴

 $^{^{14} \,} http://www.ombudsman.gov.ua/ua/all-news/pr/shhor%D1\%96chnu-dopov\%D1\%96d-upovnovazhenogo-z-prav-lyudini-za-2019-r\%D1\%96k-napravleno-do-verxovno\%D1\%97-radi-ukra\%D1\%97ni/$



Ensuring the right to freedom and personal inviolability

Structural: 25% Process: 50% Result: 25% Total: 30%

Ensuring the right to freedom and personal inviolability is directly related to the success of judicial and law enforcement reform. Accordingly, structural indicators and process indicators should reflect the creation of a legal framework for the implementation of systemic reforms in the country, and also show whether national legislation on the arrest and detention procedures and the practice of applying them comply with international standards. In addition, violations of the right to liberty are being aggravated by the armed conflict.

In its Report on the Human Rights Situation in Ukraine (16 November 2018 – 15 February 2019), the OHCHR expresses concern that a pattern of arbitrary deprivation of liberty, enforced disappearance, torture and ill-treatment of individuals in government-controlled territory may be re-emerging. In at least two cases, documented during the reporting period, victims were arbitrarily arrested during daytime, allegedly by Security Service of Ukraine officers (para 48 of the report).¹⁵

It should be noted that in its Decision 1-r/2017 of 23 November 2017, the Constitutional Court of Ukraine (CCU) settled one of the systemic problems in criminal procedure legislation relating to the right to freedom. This problem was discussed in several decisions of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) (including *Chaniev v. Ukraine* and *Kharchenko v. Ukraine*). The CCU declared unconstitutional a provision under which a measure of restraint in the form of detention or house arrest was considered extended if the parties did not request the changing or cancellation of the measure; this deprived the claimants of adequate protection against arbitrary detention and contradicted the requirements of part one of Article 8 and part two of Article 29 of the Constitution of Ukraine.¹⁶

There is a noticeable positive trend in bringing the procedure for arresting and detaining persons into compliance with international standards, and terminating the practice of unregistered detention. Namely, the process of equipping police administrative buildings with video surveillance systems has begun, with the possibility of centralized storage, viewing and copying of materials in a manner prescribed by law.

https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/v001p710-17

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¹⁵ https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/UA/ReportUkraine16Nov2018-15Feb2019_Ukranian.pdf



Ensuring the right to a fair trial

Structural: 50% Process: 30% Result: 19% Total: 30%

Today, structural indicators clearly show that the grounds are in place for achieving strategic goals in this area, but process and result indicators only demonstrate positive changes in the formation and operation of the free legal aid system. However, a new wave of reform and change is raising old and new questions about the complex system of courts, conflicting jurisprudence, judicial independence and the efficiency of justice.

According to the report "Assessment of Judicial Reform in Ukraine in 2014-2019 and Compliance of Reforms with Council of Europe Standards and Recommendations" (items 3, 4): "The judicial system of Ukraine is characterized by insufficient trust on the part of society as a whole. Between 2014 and 2019, Ukraine made large-scale legislative efforts to bring the judiciary in line with the rule of law and strengthen the independence of the judiciary, so that the justice system could play an important role in ensuring democratic checks and balances between the various branches of government. At the same time, these reforms were aimed at increasing the level of efficiency, transparency and, above all, trust in the judiciary".

In general, unfortunately, the reform of the judiciary is rather chaotic and not systematic. Recent years have seen a high risk of judicial reforms being reviewed, which could lead to the loss of advances made. Thus, in October 2019, the Law of Ukraine "On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On the Judiciary and the Status of Judges" was adopted. This introduced a number of significant changes to the judiciary, despite criticism from society and international partners. The Venice Commission for Democracy through Law expressed concern that this reform had been launched immediately after the elections, leading to major changes in the composition of the Supreme Court. It "sends a message both to the judges and to the general public that it depends on the will of the respective majority in Parliament whether judges of the highest court may stay in office or not. This is an obvious threat to their independence".¹⁷

Another negative factor that has significantly affected the efficiency of the judiciary is the significant delays to the appointment of judges and the lack of judges at all levels, in particular due to the inefficient work of the High Qualifications Commission of Judges. Thus, courts need to urgently fill more than 2,000 vacancies, and some courts are not working at all due to the lack of judges. New judges who have undergone a re-evaluation procedure must urgently be appointed to fill these vacancies.

In the context of ensuring the right to a fair trial, it should be mentioned that "the state's constant non-enforcement of judgments against public authorities and state-owned enterprises is a structural problem identified in the first judgment of the European Court against Ukraine in 2001. It poses a significant threat to respect for the rule of law, undermining people's confidence in the judiciary and challenging the authority of the state" (Memorandum drafted by the Department for the Enforcement of ECtHR decisions of the Council of Europe, 2018).

¹⁷ https://www.venice.coe.int/webforms/documents/?pdf=CDL-AD(2019)027-e



Ensuring freedom of thought and speech, of expression, access to information and free development of personality

Structural: 25% Process: 20% Result: 30% Total: 25%

Today in Ukraine, the state has established provision of public television, and the system is quite well developed. However, the public broadcaster suffers from inadequate funding – the lowest in Europe – and this threatens its independence, and the quality of its content, and prevents it from developing further. The State is not fulfilling its obligation to fund it to the sum of 0.2 per cent of total state budgetary expenditure for the previous year. The debts of previous years, which the State incurred before the creation of the public broadcaster, are also a problem, as the State has obliged the broadcaster to repay the debt from its current budget.

According to the World Press Freedom Index 2019, "Ukraine has a diversified media landscape and its authorities have adopted a number of long-awaited reforms since the 2014 revolution, including a law on media ownership transparency. However, these gains are fragile, as the new independent public broadcaster's under-financing has shown. Much more is needed to loosen the oligarchs' tight grip on the media, encourage editorial independence and combat impunity for crimes of violence against journalists."

The measures being taken to counter the information war seem controversial. According to the CEDEM expert lhor Rozkladay: "In the last 3 years, Ukraine has done what it could not do for decades. Despite all the shortcomings, troubles and outright sabotage, the media and information space has shifted from a standstill." At the same time, all experts, both national and international, emphasize the need for a proportionate and balanced approach that does not become a tool for censorship and restrictions on freedom of expression. In particular, proposals to amend anti-disinformation laws have been widely criticized. Another problem is the lack of proper discussion during adoption of the draft law on the media.

The safety and security of journalistic activities is a particular concern. Specifically, the number of attacks on journalists, as well as on bloggers and civic activists, has increased significantly. There is no rapid, independent and effective criminal investigation into these cases and nobody has been sentenced for the crimes. Moreover, cases of obstruction of journalism are not properly investigated, creating a sense of impunity in society and provoking new waves of aggression. Isolated cases were brought to justice.

In the field of access to public information, implementation of the Law of Ukraine "On Access to Public Information" remains one of the most critical issues, as there is still no institutionally capable, powerful and independent body to effectively monitor compliance with the public information requirements of this Law. After all, currently protection of the right to access to information – that the Commissioner for Human Rights is responsible – is not associated with additional expenses for complainants, but the efficiency and effectiveness of the Commissioner's control is affected by imperfect administrative prosecution mechanism provided by the Code of Administrative Offences.¹⁹

¹⁸ https://cedem.org.ua/articles/yak-ukrayina-protydiye-informatsijnij-agresiyi-rosiyi-chastyna-2/

¹⁹ Representatives of the Commissioner record that an offence has been committed in the protocol, but cannot prosecute offenders on their own. The protocol is sent for consideration to the court, which in accordance with the requirements of the Code of Administrative Offences of Ukraine brings the guilty person to justice, but only if no more than three months have elapsed since the violation. Representatives of the Commissioner are also not empowered to carry out effective investigations into violations. For example, they do not have the right to forcibly bring a person suspected of having committed an offence to court. The Commissioner's guidance is of an advisory nature, and in order to prosecute offenders for non-compliance with the Commissioner's legitimate requirements, for each case her representatives must again draw up a separate administrative offence protocol, which is then submitted to the court.



Ensuring the freedom of peaceful assembly and association

Structural: 19% Process: 40% Result: 25% Total: 30%

Since the adoption of the Constitution of Ukraine in 1996, the Verkhovna Rada has repeatedly tried to adopt a special law on peaceful assemblies: more than a dozen draft laws have been considered in parliament, and the Venice Commission has provided its opinions on the drafts four times. However, this had led to neither a special law nor relevant changes to the legislation in force. The decision of the ECtHR in the case of *Vyerentsov v. Ukraine* is an eloquent expert reflection of the current status of legislative regulation of freedom of peaceful assembly in Ukraine: "Whilst the Court accepts that it may take some time for a country to establish its legislative framework during a transitional period, it cannot agree that a delay of more than twenty years is justifiable, especially when such a fundamental right as freedom of peaceful assembly is at stake."

In a positive step, <u>Constitutional Court of Ukraine Decision 6-rp/2016 of 8 September 2016</u> considers provisions of part five of Article 21 of the Law "On Freedom of Conscience and Religious Organizations" contradictory to the constitutional requirements for peaceful assemblies enshrined in Article 39 of the Constitution of Ukraine, as the provisions establish a permit procedure instead of a notification procedure.

The need for an appropriate legal framework and modality seems even more pertinent given the increase in attacks by radical forces on peaceful assemblies of minorities, and social and political groups (as reported by the OHCHR).²⁰

The state of observance of the right to association is also unclear, as in addition to the lack of a transparent and effective system for the establishment of NGOs, mechanisms are not developed for them to receive financial support from the state. Instead, attempts are made to influence the activities of NGOs through additional financial reporting that – according to experts – is not justified.

Analysis of the state of freedom of peaceful assembly and association has revealed a dangerous trend of ineffectiveness of investigations of and, ultimately, impunity for attacks on peaceful assemblies and civil society activists, and politicization of these matters. On 12 December 2019, Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Resolution 366 "On the Establishment of a Temporary Commission of Inquiry of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for Parliamentary Oversight over the Investigation of Attacks on Kateryna Handziuk and Other Civic Activists during 2017-2018" was adopted.

According to the OHCHR Report "Civic space and fundamental freedoms ahead of the presidential, parliamentary and local elections in Ukraine in 2019-2020": "Since early 2018, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has been paying particular attention to the issue of civic space and fundamental freedoms in Ukraine. OHCHR notes a lack of accountability in most of the documented cases of attacks against journalists and other media professionals, civic and political activists, and defence lawyers. As long as such impunity remains unaddressed, space for the promotion and protection of fundamental freedoms is at risk."

²⁰ https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Countries/ENACARegion/Pages/UAReports.aspx



Ensuring the right to participate in public administration and vote in elections

Structural: 50% Process: 50% Result: 25% Total: 44%

There have been both positive changes and negative trends in observance of electoral rights. On the one hand, international observation missions have identified²¹ challenges similar to those highlighted in the preamble to the Strategy, which affected the 2019 parliamentary and presidential elections. On the other hand, the Electoral Code of Ukraine was adopted to standardize the electoral legislation and declared an alternative to lifting restrictions on internally displaced and mobile citizens to vote in local elections.

There has been little progress in achieving the expected results of ensuring the electoral rights of persons with disabilities. The Electoral Code of Ukraine has not changed voting methods to increase accessibility. The performance of the Working Group established at the Central Election Commission to develop amendments to the Code only supports this statement. Between February and July 2019, the civic 'ombudspersons' of the Civil Network OPORA recorded at least 4,887 polling stations with accessibility problems, slightly more than 16 per cent of all polling stations in the country. Of these, 1,518 polling stations are located on the first floor or higher, while another 3,369 polling stations are not equipped with ramps and are inaccessible for persons with disabilities.²²

Another important election issue is the development of a new draft law on electronic voting, which is currently being prepared by a working group at the Ministry of Digital Transformation. It is planned that pilot regions will be selected during the local elections in autumn 2020 for electronic voting.²³ Introduction of online voting in Ukraine will greatly facilitate the ability of persons with disabilities to exercise their voting rights, but will not address all the issues in this area.

When it comes to referenda, it should be noted that in 2018 the Law of Ukraine "On the All-Ukrainian Referendum" was declared unconstitutional, and a new draft law is currently in the final stage of revision. The issue of local referenda remains open.

Progress concerning the right to participate in public administration is also mixed. On the one hand, electronic forms of consultation are widely used at all levels, but on the other the results of these consultations are not particularly striking. The section "Civil Society and Government" on the government portal only includes statistical information on the number and methods of consultations conducted by executive authorities at all levels with the public, but there are no data on the number and results of consideration of proposals submitted by participants in the consultations.

Notwithstanding the relatively slow progress of e-consultation in Ukraine, in the last few years e-participation tools such as e-petitions and participation budgets have actively been developed and disseminated in Ukraine. They are helping to engage citizens in decision-making at both local and national levels. Other positive trends include progress against the Open Government Partnership Initiative and the Action Plan for the implementation of the Concept of e-Democracy Development in Ukraine.

²¹ https://www.osce.org/uk/odihr/elections/ukraine/426410?download=true https://www.osce.org/uk/odihr/elections/ukraine/415757?download=true

²² Official webpage of the OPORA Civil Network- https://www.oporaua.org/article/vybory/19641-arkhitekturna-dostupnist-viborchikh-dilnits-potreba-lishe-nevidimikh-vibortsiv

²³ Official website of the Ministry of Digital Transformation – https://thedigital.gov.ua/news/planuemo-zaprovaditi-elektronne-golosuvannya-na-viborakh



The progress of the Open Government initiative is also appreciated. In general, greater openness of bodies at the national and local levels to cooperation with the public has been observed.



Preventing and combatting discrimination

Structural: 6% Process: 8% Result: 0% Total: 0%

Currently, the only national institution responsible for preventing and combatting discrimination is the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (under the Law "On Principles of Preventing and Combating Discrimination in Ukraine"). Legislative changes were made in this area in 2015, with amendments to the Labour Code of Ukraine to ensure its compliance with the requirements of the EU Directive. Further changes, such as the definition of an institution authorized to punish in cases of discrimination, amendments to the Criminal Code of Ukraine to strengthen liability for hate crimes, and the addressing of other structural gaps, were among the objectives of the Action Plan on implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy, but these were not implemented during the reporting period. It is critical to include this objective in the Strategy and updated Action Plan, given the limited mandate of the Commissioner and the lack of a unified national policy to prevent and combat discrimination, in a context where some representatives of the State fail even to recognize the large scale of discrimination and its multiple manifestations in Ukraine.

On 12 June 2019, Vladyslav Vlasiuk, Director of the Directorate for Human Rights, Access to Justice and Legal Awareness at the Ministry of Justice, responded to questions about the legalization of same-sex marriage: "We have received many appeals asking us to exclude this item, but we are keeping it. Now let's see how it looks. We are keeping it, I'll tell you for sure. In the fourth quarter of 2019, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has to develop and submit for consideration a draft legal act on legalization of registered civil partnerships of heterosexual and same-sex couples in Ukraine, including property rights, and so on."

A national survey conducted in 2018 on social distance and willingness to restrict the rights of certain people and a comparison with the findings of a 2016 baseline survey reveal an increase in discriminatory sentiment in Ukraine. The same trend is confirmed by the monitoring conducted by NGOs of hate crimes, and analysis of the media and manifestations of intolerance in the media.



Ensuring equal rights and opportunities for men and women

Structural: 63% Process: 33% Result: 25% Total: 39.2%

Structural indicators indicate systemic shifts in ensuring equal rights and opportunities for women and men. However, despite the existing regulatory framework on gender equality and women's empowerment, Ukraine is still facing challenges that affect equal rights and opportunities. For example, the available statistics still show a significant gender gap, such as in employment, wages and women's leadership.

The Ministry of Social Policy is actively working to ensure equal rights and opportunities, and its achievements and reporting are available on its <u>website</u>.

An important role is played by the <u>Government Commissioner for Gender Policy</u>, who is responsible for supporting the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine to exercise its powers in the field of ensuring equal rights and opportunities for women and men in all areas of society.

However, the data obtained clearly show that cross-cutting analysis of the rights of certain categories of persons is important, because focusing only on the expected results listed in a specific section of the Strategy does not allow the real situation to be assessed.

When analysing all the areas of the Strategy through a gender lens, we faced the problem that disaggregated data were not available and comparable for all indicators.

Ukraine has slowly been improving its position in international rankings over the past four years. The UNDP gender indicators are reflected in the <u>Human Development Index</u> (HDI). In 2018, Ukraine ranked 88th in this Index (0.750). In addition, the United Nations calculates the following indices:

- 1. <u>Gender Development Index</u> (GDI) an indicator of achievements in the fields of health, education and living standards (0.995)
- 2. Gender Empowerment Measure (GEM) the degree of gender trust, or the degree of realization of women's rights (focusing on the gap between men and women in three parameters: participation in political life and political decision-making, participation in economic life and economic decision-making, and ability to manage economic resources).
- 3. <u>Gender Inequity Index</u> (GII) an account of the country's achievements in terms of gender equality, one of the key markers of social development. Achievements are measured in three main indicators: reproductive health, civil rights and opportunities, and economic activity and labour market opportunities.²⁴

²⁴ https://www.undp.org/content/dam/ukraine/docs/DG/Rada%20for%20Europe/Gender_Equality_guide_VRU_2020.pdf



Combatting gender-based violence, human trafficking and slavery

Structural: 58% Process: 25% Result: 38% Total: 40.63%

The legal framework for an effective system to prevent and combat gender-based violence and trafficking in human beings in general has been developed, although the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) has not yet been ratified. Survivors of domestic or gender-based violence have been entitled to free social services, and medical, social and psychological assistance in accordance with their needs. Various types of free secondary legal aid are also available to them.

However, since 2020, the decentralization reform has transferred the provision of social services from the state to the local level – to amalgamated territorial communities (ATCs), cities and towns. Given insufficient funding, there is a high risk of liquidation of support services for survivors. Similarly, elimination of the network of public and municipal health facilities may impair the access of survivors of violence and trafficking to specialized and highly specialized services.

A system of interagency exchange and collection of data on gender-based violence, in particular sex-disaggregated data, has not been properly established. There are significant differences between the statistics of public authorities and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) on detecting and responding to trafficking. For example, the IOM figures on the number of survivors of trafficking are many times higher than data gathered by public authorities, which indicates that a large number of survivors are remaining undetected by the state and offenders are going unpunished. The efficiency of combating trafficking in human beings is also affected by the ineffective punishment of those guilty of these crimes as, on average, only a third of them are sentenced to imprisonment, while all others are not punished.

In January 2019, amendments to the legislation came into force to strengthen the criminal law and criminal procedure protection for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence.

Establishing criminal liability for illegal use of the labour of persons in places where they are detained by court decision or the decision of an administrative body in accordance with the law, and ensuring effective control – including civic control – over the working conditions of such persons, remain issues.



Combatting domestic violence

Structural: 50% Process: 50% Result: 38% Total: 47%

A legal framework has been developed for an effective system for preventing and combatting domestic violence, although the Istanbul Convention has not yet been ratified. However, national legislation on preventing and combatting domestic and gender-based violence reflects the basic principles and philosophy of this Convention. The national system for preventing and combatting domestic violence is based on the "4Ps principle": prevention of new cases; protection and support to survivors; bringing perpetrators to justice; comprehensive policy and data collection.

It should be noted that certain issues remain unresolved at regulatory level concerning (1) the interaction of entities that respond to domestic violence against children and (2) the participation of children. There is also no system for inter-agency exchange and collection of data on domestic violence, in particular sex-disaggregated data. Statistics are not collected on the number of offenders referred to offender programmes and the probation programme.

Specialized support services have been established for survivors and are operating (albeit in insufficient numbers). In the interests of the survivors, the National Police have issued fixed-term restraining orders against the perpetrators. Other special measures are being taken to prevent and combat domestic violence, although not on a large scale. Referral of offenders to offender programmes (in the case of administrative prosecution) and probation programmes (in the case of criminal prosecution) is not yet systemic; in many places, local authorities and local self-government bodies are not ready to ensure implementation of programmes for offenders (though these powers have been delegated to them).

In January 2019, amendments to national legislation came into force to strengthen the criminal law and criminal procedure protection for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence.

At the local level, dedicated coordinators in the field of prevention and combatting domestic violence and authorized/responsible persons who receive and register reports and statements of violence, coordinate measures to respond to violence, provide assistance and protection to survivors, and work with perpetrators, have been identified.



Ensuring the rights of national minorities and indigenous people

Structural: 25% Process: 0% Result: 6.25% Total: 6%

As the strategic goal is to establish a system,²⁵ the monitoring findings revealed a lack of progress in achieving the strategic goal. Specifically, the basic/specialized regulations (on the principles of ethnonational policy, on indigenous peoples, etc.) and sectoral regulations (on languages in education, culture, information space, etc.) have not been adopted, and impunity continues, leading to new cases of discrimination and violence on the grounds of race, while state budgetary expenditure on measures for national minorities and indigenous peoples is falling. Establishment of the State Service of Ukraine for Ethnic Policy and Freedom of Conscience is a positive sign, as it is intended to promote key issues in this area at the governmental level.

This also indicates that low scores for the result and process indicators are largely due to poor implementation of structural measures. At the same time, non-achievement of structural indicators does not preclude positive experiences in individual regions in terms of involvement of representatives of minorities and indigenous peoples in the development and implementation of local policies; or of the inclusion of representatives of national communities in the Supervisory Board of the National Public Television and Radio Company of Ukraine.

²⁵ The strategic goal is to establish an effective system to promote and protect the rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples, in order to support and develop tolerant inter-ethnic relations in Ukrainian society.



Ensuring the right to work and social protection

Structural: 25% Process: 35% Result: 31% Total: 32%

Current legislation on both social security and labour rights needs to be improved. Despite some achievements in the area of indexation and modernization of pensions and harmonization of legislation on payments under the Unified Tariff Grid, no significant progress has been made. Many initiatives remain either at the stage of draft legislation (submitted and withdrawn) or only at the stage of preparing amendments to legislation. No comprehensive preparation for the introduction of the second level of pension reform has been made either.

The legal framework for strengthening the protection of labour rights of persons with disabilities remained largely the same as it was before 2016. The effectiveness of the employment and job placement system for persons with disabilities has not been strengthened, although certain steps were made to introduce career counsellors (who *inter alia* aim to assist persons with disabilities to find employment) in employment centres.

The main variable used to calculate payments in the social security system – the subsistence level – has remained detached from reality and does not provide for a minimum standard of living. As a result, many other types of social security do not perform their basic functions.

When it comes to the provision of social services, a separate Law "On Social Services" was adopted in this area. A lack of approved necessary standards, registers and methodologies made it impossible to implement the law, however.

To a large extent, the lack of progress against structural indicators affects progress against process and result indicators, as positive changes in ensuring social and economic rights are only possible if systemic efforts are taken both to improve legislation and to implement it effectively.

It is worth noting a certain stagnation of progress against process and result indicators, which demonstrates the lack of overall progress in ensuring social and economic rights.



Ensuring the right to healthcare

Structural: 12.5% Process: 0% Result: 25% Total: -25 (of 700) 0%, negative score

Medical reforms. In 2015, the Government of Ukraine initiated a process of transformative reform of the health care system. The aim of these reforms was to improve the health of the population and provide financial protection against excessive "out of pocket" expenditure by increasing efficiency, modernizing outdated systems and **improving access to good quality health care.**

The Strategy envisaged the introduction of compulsory state social health insurance, further analysed within the framework of the **Concept of Health Care Financing Reform** (hereinafter – the Concept²⁶). In particular, the Concept considered options for introducing compulsory state social health insurance, as well as the option of introducing universal health insurance with full payment from the State Budget.

In pursuance of the Concept, the Law of Ukraine "On State Financial Guarantees for the Provision of Medical Services and Medicines" was adopted, resulting in drastic changes to the health care system. In 2018, a **national solidarity insurance system began operating in Ukraine, which will eventually cover the treatment of every Ukrainian.** The National Health Service of Ukraine (NHSU) was established as a **national insurance body** that provides coverage to the population with a guaranteed package of medical services within the available fiscal space.

In accordance with the adopted law, a programme of medical guarantees has been introduced, which determines the list and scope of medical services and medicines that will be paid for out of the State Budget of Ukraine. Within the programme of medical guarantees, the state guarantees full payment of citizens' necessary expenses for medical services and medicines from the State budget of Ukraine. This includes the provision of emergency, primary, secondary (specialized), tertiary (highly specialized), and palliative medical care, medical rehabilitation, healthcare for pregnancy and childbirth, as well as healthcare to children under 16 years.

Reforms began with primary healthcare. Since July 2018, primary care facilities that have entered into an agreement with the National Health Insurance Fund receive funding under the new modality. At the secondary and tertiary levels, the new funding modality will be introduced in 2020.

In view of the above, the Ministry of Health of Ukraine considers that introducing compulsory state social health insurance in Ukraine is not necessary until the new healthcare system is fully established, and requests to remove activity 1 of item 58 from the Strategy. According to the Ministry of Health, it is too early to create the Compulsory State Social Health Insurance Fund from employers' contributions (contributions from employees are prohibited by Article 49 of the Constitution of Ukraine).

Affordable Medicines. The NHSU also administers the government's Affordable Medicines reimbursement programme. This programme was introduced in 2017 to reduce the financial burden and increase the affordability of medicines for outpatients suffering from cardiovascular diseases, bronchial asthma and type 2 diabetes. The list of medicines for outpatient use includes 258 medicines, 64 of which can be obtained free of charge; others – for a small fee.

At the same time, no effective control over the quality of health care has been established so far. Reforms have only changed the financial modality. To date, there is no research on how these changes have affected the realization of the right to health.

²⁶ Cabinet of Ministers Ordinance 1013-r "On Approval of the Concept of Health Care Financing Reform" of 30 November 2016



Creating conditions for freedom of entrepreneurship

Structural: 38% Process: 38% Result: 37.5% Total: 38%

Sufficient progress has been made in the area of legal regulation of restrictions on state supervision/control over business activities, with amendments made to the relevant laws and bylaws. There are quite capable state institutions that implement deregulation policies and monitor deregulation reform. At the same time, there is still significant over-regulation in certain areas of economic activity, and in some areas – for example, labour relations – there are risks of establishing even stricter regulation.

Simultaneous real reform of the state fiscal service and tax administration procedures in general are critical for the development of entrepreneurship. And despite some changes, no systemic reform has taken place, especially with regard to the state fiscal service. Some initiatives have been rolled out, but so far, they have not changed the situation much. The tax system, especially the general tax system, still needs to be simplified, with clear and understandable mechanisms created.

Quantitative and performance indicators show positive trends in structural change. In particular, these trends are clearly manifested in the activities of the Business Ombudsman Council and the Doing Business rating. At the same time, weaknesses in the legal and fiscal systems are reflected in economic freedom ratings for Ukraine.



Ensuring the right to education

Structural: 62.5% Process: 25% Result: 19% Total: 30%

Ukraine's education legislation largely complies with international human rights standards. The Laws of Ukraine "On Education" and "On Complete General Secondary Education" are of great importance. Adoption of legislative acts to create mechanisms for the protection of human rights in the education system is also critical. It is of concern that certain provisions of the law are not clear and may be interpreted in different ways. At the same time, such provisions also require the creation of additional implementation mechanisms, and there is a risk that these mechanisms will not meet human rights standards.

Civic competence – including competence in human rights and gender equality – is included in the law on education and national education standards. The problem is that civic competence is not taught effectively in the education system, in part because most teachers and administrators of general secondary education institutions lack the necessary knowledge and skills to develop civic competence in children. Teacher training – either in higher education institutions or during in-service training – does not cover civic competence. The lack of such teacher training approach at the universities, and at the centres of professional development, undermines formal existence of civic competence, and can lead to a distorted understanding of civic competence, including human rights, gender equality and other components of this competence.

The number of pre-school and general secondary education institutions where children with special educational needs study is increasing significantly, and the general development of inclusive education is worth mentioning. State statistics with breakdown by regions are now regularly collected, providing assessment of the ratio of the number of inclusive classes and the number of children with special educational needs. However, it is difficult to estimate the actual number of children with special educational needs and the extent to which categories such as refugee children, Roma children, children with challenging behaviour, etc. are taken into account in these statistics, as some of these children may not attend school at all, while these are the child's parents or teachers who can initiate a comprehensive assessment.

The gradual annual increase in education expenditure is to be commended. In particular, there has been an improvement in the material and resource support to primary schools with the launch of the New Ukrainian School programme. However, the state still does not comply with the law, as it is obliged to provide general allocations for education at the level of at least 7 per cent of GDP from the State Budget. Funds from parents and NGOs in many cases continue to cover schools' basic costs, rather than being charitable contributions for additional needs.

The number of children covered by pre-schools has grown slightly (from about 57 per cent in 2016 to 59 per cent in 2018). The Ministry of Education and Science notes the problem of access to pre-school education, especially in areas where the population size is growing. Pre-school education is not always accessible to low-income and socially vulnerable groups. Roma children are a particularly vulnerable group in terms of access to pre-school education.

Statistics indicate that coverage of complete general secondary education for children aged 6-18 is growing annually (about 5 per cent higher in the 2018/2019 school year than the 2016/2017 school year); at the same time, the number of schools is declining (by 8.3 per cent for the same period). Public authorities note that the organization of transportation of children to schools is inadequate, due to the poor quality of roads and lack of proper buses, significantly complicating access to education, especially for children living in rural areas. Large schools in cities face the problem of overcrowded classes and poor sanitary conditions in regard to spatial organization, ventilation, lighting, etc.

The relatively rapid development of inclusive education in Ukraine is worth noting. The share of children with disabilities attending secondary schools is increasing every year. The number of special institutions and of children enrolled remains almost unchanged, although the number of education



facilities for children with mental disabilities is decreasing. Training and rehabilitation centres for children with disabilities are performing better. Their number in 2017/2018 increased by almost 15.5 per cent compared to 2016/2017, and the number of students attending these centres increased by about the same percentage. Other problems are that most schools remain architecturally inaccessible, and that parents of able-bodied children are not prepared to allow their children to study alongside children with disabilities or who have other special educational needs. Currently, there is no data to evaluate the performance of teaching assistants.



Ensuring the right to privacy

Structural: 2.5% Process: 25% Result: 12.5% Total: 15%

An effective institutional mechanism for monitoring the observance of the right to privacy has not yet been established, and no progress has been made in resolving this issue. Reflecting this, it is impossible to expect the system of independent control over the activities of law enforcement agencies to be effective, in terms of respect for the right to privacy and proper control over state intervention in the right to privacy.

Instead, the special services and law enforcement agencies of Ukraine interfere and track traffic and communication in the mobile network without any oversight. We refer to the <u>case of Natalia Sedletska</u>, when the ECtHR, for the second time in its history, applied temporary restrictive measures in matters related to journalism and obliged the Ukrainian authorities to refrain from accessing any data from the journalist's phone.

Another negative example that the state must address is the illegal collection and dissemination of personal data on the website "Myrotvorets" (Peacemaker). This site collects and publishes data on persons that are subject to protection in accordance with the Law of Ukraine "On Personal Data Protection" and the Law of Ukraine "On Information". The Law "On Personal Data Protection" is aimed at protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, in particular the right to privacy, in connection with processing of personal data.

Worth to mention repeated cases of disclosure of personal data of internally displaced persons that had no specific attention from the state.

Negative practices in regard to failure to observe the right to privacy have been recorded from year to year by the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights: "Most violations of the right to personal data protection were recorded in the areas of financial and banking services, insurance, housing and utility services, health care, social protection, education, as well as in the processing of personal data during video surveillance, accounting for administrative and criminal offences... The trend of illegal dissemination of personal data by providing them in response to unjustified requests, publication in public space, on websites, as well as in social networks, continued".²⁷

²⁷ http://www.ombudsman.gov.ua/ua/all-news/pr/shhor%D1%96chnu-dopov%D1%96d-upovnovazhenogo-z-prav-lyudini-za-2019-r%D1%96k-napravleno-do-verxovno%D1%97-radi-ukra%D1%97ni/



Ensuring the rights of the child

Structural: 10% Process: 12.5% Result: 25% Total: 14.5%

Legislation aimed at ensuring that children's rights are protected has improved. Standards for social protection for orphaned children and children deprived of parental care have been enhanced. At the same time, a number of provisions stipulated by international treaties ratified by Ukraine have not yet been incorporated into national law. These include certain provisions of: the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict (no amendments have been made to the Criminal Code of Ukraine establishing criminal liability for involving children in hostilities or armed conflict); the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on communications procedures; and the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (the Lanzarote Convention) in terms of basic means of protection of child victims, special training requirements and the competence of persons involved in criminal investigations, and requirements for interviews with children.

To date, Ukraine has not ratified the Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (Hague Convention of 29 May 1993). Issues concerning the interaction of actors responding to domestic violence against children and involving children need to be properly regulated following to the adoption of the Law of Ukraine "On Preventing and Combatting Domestic Violence".

Since 2018, the State Statistics Committee has stopped publishing the statistical compendium "Protection of children in need of special public attention" that was published on the official website of the State Statistics Committee (www.ukrstat.gov.ua) in the section "Publications"/"Social Protection", negatively affecting the collection, generalization, analysis and use of data to evaluate the effectiveness of policy making and implementation in the field of the rights of the child.

At the national level, there has been a significant reduction in the role of the Inter-Agency Commission on Child Protection in ensuring that the rights of the child are protected. The Inter-Agency Commission is not functioning as an effective tool to ensure coordination between central executive authorities to address the protection of the rights of the child, and its activities are not systematic.

Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Ordinance 526-p endorsed the National Strategy for Reforming the System of Institutional Care and Upbringing of Children for 2017-2026, and approved the Action Plan for the implementation of the first stage of the National Strategy for Reforming the System of Institutional Care and Education of Children for 2017-2026. The results of the first stage of the reform showed a slight decrease in the number of children in institutions under the control of the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Social Policy and an increase in the number of children in institutions under the control of the Ministry of Health. The results of the first stage of the reform have not been analysed, and the government's Action Plan for the implementation of the second stage has not been approved.

Foster care provision is slowly expanding. While legislation to regulate foster care provision was set forth in the law back in 2016, as of the end of 2019, there were only 106 foster families in Ukraine.

Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Resolution 268 of 5 April 2017 approved the Procedure for granting status to a child who has suffered as a result of hostilities and armed conflict. However, so far there are no state guarantees and social assistance for this category of children.



Ensuring the rights of refugees, persons in need of additional protection, foreigners and stateless persons legally staying in Ukraine

Structural: 25% Process: 12.5% Result: 12.5% Total: 18%

Since the adoption of the document, most of the objectives set out in the Strategy have not been achieved. In particular, the implementation of measures to integrate persons seeking international protection in Ukraine (asylum seekers) and who are in the process of being identified as a refugee or a person in need of additional protection into Ukrainian society remains one of the most acute and unresolved issues. Conditions for such integration have not been created, as it requires the development of an appropriate legal framework.

Some steps have been taken to address the issue of statelessness. Specifically, draft Law 2335 "On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine Concerning the Recognition of a Stateless Person" of 29 October 2019 was developed and approved by the Parliament in the first reading.



Ensuring the rights of participations of anti-terrorist operation

Structural: 75% Process: 31% Result: 58% Total: 52.5%

More than 421,000 people have been granted the status of a participant in hostilities, of whom about 370,000 had taken part in the anti-terrorist operation/Operation of United Forces. Another 20,000 people have sustained disabilities due to war, and there are 161,000 people who are family members of deceased war veterans. Although social support for these groups is provided in the form of benefits and services – on average, every group is eligible to 36 different benefits or services – most of them do not meet the real needs of veterans and do not contribute to their social protection. Therefore, automating and optimizing the process of providing benefits to veterans remains a critical objective; this will also help understand which benefits are most in demand among veterans, and which have to be updated.

The state has taken an important step towards recognizing the contribution of volunteers in defending the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, with the adoption of Law 329-IX in 2019. Prior to that, the subjects of the right of legislative initiative registered 20 draft laws aimed at addressing the problem of granting the status of a participant in hostilities to volunteers.

In general, progress against structural indicators indicates clear changes in the field of social protection of war veterans, but lack of progress against process indicators shows a low level of compliance with the provisions. This is due to the lack of systematic legal regulation of social protection for ATO/OUF participants.



Protecting the rights of internally displaced persons

Structural: 50% Process: 44% Result: 67% Total: 52%

Progress against the structural indicators indicate that the foundations for achieving the strategic goal have been created. In particular, the IDP Integration Strategy was approved, the right to exercise voting rights was granted, and free legal aid has been made available.

At the same time, process and results indicators identified an average indicator of progress, in regard to providing the IDPs with adequate protection (receiving free legal aid, applying to the Commissioner for Human Rights), and employment (including compensation of employer's expenses). In this area, process and results indicators are closely grounded in the sustainability of institutions. Other areas continue to be discriminatory, such as social protection and pension provision.

The lack of strategic plans in every area (in particular housing programmes), as well as lack of adequate funding, low awareness, staff shortages and low participation continue to be significant problems.

To sum up, a number of important results have been achieved in this area, which should now be considered as the basis for the implementation of the subsequent objectives under this goal.



Implementing all the measures needed to protect the rights of persons living in the temporarily occupied territory

Structural: 0% Process: 37.5% Result: 25% Total: 21%

Law of Ukraine 2268-VIII "On Peculiarities of National Policy to Ensure the State Sovereignty of Ukraine in the Temporarily Occupied Territories in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts" of 18 January 2018 stipulates that any legal act issued in connection with the activities of armed groups of the Russian Federation and the occupation administration of the Russian Federation in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts is invalid and does not lead to any legal consequences. The exception are documents confirming the fact of the birth or death of a person in the temporarily occupied territories in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts; such acts should annexed to applications for state registration of a person's birth or death. This provision stipulates an administrative (extrajudicial) procedure for state registration of acts of civil status – birth and death – in the occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. However, this provision does not apply in practice, as the by-laws relating to the procedure for registration of births and deaths have not yet been amended. In addition, the possibility established by Law 2268-VIII for extrajudicial recognition of the facts of birth or death does not provide for a similar procedure for the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

Kalanchak and Chonhar checkpoints were equipped in late 2019 and early 2020. However, there are unresolved issues of putting temporary structures on the administrative border on the balance, ensuring regular communication between the settlements and the checkpoints, repairing the asphalt pavement and bringing employees to workplaces have not yet been resolved. It is not possible to determine whether the service area is operating efficiently, as it only started operating in February 2020.

Since 2016, there has been a simplified court procedure for confirming "facts of legal significance" – namely births and deaths – in the temporarily occupied territories. Applications for the establishment of the fact of death or birth can now be submitted to any court, and they are considered immediately. However in practice, consideration of cases in these court proceedings often takes a long time (from several days to several months). Other barriers include: the need to get a refusal from the registry office before applying to court; the cost of court fees, lawyers' services, notaries, and travel; and the need to make several visits to have the paperwork completed.



Ensuring the rights of persons living in the settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk regions where state authorities temporarily do not perform or partially perform their duties

Structural: 0% Process: 33% Result: 38% Total: 14%

Mid-term evaluation of the National Strategy in regard to ensuring the rights of citizens of Ukraine living in the settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts where state authorities temporarily do not perform or partially perform their duties (currently – temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts and the contact line) shows that the goals set in 2015 have largely not been achieved. In addition, the relevant section of the Action Plan is not in fact fully consistent with the Strategy. In particular, this section has no measures aimed at restoring the access of citizens in these territories to justice, or for the investigation of crimes committed in the relevant settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. As a result, the proposed indicators for assessing the implementation of the Strategy do not fully correspond to the measures that have been taken to implement the Strategy.

When it comes to the right of residents in the temporarily occupied territories (TOT) to social protection, no mechanism has been created to allow these people to receive pensions and other social benefits without needing to register as IDPs. The current state of affairs significantly affects the data on the number of IDPs in Ukraine, forcing pensioners from TOT areas to cross the contact line regularly (every 60 days) so that their IDP certificate remains valid and they can continue to receive all payments due to them.

There has also been no progress in developing and implementing extrajudicial/administrative procedures for registering births and deaths in the TOTs. The amendments to the Civil Procedure Code in terms of simplification of court proceedings are a positive step, but do not ensure the registration of all births and deaths in the TOTs. As a result, no more than 37 per cent of children born in the TOTs of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts have birth certificates issued by Ukraine. Evidently, the problem of obtaining documents is much broader, and applies also to passport and education documents. It is also closely related to the issue of crossing the contact line, and obtaining access to administrative services, transport infrastructure, and so on. However, no significant progress has been made in these areas either.

At the same time, over five years, new issues have emerged that need to be outlined as strategic goals. In particular, there is the question of de-occupation and reintegration of the temporarily occupied territories, and introduction of transitional justice to ensure transition from conflict to peace.



Release of hostages and restoration of their rights

Structural: 0% Process: 25% Result: 50% Total: 31.25%

The first and most obvious way to release the hostages is to end the ongoing conflict and the annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea by the Russian Federation. It is impossible to create an effective hostage release system until the conflict is over (in Donbas and Crimea), as every time, a new creative solution must be developed to ensure that hostages are released.

As of March 2020, due to a previous mistake and the recognition of a conflict as an anti-terrorist operation, it is impossible to introduce into the legal field the procedure of simultaneous release of persons (so-called *exchanges*), which complicates legal settlement of these issues.

Nevertheless, it remains necessary to address the legal status of persons who have been detained for political, ideological or religious reasons in the territory of the Russian Federation or temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.



Raising awareness of human rights

Structural: 37.5% Process: 37.5% Result: 25% Total: 33%

At the national level, there is still no systematic approach to human rights education. Some positive steps in the establishment and operation of a working group to develop a National Human Rights Education Programme are to be welcomed, as this has resulted in a draft programme which could function as a conceptual framework for national policy in this area. The draft programme was developed on the initiative of civil society and on the basis of their research and recommendations, based on the World Programme for Human Rights Education.

However, the state has not taken any further steps to develop a national policy on human rights education based on the existing developments. There have been sporadic efforts to develop a guideline framework for human rights education. At the national level, the approach to producing guidelines and materials for human rights education is to "tick the box". In many cases, reporting does not go beyond the number of meetings and events, and there is no indication of progress in the production of guidelines. A systematic, professional approach and professional monitoring and evaluation of developments in this policy area are lacking.

Reports from public authorities on the analysis of coverage of the population by human rights education are yet another proof of a gap such as the lack of national policy in the field of human rights. This is expressed in the absence of a systematic approach. Reporting is focused on events – workshops, conferences, specifically on the number and types of events. Most efforts aimed at improving coverage of human rights programmes remain the initiative of NGOs, and public authorities cooperate with such initiatives when there is external funding (for example, from international donor institutions). The lack of the national policy that would set forth clear goals, results and programmes for action means local authorities cannot receive state funding for such activities.

Another problem revealed by reports made by public authorities is that human rights education is clearly associated by these bodies primarily with teaching of legal disciplines and law, which is not the way the concept is understood in policy.

The I Have the Right programme operated at the level of the judiciary, with the involvement of local authorities and the free legal aid system. This programme achieved good coverage, and addressed a wider range of issues, providing an example of measures to increase legal awareness, where human rights education was only one aspect. It should be noted that this programme had public funding, wide coverage, and distributed a large amount of information materials, but sometimes looked like a set of activities rather than a programme, as at the level of implementation, a professional approach and systematic and technical training were lacking.

Some progress in the human rights education of civil servants is worth noting. Unfortunately, there is no unified national policy, but there are plans to include human rights education in the system of training and retraining of civil servants. Law enforcement agencies and the Armed Forces of Ukraine have begun to include international humanitarian law in their training. The School of Judges of Ukraine includes training in international humanitarian law and international human rights law in its curricula. A positive development is that this training is delivered in cooperation with NGOs that have appropriate expertise.



Criteria for revision/development of a new Action Plan to implement the National Human Rights Strategy

I. By priority

1. Recommendations/concluding observations/decisions of international organizations/treaty bodies (UPR, UN Committees)

Ukraine receives comments and recommendations based on each of its periodic reports. Often these comments and recommendations are repeated from report to report, indicating that the problems they are addressing are systemic.

2. Decisions of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR)

The decisions of the European Court of Human Rights against Ukraine reveal systemic problems. For example, the case of *Burmych and Others v. Ukraine* addresses non-compliance with national court decisions, the case of *Merit v. Ukraine* excessive duration of pre-trial proceedings, and the case of *Chaniev v. Ukraine* systemic problems relating to selection of retraining measures.

3. Human rights issues related to armed aggression

Entities with responsibility for developing amendments to the Action Plan should focus on violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, with regard to violations of the rights and guarantees of both protected persons and of combatants.

- 4. Action plan for the Implementation of the Association Agreement between Ukraine and the European Union, and Ukraine and the European Atomic Energy Community and their Member States.
- 5. Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

II. Avoidance of duplication (complementarity)

Revisions to the Action Plan should include removing objectives that are already provided for in other strategic documents, and where regulations overlap.

III. Duration for implementing objectives/actions of the Action Plan

The deadlines for achieving the strategic goals of the Strategy (deadlines for the objectives/actions) should be realistic. For example, when it comes to drafting a legal act, the deadline should take into account the requirement to implement all statutory procedures (regulatory impact analysis, public discussion, etc.). Putting in place short-term implementation plans (for two or three years), in combination with other criteria, will ensure the real achievement of the strategic goals.

IV. Feasibility of objective/action

The objectives and actions should be formulated with less ambition and greater precision.

V. Resource allocation

The plan should include a column detailing the resources needed to implement every objective/action (or specify that resources are not necessary). Necessary resources can include money (if it is not automatically available), and time (for example, staff salaries funded from the respective annual budget, but competitive staff selection procedures take time). In addition, at the stage of preparing amendments to the Action Plan (new Action Plan), existing actions envisaged under the adopted programmes/action plans/strategies can be analysed to take into account funding that has already been allocated, in order



to ensure complementarity and avoid duplication. It is also advisable to take into account existing international technical assistance projects in Ukraine, or the possibility of securing such assistance.

VI. Measurability

The results of implementation of the Action Plan should be measurable (this is detailed in the recommendations or methodology for indicators).



Priorities

This list is based on the priorities proposed by experts, and has been "sifted" through the above criteria. These priorities can inform the development of a new Action Plan.

The list does not include proposals made by the civil society monitors:

- which duplicate (or may duplicate) actions that are or may be provided for in other strategic documents (such as the State Targeted Programme National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities until 2020, the National Strategy for Civil Society Development in Ukraine for 2016 2020, the Action Plan to Implement the Recommendations Set Out in the Concluding Observations Provided by the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities to the First Report of Ukraine on the Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities until 2020, and the National Action Plan to Implement the Recommendations Set Out in the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women to the Eighth Periodic Report of Ukraine on the Implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women until 2021). Even when these documents expire, work on realising their objectives continues;
- which concern issues that are already being addressed by a responsible central executive authority for example, Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Resolution 258 "On the Establishment of the Commission for the Implementation of Decisions of the European Court of Human Rights" of 1 April 2020; and
- which relate to draft laws that have been developed and submitted to the Verkhovna Rada or were submitted to the Verkhovna Rada under the previous convocation.

Ensuring the right to life

- 1. Addressing the systemic problem of failure to conduct effective investigations in accordance with the minimum requirements for the effectiveness of an investigation, as outlined in the ECtHR decisions against Ukraine, in particular in the cases of *Goriaiev v. Ukraine* and *Ryzhenko v. Ukraine*.
- 2. Developing a detailed action plan to be implemented by the State of Ukraine following the ratification of the European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes (list of regulations that will require amendments, calculation of budget expenditures, institutional and staff reforms, etc.).

Combating torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

- 1. Harmonizing the concept of torture with international standards.
- 2. Developing and approving the National Strategy for Combating Torture, which should include the following key components: prevention, documentation and investigation of torture, and rehabilitation of victims.
- 3. Addressing the systemic problems outlined in ECtHR decisions against Ukraine, in particular in the following cases:
- Petukhov 2 v. Ukraine introducing a system of revision of sentences to life imprisonment in accordance with the standards developed by the case law of the European Court of Human Rights. The mechanism for the revision should verify on a case-by-case basis whether continued detention is justified on legitimate penal grounds, and should enable persons convicted to life sentence to understand with a certain degree of accuracy what they need to do to have their release considered, and under what conditions this is possible;
- Sukachov v. Ukraine reviewing the statutory rules on residential space for each prisoner and to ensure that prisoners have at least four square metres of personal space in cells designed for many people in all institutions subordinated to the Department of Execution of Punishments, including pre-trial



- detention centres. Continuing measures to reduce prison populations, in particular by making greater use of alternatives to detention during the investigation; and
- Katz and others v. Ukraine, Logvynenko v. Ukraine providing adequate healthcare in places of detention.
- 4. Ensuring compliance with international (UN) standards of detention in psychoneurological residential care facilities, geriatric and other specialized "closed" institutions (for indicators: sources reports of the Commissioner, international organizations, NPM; criteria number of NPM visits and visits by CPT and other international and independent experts, number of facilities visited, reports on violations that were revealed).

Ensuring the right to freedom and personal inviolability

- 1. Creating legal mechanisms to protect the rights of people affected by the armed aggression of the Russian Federation:
- determining the status of persons in places of detention at the time of de-occupation;
- determining the mechanism for revision of the selected measures of restraint and sentences of persons in places of imprisonment within the established time, from the moment of restoration of Ukraine's control over the temporarily occupied territories; and
- developing a strategy and legal state position on civil, criminal and administrative proceedings (at the stage of pre-trial and judicial investigation) which were conducted by the occupation authorities during the temporary occupation, and at the time of de-occupation of the territories.
- 2. Developing a draft law on amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Psychiatric Care" in terms of:
- the procedure for hospitalizing of disabled persons in line with the procedures for compulsory admission to hospital and
- defining clear criteria for compulsory admission to hospital on the grounds of "inability to meet their living needs".

Ensuring the right to a fair trial

- 1. Addressing systemic problems outlined in the ECtHR decisions against Ukraine, in particular in the cases of:
- Salov v. Ukraine, Oleksandr Volkov v. Ukraine, Agrocomplex v. Ukraine violation of the independence and impartiality of the court;
- Svitlana Naumenko v. Ukraine, Merit v. Ukraine violation of reasonable time limits for criminal and civil proceedings; and
- Balytskyi v. Ukraine on the right not to testify against oneself.

Ensuring the freedom of thought and speech, of expression, access to information and free development of personality

- 1. Introducing a mechanism for effective monitoring and prompt elimination of violations in the field of access to information, in particular through the establishment of an institutionally capable, powerful and independent body that effectively monitors compliance with the public information requirements of the Law of Ukraine "On Access to Public Information".
- 2. Ensuring effective investigation of crimes committed against journalists and civic activists (in accordance with the minimum requirements for the effectiveness of the investigation).
- 3. Ensuring the proportionality of anti-disinformation measures to prevent restrictions on freedom of expression.



4. Ensuring guarantees of the independence of the public broadcaster, in particular providing funding at a level not lower than that established by law.

Ensuring freedom of peaceful assembly and association

- 1. Ensuring effective investigation of attacks on civic activists and updating the public about on the progress of investigations.
- 2. Regulating the form of secondary legislation on the activities of law enforcement agencies to ensure freedom of peaceful assembly, including in relation to controversial issues.

Ensuring the right to participate in public administration and vote in elections

1. Amalgamating rule-making procedures of the Government and the Parliament, with obligatory public consultations on draft national policy documents and draft legal acts, and the requirement to directly reflect the results of consultations in the final decision making.

Preventing and combatting discrimination

- 1. Strengthening the capacity of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (forming the budget for the following years).
- 2. Development and approval of the methodology (criteria and algorithms) for mandatory antidiscrimination examination of regulations and draft regulations (including recommendations for the Verkhovna Rada Committees).
- 3. Developing and implementing indicators and a system for collecting information on cases of discrimination (creating a comprehensive database of indicators, including criteria for cataloguing and analysis of case law, which would enable both the Commissioner and the central executive authorities to receive and analyse information on discrimination and respond to it in programme and action planning).
- 4. Analysing needs and developing criteria for the implementation of positive actions in various areas of public life for various social groups in order to address systemic problems, including improving infrastructure and accessibility where possible.
- 5. Developing a draft law to legalize registered civil partnerships in Ukraine for heterosexual and samesex couples, taking into account property and non-property rights, including possession and inheritance of property, support from one partner to another in the case of incapacity, and the constitutional right not to testify against one's partner.

Ensuring equal rights and opportunities for men and women

1. Developing and approving the methodology (criteria and procedures) for conducting gender analysis of legal acts and draft legal acts (including recommendations for the committees of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine).

Combating gender-based violence, human trafficking and slavery

- 1. Ratifying the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention).
- 2. Ensuring the unity and continuity of national policy to prevent and combat domestic and gender-based violence, taking into account decentralization and the transfer of authority to provide services to survivors of human trafficking and gender-based violence to the amalgamated territorial communities (ATCs), city and district councils (possibly through adoption of a State Programme/National Action Plan).

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 - 3. Improving the system for data exchange in the field of prevention and combatting domestic and gender-based violence (amendments to Cabinet of Ministers Resolution 234 "On Approval of the Procedure for Forming, Maintaining and Accessing the Unified State Register of Cases of Domestic and Gender-Based Violence" of 20 March 2020).
 - 4. Decriminalizing voluntary provision of sexual services by adults for remuneration, and clarifying the components of the crime of trafficking in human beings accordingly.
 - 5. Strengthening control over working conditions and remuneration of persons in places of detention by a court decision or a decision of an administrative body in accordance with the law; legislative regulation of liability for illegal use of labour of persons who are in places of detention by a court decision or a decision made by an administrative body in accordance with the law.

Ensuring the rights of national minorities and indigenous people

- 1. Implementing international obligations and recommendations of international organizations regarding the adoption of the national policy documents and laws of Ukraine on the principles of ethnonational policy, on indigenous peoples, and on national minorities (in the new edition), including amendments to laws on languages in education, culture, information space, etc.
- 2. Ensuring effective investigations and prosecution of hate crimes²⁸.

Ensuring the right to work and to social protection

- 1. Ensuring the right to an adequate standard of living by determining the subsistence level on the basis of objective indicators that reflect the actual subsistence level.
- 2. Continuing pension reforms.
- 3. Modernizing labour relations, while ensuring a reasonable balance between the interests of workers, employers and the state.
- 4. Ensuring harmonization of secondary legislation with the Law of Ukraine "On Social Services".
- 5. Ensuring employment of persons with disabilities.
- 6. Implementing decisions of the ECtHR, in particular in the case of *Pichkur v. Ukraine* (on providing access to pensions and other social benefits for residents of the temporarily occupied territories) to abolish the requirement to register as an internally displaced person in order to receive pensions and social benefits.

Ensuring the right to healthcare

- 1. Ensuring the availability of medicines for the citizens of Ukraine.
- 2. Developing and implementing a mechanism for monitoring contractual relations with municipal non-profit enterprises (medical institutions) on the quality of medical services (introducing qualitative indicators along with quantitative indicators).
- 3. Harmonizing the criteria for establishing disability status and for receiving rehabilitation aids and services for people with disabilities with the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health.
- 4. Adopting a state programme to combat cancer.
- 5. Adopting a comprehensive state programme of care for the elderly, as well as patients of all ages who need palliative care, aiming for the integration of medical and social services.

²⁸ Definition by OSCE/ODIHR: https://cutt.ly/QtKXniP



- 6. Ensuring equal access to high-quality medical care for citizens of Ukraine by supporting the healthcare reforms launched in 2018.
- 7. Ensuring monitoring of the health situation of residents living on the contact line and in the liberated territories, and ensuring that these people have access to healthcare.
- 8. Ensuring decriminalization of drug storage for personal use.

Creating conditions for the freedom of entrepreneurship

- 1. Continuing business deregulation, improving the practice of state supervision/oversight, ensuring a balance between freedom of enterprise and effective state regulation, particularly in areas where there is a high risk of human rights violations by business.
- 2. Continuing tax reforms in terms of simplification and creating clear and understandable mechanisms of taxation and tax administration.
- 3. Ensuring the rule of law and, in particular, effective judicial systems in which judicial protection is provided by an independent court within a reasonable time, and the enforcement of a court decision is ensured.
- 4. Implementing the decision of the ECtHR in the case of *World of Entertainment LLC and others against Ukraine* and others that require that state interference in business activities be proportional, and that the decisions/actions of the state be predictable for business.

Ensuring the right to education

- 1. Ensuring that education law is of good quality: introduce assessment of legislation and draft education regulations using a human rights-based approach (HRBA) and ensure that procedures are available to implement the progressive mechanisms defined in the laws. In particular, the interpretation of terms must comply with international human rights law.
- 2. Introducing a system of training and retraining for educators and researchers, as well as advanced training on civic competence for employees of local self-government bodies of the ATCs.
- 3. Supplementing the system for collecting and analysing disaggregated data on children who are not accessing general secondary education to collect information on the reasons for non-attendance and to specify whether a child belongs to a vulnerable group.
- 4. Improving assessment of meaningful access of children with special educational needs to full general secondary, vocational and higher education by:
- amending the "Ratio of the number of preschool and general secondary education institutions with inclusive groups and the number of children with special educational needs studying there" indicator to include vocational and higher education institutions; and
- introducing assessment of effectiveness of use of financial resources, not just their amount.
- 5. Strengthening the capacity of local ATCs for managing educational institutions at the local level and improving systems for resource allocation.
- 6. Introducing indicators on the right to education in special conditions, such as during armed conflict and in territories under occupation, and during pandemics (as is currently the case with the pandemic caused by COVID-19).

Ensuring the right to privacy

1. Approving sectoral plans for implementing the General Personal Data Protection Regulation (hereafter GDPR), with lists of regulations that require compliance with GDPR standards.

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 - 2. Developing proposals for the institutionalization of mechanisms to protect the right to privacy in private (non-state) databases (unofficial audit of all processes for personal data development).
 - 3. Developing and implementing model curricula for training judges on the right to privacy/protection of personal data and access to public information.
 - 4. Developing a curriculum for use in secondary, vocational and higher education institutions on rules for handling personal data and on behaviour on the Internet, focusing on the protection of confidential information, privacy and personal data
 - 5. Analysing the impact of the armed conflict on the right to privacy: how the inviolability of housing, secrecy of correspondence, and processing of personal data are ensured in non-government-controlled areas; preparing proposals to protect the person and his/her right to privacy from the negative consequences of these impacts.
 - 6. Introducing effective control mechanisms to prevent unauthorized cross-border transfer of personal data.
 - 7. Introducing an effective mechanism for responding to the dissemination of information with signs of violation of personal data processing requirements, in particular, on the Internet.

Ensuring the rights of the child

- 1. Bringing national legislation into line with international documents, in particular with the provisions of the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, the Optional Protocol to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child on a Communications Procedure, and the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (the Lanzarote Convention).
- 2. Ratifying the Convention on the Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption (the Hague Convention of 29 May 1993) and incorporation of its provisions into national law.
- 3. Considering the interests of the child in the processes of decentralization, namely:
- revising the legislation to ensure the rights of the child, by avoiding duplication of functions of public authorities and local self-governments bodies;
- developing and approving the State Social Programme for Family Support to minimize the risks of children leaving family environments and entering institutional care or the penitentiary system.
- 4. Analysing the effectiveness of the implementation of the first stage of the National Strategy for Reforming the System of Institutional care and Education of Children for 2017-2026.
- 5. Conducting impact analysis of reforms (deinstitutionalization, education, health care, decentralization) that are simultaneously being implemented in Ukraine in terms of ensuring the rights of the child, and taking measures to minimize the risks of negative consequences of these processes.
- 6. Developing and approving the procedure for responding to cases of domestic violence committed against children and with the participation of children.
- 7. Strengthening coordination between central executive authorities on ensuring the rights of the child. Improving the system for exchanging data with regard to protection of the rights of the child.

Ensuring the rights of refugees, persons in need of additional protection, foreigners and stateless persons legally staying in Ukraine

- 1. Continuing to implement social integration measures for asylum seekers.
- 2. Ensuring asylum seekers have access to other social rights through:

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 - eliminating obstacles to access to education for asylum seekers by amending the legislation to recognize a certificate of application for protection as an identity document;
 - studying the situation with regard to the unavailability of medical care for asylum seekers (forecasting the annual costs of emergency and primary health care, including for women, children and the elderly) and developing proposals on how to provide such care; and
 - developing draft regulations to remove the barriers to the employment of asylum seekers, which include *inter alia* facilitation of employment procedures, encouragement of employers to legally employ asylum seekers, lifting restrictions and prohibitions (such as employment permits and/or the 10 minimum wage requirement for registration of employment permits), and creating a regime for payment of taxes and fees for such persons, payment of salaries, social insurance, etc.
 - 3. Developing amendments, in particular, to the Laws of Ukraine "On Refugees and Persons in Need of Additional or Temporary Protection", "On Legal Status of Foreigners and Stateless Persons" and "On Citizenship of Ukraine" to address the following issues:
 - requesting protection in the transit zone (<u>case of AMUR v. France</u>);
 - naturalizing persons in need of additional protection in Ukraine;
 - introducing a migration amnesty and "tolerated status" for persons who cannot return to their countries of origin, but have already exhausted all state procedures, including through the courts; and
 - compliance with the principle of non-refoulement.

Protection of the rights of internally displaced persons (IDPs) – it is proposed to make it a separate Strategy

- 1. Given that the Strategy for the Integration of Internally Displaced Persons and the Implementation of Long-Term Decisions on Internal Displacement and the Action Plan for its Implementation is envisaged until 2020, developing and adopting a new Strategy for 2021-2025 and Action Plan for its implementation, with adequate funding allocated.
- 2. Addressing the issues of social and pension provision by:
- ensuring that persons who receive pensions and social benefits not related to internal displacement are not requested to obtain a certificate confirming that they are registered as an IDP;
- repealing Cabinet of Ministers Resolution 365, as implementation of this resolution restricts IDPs' right to social protection of the IDPs; and
- resuming the payment of arrears for the previous periods.
- 3. Reforming of the residence registration system in Ukraine: this requires consideration of the interests of mobile citizens, in particular IDPs, taking into account their right to maintain ties with their abandoned places of residence, and inclusion of IDPs in communities where they enjoy the right to participate fully in local democracy.
- 4. Developing a national policy to realize IDPs' housing rights, including compensation for damaged/destroyed housing, and action plans for its implementation, including systematic funding.
- 5. Developing appropriate response measures to ensure full, equal and non-discriminatory access to medical and psychological rehabilitation and social reintegration for conflict-affected children and adults.

Implementing all the measures needed to protect the rights of persons living in the temporarily occupied territory

1. Developing and approving strategic documents on de-occupation and reintegration into Ukraine of the temporarily occupied territories of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, and certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.



- 2. Repealing the Law of Ukraine "On Creation of a Free Economic Zone in Crimea and on Peculiarities of Economic Activity in the Temporarily Occupied Territory of Ukraine" with simultaneous amendments to the laws of Ukraine regarding settlement of economic issues related to the temporary occupation of part of Ukraine.
- 3. Simplifying the procedure for citizens to carry personal belongings across the administrative border with Crimea.
- 4. Introducing administrative (extrajudicial) procedures for establishing facts of birth/death in the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine.

Ensuring the release of hostages and restoration of their rights

- 1. Keeping international organizations and foreign states updated about the situation with regard to the illegal deprivation of liberty of citizens of Ukraine in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine and in the territory of the Russian Federation, until all of these persons are released.
- 2. Completing the establishment of the Commission on Persons Missing in Special Circumstances, formation of the Unified Register of Persons Missing in Special Circumstances, and allocation of necessary funding for these purposes.
- 3. Supporting adoption of a draft Law of Ukraine "On Social and Legal Protection of Persons Deprived of Liberty as a Result of Armed Aggression against Ukraine" and allocating the funding needed for its effective implementation.
- 4. Developing a draft resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on the activities of the interagency commission (which will consider providing financial assistance to persons released from the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine and the territory of Russia) in order to bring the composition of the commission into line with the structure of the Government.

Raising awareness of human rights

- 1. Developing and implementing the national policy of education in the field of human rights in Ukraine (revision, approval and implementation of the National Human Rights Education Programme).
- 2. Introducing a system for assessing the quality of training of civil servants in the field of human rights.
- 3. Introducing systematic information and awareness raising activities at educational institutions and in society as a whole to disseminate knowledge about human rights and freedoms.



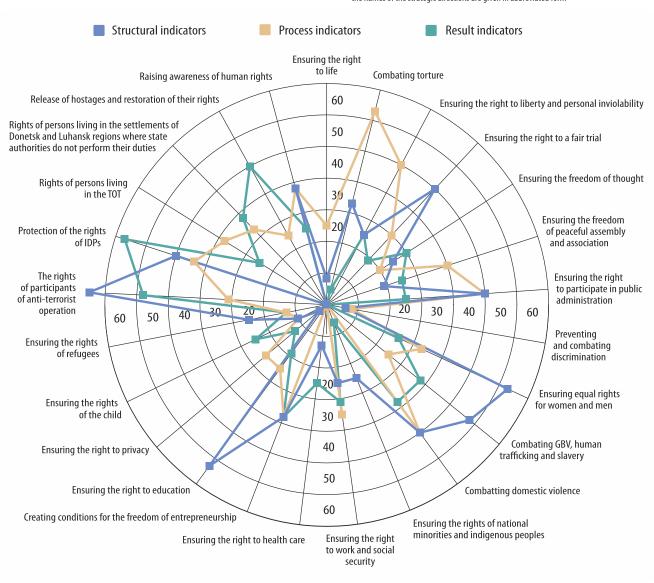
Diagram 1. Total score (general evaluation) of the Strategy implementation, by areas

53%	The rights of participants of anti-terrorist operation
52%	Protection of the rights of internally displaced persons
47%	Combatting domestic violence
44%	Ensuring the right to participate in public administration and vote in elections
41%	Combating gender-based violence, human trafficking and slavery
39%	Ensuring equal rights for women and men
38%	Creating conditions for the freedom of entrepreneurship
33%	Raising awareness of human rights
32%	Ensuring the right to work and social security
32%	Release of hostages and restoration of their rights
30%	Ensuring the right to liberty and personal inviolability
30%	Ensuring the right to a fair trial
30%	Ensuring the freedom of peaceful assembly and association
30%	Ensuring the right to education
25%	Combating torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment
25%	Ensuring the freedom of thought and speech, freedom of expression, access to information and free development of personality
21%	Implementation of all the necessary measures in order to protect the rights of persons living in the temporarily occupied territory
20%	Ensuring the right to life
18%	Ensuring the rights of refugees, persons in need of additional protection, foreigners and stateless persons legally staying in Ukraine
15%	Ensuring the right to privacy
15%	Ensuring the rights of the child
14%	Ensuring the rights of persons living in the settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk regions where state authorities temporarily do not perform or partially perform their duties
6 %	Ensuring the rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples
4%	Preventing and combating discrimination
0%	Ensuring the right to health care



Diagram 2. Progress on the Strategy implementation, by indicators







Annex I. Monitoring framework for assessing the implementation of the National Human Rights Strategy

The proposed monitoring framework is not a definitive and inflexible tool for monitoring the Strategy. Instead, it is intended to demonstrate an approach that can be tailored to the objectives of the study, such as analysing a specific strategic area or highlighting issues that are cross-cutting to all of the strategic areas, such as the observance of the rights of persons with disabilities. Wording of strategic goals and expected outcomes that is too general would allow each analyst to decide on what to focus on and what falls beyond the scope of analysis.

Ensuring the right to life

Strategic goal:

To ensure adequate protection of the right to life, and the availability of remedies and mechanisms for effective investigation of violations of the right to life.

Expected outcomes:

- an efficient system aimed at ensuring combating criminal acts against life, their prevention, suppression and punishment for such acts an remedies of the families of victims is established
- rules of the international law are observed for the protection of life of peaceful population on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine
- the conditions of detention and treating persons in the detention facilities where they are detained upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law are in line with international standards
- pre-conditions are created for minimizing the increased risks to life and health

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Existence of legislation to regulate payment of compensation to family members of victims of violent crimes *Source*: official sources
- Reforming the activities of law enforcement agencies and courts, launch of the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI)

Source: official sources

• Reforming healthcare in the penitentiary system *Source*: official sources

Process indicators

- Number of criminal offences and proceedings in cases of crimes against human life and health *Source*: requests for information, statistics from the Unified Register of Pre-Trial Investigations
- Ratio of compensation requested, assigned and paid (this indicator is to be used after the first structural indicator has been implemented)

Source: official sources

• Number of civilian casualties

Source: data of UN Monitoring Mission

• Number of deaths from traffic accidents per 100,000 population

Source: official sources

Result indicators

• Number of deaths in places of detention (per 1000 prison population), taking into account the cause of death (illness, suicide, murder)

Source: http://ukrprison.org.ua/articles/1551280200



Combatting torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

Strategic goal:

- To create an efficient system of prevention of the torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment;
- To shape conditions for prevention of improper treatment;
- To promote zero tolerance to all manifestations of improper treatment in society

Expected outcomes:

- an efficient system of investigating crimes related to torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including enforced disappearances, is established;
- efficiency of legal protection from the improper treatment is ensured;
- an efficient remedy and rehabilitation of victims of crimes related to torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is provided to the victims, in accordance with the international standards;
- conditions of detention and treatment of detainees in all places of custody where they are detained upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law conform to international standards:
- efficient operation of the national preventive mechanism is secured:
- the principle of prohibition of expulsion of aliens and stateless persons to the state where they can suffer from improper treatment is observed.

Indicators

Structural indicators

• The concept of *torture* in Ukrainian law complies with the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment

Source: official sources

- Establishment and launch of institutional mechanisms to prevent and combat torture *Source*: official sources
- Legal regulation of the system for payment of compensation to victims of torture *Source*: official sources

Process indicators

- Analysis of the functional capacity of mechanisms to prevent and combat torture:
 - o Institutional (State Bureau of Investigation SBI):
 - fact of establishment
 - number of cases under consideration

Source: SBI reports

- o National Preventive Mechanism (NPM):
 - number of reports
 - number of NPM visits and appeals made by people held in detention or their representatives
 - budget allocations for the NPM

Source: reports by the Commissioner

Result indicators

- Analysis of the results of activities undertaken by bodies to prevent and combat torture and cruel or degrading treatment:
 - o ratio of appeals to the Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine and to the SBI on torture cases under Article 127 of the Criminal Code, as well as Article 365, part 2, with the number of cases sent to court

Source: requests for information, reports of respective institutions

o outcomes of the activities of the SBI

Source: reports of SBI

o reaction from the NPM

Source: reports by the Commissioner

• Assessment of changes in conditions of detention and treatment of persons in places of custody in accordance with international standards



Source: reports by the Commissioner and international bodies (CPT, CAT) when available

• Level of intolerance towards ill treatment among the population *Source*: public opinion survey

Ensuring the right to freedom and personal inviolability

Strategic goal:

To establish efficient system of protection of the right to freedom and personal inviolability and efficient investigation of crimes related to enforced disappearances.

Expected outcomes:

- existing legal frameworks on arrest and detention are brought in line with international standards, non-documented detentions are not practices anymore;
- periodic court verifications of the legality of detention or deprivation of liberty take place, while the right to liberty is guaranteed;
- higher efficiency of judicial control of the reasons for deprivation of liberty, in particular during the enforced admission to mental health hospitals;
- efficient investigations take place in order to bring to liability offenders who committed kidnapping on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine and in the area of antiterrorist operation in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including with the use of international legal mechanisms;
- the arbitrary and undocumented arrest and detention without a court decision is made impossible;
- detention of aliens and stateless persons for the expulsion outside Ukraine is used only as the wellreasoned measure of last resort for ensuring enforced expulsion, alternatives to the enforced expulsion are introduced;

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Existence of legislation to regulate detention during compulsory hospitalization in a psychiatric hospital following a court decision and subject to mandatory forensic/mental health examination, and extension of detention periods
- Functioning of the system/mechanism of assistance to victims of enforced disappearance and their families:
 - o appropriate legislative regulation is in place
 - o institutional framework is established
 - o adequate funding is available

Process indicators

Number of facilities in which the system for keeping Custody Records is operational, out of the total number
of detention facilities.

- Number of persons detained in pre-trial detention centres during the reporting period, number of persons released from custody for various reasons (by the reason of release).
- Total number of people detained for more than six months (in criminal proceedings not reviewed at the end of the reporting period), number of persons in custody awaiting the completion of their criminal proceedings



- the protection of human rights of the detainees for an administrative offense established at the level not worse than provided in the criminal procedural law, efficient guarantees are not limited;
- support is provided to victims of enforced disappearances and their families.

Ensuring the right to a fair trial

Strategic goal:

- To ensure the right to independent and fair trial in reasonable timeframe;
- To create an accessible and effective system of legal proceedings that will conform to European values and standards of the protection of human rights.

Expected outcomes:

- access to justice is provided to everyone;
- appointing of the judiciary and bringing judges to liability is not dependent on political background and meets international standards;
- independence, impartiality, efficiency and institutional capacity of judicial system is ensured;
- transparency of the activities of judges and level of their responsibility is increased;
- the gaps of procedural legislation are eliminated, providing for effective proceedings within reasonable timeframes and consistent jurisprudence;
- the efficient system of enforcement is in place, court judgments and other decisions are enforced within a reasonable timeframe, in particular through the introduction of an private enforcement of judgments;
- the judicial system is simplified and its institutional capacity is built;
- processes of forming judiciary and bringing judges to liability are depoliticized and made in conformity with international standards:

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Legislation to regulate judicial reform
- Range of people entitled to receive legal aid, implementation of quality standards for the provision of legal aid

Process indicators

- Number of judges, according to staffing and workload of judges
- Source: official sources
- Court performance indicators (percentage of court cases resolved)
- Source: official sources
- Number of complaints submitted to / received by the Constitutional Court, number of decisions made following consideration of complaints
- Source: requests for public information and website of the Constitutional Court
- Proportion of executed to non-enforced court decisions (ECtHR,)
- Source: requests for public information
- Number of institutions operating under the free legal aid system in terms of regional coverage
- Number of people who applied for secondary free legal aid, and number of decisions on providing secondary free legal aid

Source: https://www.legalaid.gov.ua

- Rule of Law Index
- Perception of the effectiveness of judges and law enforcement agencies (indicator depends on availability of relevant data)
- Level of trust of citizens towards the courts, percentage (indicator depends on availability of relevant data)



- professional qualifications of judges are improved;
- the system of self-government in the judiciary is ensured;
- safeguards for professional activity of lawyers are ensured;
- quality standards of the free legal aid are improved, their observance is guaranteed;
- possibilities for providing primary and secondary free legal aid in civil and administrative cases are extended;
- high-quality and accessible legal aid is provided through the bar and efficient system of free legal aid;
- distribution of cases between the judges is carried out by the automated system only

Source: Ukrainian Centre for Economic and Political Studies

• Level of public awareness of the right to free legal aid, percentage

Ensuring the right to freedom of thought and speech, of expression, access to information and free development of personality

Strategic goal:

To ensure the free exchange of information and freedom of expression.

Expected outcomes:

- proper functioning of public broadcasting;
- principles of pluralism are observed, the information policy for protection and combatting cyberwar and eliminating the hate speech is implemented;
- the free activities of mass media are guaranteed, including in particular the freedom of editorial policy, transparent information about the ownership and sources of funding of mass media, and protection of professional activities and security of journalists;
- printed state and community media outlets are reformed, state regulation of the mass media is minimized;
- distinctions are made between the activities of official printed media outlets of state authorities, local self-government bodies and other mass media;

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Creation of a public service broadcasting service with appropriate guarantees of independence, including adequate funding
- Existence of a legal framework for the protection and to counteract the information war.
- Existence of a legal framework regulating the provision of information to people with disabilities

Process indicators

- Level of access to the Internet among the population of Ukraine (Internet penetration)
- Number of complaints to the Commissioner on violations of the right to access to information
- Investigation of cases of attacks against journalists
- official statistics (Number of complaints/proceedings/court cases on obstruction of journalistic activity (Article 171 of the Criminal Code)

Source: official reports

• Analysis of government action to protect journalists (expert assessment)

Source: reports of international organizations (UN Monitoring Mission)

• Assessment of actions (legal acts and their implementation) aimed at protecting from information war and counteracting it

Source: official sources, reports of international organizations (UN Monitoring Mission)

- the right to freedom of through and speech and free expression is guaranteed, this right may be only subject to such restrictions as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, protecting the health of the population, the reputation or rights of others, preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary;
- measures are taken to provide information to the disabled persons in the form best suitable for them;
- conditions are shaped for free development of a personality, in particular, by reforming the education system in Ukraine;
- efficient access to information, including to public information, is provided;
- system of safeguards for public access to informational resources, including to the Internet, is provided.

- Observance of the right to access information in line with evaluation of progress towards the SDGs (SDG indicator 16.10)
- Level of openness according to the World Press Freedom Index
- Level of sustainability according to the Media sustainability index

Ensuring the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association

Strategic goal:

To ensure exercise of the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

Expected outcomes:

- positive commitments of the state with regard to the freedom of peaceful assembly, in particular to providing their security, are determined and observed;
- government intervention in the statutory activities of non-governmental organizations is prohibited, government intervention in the establishment, operation and termination of non-governmental organizations through registration procedures is minimized;

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Existence of a legal framework regulating freedom of peaceful assembly and its compliance with the relevant international standards and principles
- Legislative safeguards are in place on:
 - o establishment and operation of NGOs
 - o their funding (in particular, access to public budgets)
 - o activities of NGOs

Process indicators

- Number of court bans on holding peaceful meetings
- Actions aimed at ensuring the safety of peaceful assemblies by law enforcement agencies
- Implementation of the provisions of legislation on registration and funding of NGOs:



- equal and transparent access of non-governmental organizations to budget funding is secured;
- the procedures of state registration of religious organizations and endorsement of peaceful assemblies of religious organizations are improved;
- unreasoned and disproportional limitation of the right to peaceful assembly is made impossible.
- o number of registered NGOs
- o share of public budget funding to NGOs, revenue from member fees and charitable contributions
- Number of attacks against NGOs and activists

Result indicators

- Analysis of compliance with positive commitments made by the state to ensure the safety of peaceful assemblies
- CSO sustainability index

Ensuring the right to participate in public administration and vote in elections

Strategic goal:

- To ensure the enforcement of the rights of citizens to freely take part in public administration and be appointed to state authorities and local self-government bodies through elections; and
- To ensure effective cooperation between civil society organizations, state authorities and local selfgovernment bodies, in particular by improving the modality for involving civil society organizations in the development and adoption of decisions by state authorities and local self-government bodies.

Expected outcomes:

- the voting rights of citizens and transparency of appointing servants of state authorities and local selfgovernment bodies through the elections are secured, consistency and sustainability of the national legislation on elections is ensured;
- conditions are shaped for the observance of voting rights of the disabled persons;
- the legislation on the national referendum is improved and the legislative framework for organization of local referenda is provided;
- conditions for introducing e-democracy are set;
- transparency and openness of the activities of state authorities and local self-government bodies are

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Existence of a legal framework for participation in elections for all citizens without exception, including IDPs
- Legal framework on national referendums meets international standards
- Legal framework on the establishment and regulation of e-democracy

Process indicators

- Number of cities using e-petitions
- Number of local self-government bodies adopting participatory budgeting
- Number of public consultations conducted by executive authorities

- Data from reports by NGOs and international organizations on the results of elections
- UN e-Government Development Index, including e-Participation Development Index (featuring 193 countries)



- ensured, in particular through the access to public information;
- an efficient modality of cooperation between civil society organizations and state authorities and local self-government bodies is developed.

Preventing and combatting discrimination

Strategic goal:

To establish effective systems to prevent and combat discrimination.

Expected outcomes:

- a comprehensive and consistent legislation in the area of preventing and combatting discrimination is adopted;
- awareness raising programs for citizens are delivered in order to prevent and combat discrimination;
- everyone is provided with unrestricted access to efficient legal protection from discrimination;
- non-discrimination and respect for diversity and observed and implemented, measures are taken to overcome social stereotypes leading to discrimination;
- appropriate and timely positive actions are taken at the national and local levels for the prevention and combatting discrimination, efficient and timely responses to new challenges are provided;
- responsibility is increased for the refusal to reasonably adjust infrastructure to the needs of disabled persons;
- crimes committed for reasons of racial, national, religious and other intolerance are efficiently investigated, while perpetrators are brought to liability;
- the procedure of anti-discrimination expert assessment of draft legal acts by executive authorities is improved;

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Existence of national and regional anti-discrimination programmes Introduction of anti-discrimination expert assessment that meets international standards
- Introduction of administrative responsibility for discrimination, in particular the definition of penalties and the subjects of their imposition
- Strengthening accountability for non-compliance with State Construction Codes in terms of ensuring accessibility for low-mobility groups, including people with disabilities

Process indicators

- Number of attacks on the LGBTI community, Roma and other vulnerable groups (according to data from international organizations) and number of persons prosecuted for crimes committed on the basis of racial, national, religious and other intolerance or violation of anti-discrimination legislation
- Number of discrimination cases received by the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, number of explanations provided by the Commissioner within the framework of the implementation of her mandate
- Proportion of public buildings accessible to people with disabilities and other low-mobility groups

- Number of hate crimes compared to previous year
- Number of cases registered in the Unified State Register of Pre-Trial Investigations (URPTI), number of cases brought to court, number of sentences in cases related to discrimination or to crimes committed on the basis of racial, national, religious and other intolerance
- Level of tolerance (willingness to restrict the rights of different groups)
- Collection of statistics disaggregated by certain parameters on a systematic basis *Source*: reports by the Commissioner



 statistical data on violations of the law on preventing and combatting discrimination and on bringing perpetrators to liability are gathered and processed.

Ensuring equal rights for women and men

Strategic goal:

To ensure equal rights and opportunities for women and men in all areas of public life.

Expected outcomes:

- international standards of gender equality are implemented, including at the legislative level;
- the mechanisms for ensuring equal rights and opportunities for women and men are improved;
- conditions are provided for balanced participation of women and men in the political processes and public decision-making;
- comprehensive measures are implemented to combat gender discrimination, including gender stereotypes;
- equal access to justice is provided.

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Existence of an entity entrusted with organizing the exercise of the powers of the Government on ensuring equal rights and opportunities for women and men in all areas of public life
- Existence of a legal framework to ensure equal opportunities for men and women

Process indicators

- Ratio of employed and unemployed women and men
- Ratio of average wages of women and men, percentage
- Proportion of women among:
- Members of Parliament, percentage
- top officials in the civil service corps (category "A" positions), percentage.

Result indicators

- Gender Development Index
- Global Gender Gap.

Combatting gender-based violence, human trafficking and slavery

Strategic goal: To establish an efficient system for combating all forms of gender-based violence, human trafficking and slavery, to provide high-quality care to survivors. Structural indicators • Full ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) and adoption of legislation to implement it • Legal framework for combatting trafficking in human beings is in place



- conditions necessary for the prevention and combating all forms of gender-based violence and human trafficking are in place;
- a system of care to survivors of human trafficking crimes is improved;
- legal regulatory framework in the area of combatting gender-based violence is brought in line with international standards;
- crimes related to human trafficking, including those committed on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine and in the area of anti-terrorist operation in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, are effectively investigated;
- the principles of equality are observed while determining the working conditions, remuneration, mandatory state social insurance of persons detained in the detention facilities upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law;
- criminal liability is established for illegal use of labour of persons detained in the detention facilities upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law:
- legal framework is provided to the issues of labour therapy, in particular, the requirements are set with regard to organization of labour therapy in accordance with rehabilitation plan of a patient, regular assessment of efficiency of labour therapy by a doctor;
- strengthened control including civic control over the working conditions of persons detained in the detention facilities upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law.

• Existence of (inter-agency) system for the collection of data on gender-based violence and trafficking in human beings, including sex-disaggregated data

Process indicators

- Budget allocated to support/protect victims of gender-based violence and human trafficking
- Number of people who have been identified as victims of trafficking
- Number of people who have been victims of human trafficking and were identified by IOM and received assistance from IOM
- Number of state and community institutions providing assistance to victims, including number of shelters for victims of gender-based violence and human trafficking

Result indicators

- Number of identified cases/persons prosecuted for gender-based violence under Article 173-2 of the Code on Administrative Offences
- Number of persons prosecuted under Article 149 (Trafficking in Human Beings) of the Criminal Code

Combatting domestic violence

Strategic goal: Indicators



To establish efficient system of prevention and combatting domestic violence, improve quality of care to victims of domestic violence.

Expected outcomes:

- efficient system to prevent and combat domestic violence is established, in particular, measures are taken to ensure that the authorized bodies are notified about domestic violence cases;
- the procedure of providing care to victims of domestic violence is improved, and the trainings for perpetrators on non-violent behaviour in interpersonal relations are implemented;
- awareness raising events for the population on problems and ways to combat domestic violence and the care available to victims of domestic violence are carried out:
- local measures are taken to prevent domestic violence.

Structural indicators

- Full ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) and adoption of legislation to implement it
- Existence of (inter-agency) system of data collection on domestic violence and trafficking in human beings, including sex-disaggregated data

Process indicators

- Number of people (women, men, girls, boys) who requested assistance
- Number of perpetrators (women, men, girls, boys) recorded by the National Police
- Number of fixed-term prohibition notices and restraining orders issued to perpetrators
- Number of institutions providing assistance to survivors, including the number of shelters for survivors of domestic violence and human trafficking

Result indicators

- Number of persons prosecuted for administrative and criminal domestic violence offences
- Number of persons (women, men, children) who were victims of crimes related to domestic violence

Ensuring the rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples

Strategic goal:

To establish an effective system of promoting and protection of rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples, to support and develop tolerant inter-ethnic relations in Ukrainian society.

Expected outcomes:

- an effective mechanism to ensure and protect the rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples is established;
- comprehensive measures to meet the demands of citizens of Ukraine belonging to national minorities

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Existence of a dedicated legislation on the protection of the rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples
- Existence of an institutional mechanism/government body responsible for policy implementation in the relevant areas
- Settling the issue of the use of languages of national minorities and indigenous peoples

Process indicators

- Existence of state programmes on national minorities and indigenous peoples, and the amount allocated from the state budget to fund such programmes
- Analysis of the participation of representatives of national minorities and indigenous peoples in public administration bodies (number of members of Parliament and local councils)



- and indigenous peoples for social and other services are taken;
- an efficient mechanism is established for participation of representatives of national minorities and indigenous peoples in decision-making of state authorities and local self-government bodies on issues that concern the rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples;
- a policy of inter-ethnic tolerance is implemented.

 Number of secondary schools teaching in national minority languages or which teach national minority languages

Result indicators

- Number of students in Ukraine studying in minority languages in general secondary schools
- Analysis of engagement (introduction of cooperation tools, especially in places of compact residence, etc.)
- Level of tolerance towards national minorities
- Number of attacks on representatives/groups of national minorities and indigenous peoples

Ensuring the right to work and to social protection

Strategic goal:

To create conditions for decent living standards and appropriate social security of citizens.

Expected outcomes:

- an effective system of social security that meets the capabilities of the state is established;
- funding sources of social security system alternative to the state are available;
- safe and healthy working environment is provided;
- protection of labour rights, including the right of citizens to establish trade unions, is guaranteed;
- social responsibility of business is strengthened, conditions for corporate social responsibility of economic entities are shaped;
- workplaces are reasonably adjusted for the disabled employees, they are provided with support at their workplaces;
- an efficient system of social service, including social case management and assisted living for the disabled, is in place.

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Existence of legislation to regulate the social insurance system
- Labour laws have been revised and comply with international obligations and standards, in particular as regards social protection and non-discrimination

Process indicators

- Share of women and men living in poverty who are covered by state social support (out of the total population living in poverty)
- Analysis of data gathered during inspections carried out by labour inspectors, and reported violations
- Employment rate of women and men of working age (percentage) and unemployment rate of women and men of working age (percentage)
- Number of persons registered at the employment centre and number of employed persons with disabilities (disaggregated)
- Amount of budget funding for measures for social, labour and vocational rehabilitation of people with disabilities

- Human Development Index (Multidimensional Poverty Index)
- Share of people (women and men) whose daily consumption is below USD 5.05 by purchasing parity
- Public opinion (women and men) on the observance of social and economic rights (survey data).
- Number of casualties (deaths and injuries) at work



Ensuring the right to health care

To ensure equal access to high-quality health care, Prevention, early detection and efficient treatment of diseases and conditions

Expected outcomes:

- compatibility of health care infrastructure with needs of local communities is provided;
- a guaranteed amount of health care provided at the expense of budget is ensured;
- rights of patients are protected;
- vulnerable populations are provided with access to health care;
- criteria for determining disability and providing the disabled persons with rehabilitation equipment and services are brought in line with the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health;
- equal access to high-quality health and social care of drug addicts, people living with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and other socially dangerous diseases is provided;
- measures are taken to prevent mental and intellectual disorders; the respective care is provided.

Indicators

Structural indicators

- To regulate legislation of the state guaranteed healthcare package
- Criteria for confirming disability and eligibility of people with disabilities to receive rehabilitation and support means and services are brought in line with the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health

Process indicators

- Number of hospital beds per 100,000 people
- Number of medical staff per 100,000 people (with possibility of disaggregation by type of settlement)
- Budget allocated for financing the health sector
- Analysis of local budgets in terms of whether the needs of territorial communities, and of vulnerable groups in particular, are considered (for the purposes of this analysis, we can refer to persons with disabilities, people living with HIV, IDPs,²⁹ etc.)

Result indicators

- Number of patients newly diagnosed with HIV
- Number of patients with newly diagnosed active tuberculosis per 100,000 population
- Average life expectancy at birth
- Mortality rate per 100,000 people

Creating conditions for freedom of entrepreneurship

Strategic goal:	Indicators		
To ensure freedom of entrepreneurship, to create conditions for self-employment of population.	Structural indicators • Availability of legally-established restriction on state control over the business activities		
Expected outcomes:	Tax reforms		

²⁹ This group is often not taken into account.



- a system of taxation that promotes the development of small and medium enterprises is established;
- the property rights are efficiently protected;
- government intervention in the legal entrepreneurial activity is eliminated;
- government control over the entrepreneurial activity is minimized: in particular, strict regulations for the reasons and procedure of such control are provided by law;
- the right to start economic activities just by declaring it is provided.

Process indicators

- Number of complaints to the Business Ombudsman and analysis of issues raised in these complaints
- Status of implementation of deregulation reform

Result indicators

- Doing Business Index (<u>www.doingbusiness.org</u>)
- Index of Economic Freedom (https://www.heritage.org)
- Annual report "Economic Freedom of the World" (https://www.fraserinstitute.org)

Ensuring the right to education

Strategic goal:

To ensure guaranteed access to high-quality and competitive education, to establish an effective system for comprehensive human development according to individual educational needs and abilities.

Expected outcomes:

- a network of pre-school, secondary, and extracurricular educational institutions meets the needs of local communities:
- educational curricula encompass the issues of human rights education, including children rights and gender equality;
- inclusive education is implemented to enable the disabled persons to fulfil their right to education;
- equal rights to education are provided without privileges or discrimination on any grounds, including on the grounds of ethnic and social origin, economic status, place of residence and other grounds
- lifelong learning opportunities are provided

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Compliance of education legislation with international human rights standards
- Availability of civic competence that includes knowledge and skills in the field of human rights and gender equality

Process indicators

- Ratio of the number of pre-school and general secondary education institutions that have inclusive groups and the number of children with special educational needs who study there
- Identify the reasons why children aged 6 18 years old are not in full time secondary education
- Number of child psychologists in day schools (excluding special schools)
- Amount of funding to education (expenditure from the consolidated budget of Ukraine on education, percentage of total expenditure from the consolidated budget of Ukraine)

- Ukraine's ranking in the Global Competitiveness Report in the field of higher education
- Enrolment of children in preschool institutions, percentage, number of children in institutions per 100 seats
- Access of children aged 6-18 to complete general secondary education, number of general secondary education institutions (percentage compared to previous year)
- Proportion of children with disabilities who are enrolled in general and specialized schools



Ensuring the right to privacy

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To establish standards for protection of the right to privacy.

Expected outcomes:

- efficient institutional mechanism for observing the right to privacy is established;
- efficient system of independent control over the protection of right to personal data in the activities of law enforcement authorities is introduced;
- cases of government intervention with the right to privacy are minimized and clearly regulated;
- the right to privacy is ensured for persons detained in detention facilities where they are detained upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law, in particular, when mandatory mental care is provided;
- standards of the protection of privacy right are observed with regard to videotaping;
- a system preventing the creation of excessive government databases and illegal intervention into privacy is established.

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Effective institutional mechanisms for monitoring compliance with the requirements of personal data protection law
- Legal regulation of the use of video surveillance systems in line with international standards for protection of the right to privacy

Process indicators

• Number of complaints to the Commissioner, cases, proceedings issuing from violations of the Law of Ukraine "On the Protection of Personal Data", and protocols issued

Result indicators

• Analysis of reports submitted by the independent institutional mechanism for monitoring the observance of the right to privacy

Ensuring the rights of the child

Strategic goal:

- To create a favourable environment for the upbringing, education and development of a child and set up an efficient system to ensure the rights of the child;
- To improve state mechanism of observing the rights of the child.

Expected outcomes:

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Compliance of the legislation on child protection with international standards in the field of protection of the rights of the child
- Existence of a public institution responsible for coordinating activities in the field of protection of the rights of the child
- Existence of normative regulation for deinstitutionalisation of the childcare and education systems



- efficient system for the protection of childhood is established;
- conditions for self-expression and development of a child are created:
- social orphanage and institutional care of children is prevented;
- every decision made about child is based on the best interests of the child and takes into account the child's views, appropriate with the child's age and maturity;
- conditions for the development and upbringing of children in families or in the closest to family environment are created; the reform of boarding schools (institutions) is implemented, they are gradually eliminated;
- the child-friendly services especially medical, social, and legal services are introduced;
- all children have equal access to services necessary to them regardless of health, ethnic or social origin, religion, place of residence, citizenship and other grounds;
- the system of early intervention is introduced and functional in order to create favourable life conditions for children having development conditions, support is provided to families of these children, measures are taken to prevent the parents from refusing from their children having development conditions and incapacitation of children;
- an efficient system of juvenile justice is established in accordance with international standards;
- efficient measures aimed at the re-socialization and rehabilitation of minor convicts and former inmates are taken;
- children born on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine and in settlements where state authorities temporarily do not perform or partially perform their duties are duly registered;
- the legislation on refugees and persons in need of additional and temporary protection is strictly

- Legal regulation of the juvenile justice system
- Minimum standards for the safety and wellbeing of children have been developed and implemented

Process indicators

- Number of births / total fertility rate / child mortality rate / child population (0-18 years)
- Ratio of young people and adults who were orphans or otherwise deprived of parental care on housing waiting lists, and the number of people in this category provided with housing
- Special budget allocations (subsidies)
- Number of children who have received the status of victims of the conflict and the amount of compensation paid by the state
- Amount allocated from the budget for the process of deinstitutionalisation

- Number of orphaned children and children deprived of parental care (of the total number of orphaned children and children deprived of parental care) who have entered vocational schools or higher education institutions
- Number of identified minors who have committed criminal offences. Number of juveniles detained in juvenile correctional facilities. Number of juveniles, which are registered at the juvenile crime prevention police units
- Number of orphaned children and children deprived of parental care living in residential care, family-type homes, and under quardianship, and number of children adopted during the year

- - observed with regard to children, including children separated from their families;
- the number of child survivors of violence and all forms of exploitation, as well as the children in conflict with the law is decreased:
- conditions are created to prevent the involvement of children in the armed conflicts, all possible measures are taken to ensure the protection of rights of children in the area of military operations and armed conflicts;
- minimal standards of security and well-being of the child are set;
- child neglect, homelessness, vagrancy are eliminated.

Ensuring the rights of refugees, persons in need of additional protection, foreigners and stateless persons legally staying in Ukraine

Strategic goal:

- To provide legal and social protection to persons acknowledged as refugees, persons in need of additional protection in Ukraine;
- To provide regulation to the stay of foreigners and stateless persons in Ukraine.

Expected outcomes:

- legislation on refugees and persons in need of additional protection is brought into line with international standards;
- measures are implemented for the integration of persons recognized as refugees or persons in need of additional protection in Ukraine, foreigners and stateless persons legally staying in Ukraine into Ukrainian society;
- appropriate conditions are provided for individuals to apply for refugee status or for status as a person in need of additional protection, especially for children separated from their families;
- the right to work, health care and education for persons acknowledged as refugees or persons in need of additional protection in Ukraine is observed; and

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Legislation on refugees and persons in need of additional protection is in line with international standards in this field
- Legislative regulation of the mechanism for integration of persons recognized as refugees or persons in need of additional protection and temporary placement of children separated from their families is in place
- Legal regulation of the status of stateless person is in place

Process indicators

- Number of temporary accommodation facilities for refugees, their accommodation capacity and the number of persons actually staying there
- Number of people who have applied for refugee status or for status as a person in need of additional protection and the number of applications considered

- Number of refugees and asylum seekers seeking free legal aid, number of people from these groups who received free legal aid
- Number of refugees or persons in need of additional protection in Ukraine, as well as aliens and stateless persons who are employed, number of asylum seekers who are officially employed



 conditions are created for the integration into Ukrainian society of persons recognized as refugees or persons in need of additional protection in Ukraine and of foreigners and stateless persons that stay legally in Ukraine for a long time.

Raising awareness of human rights

Strategic goal:

To enable every person to have access to information and gain knowledge about the rights, freedoms and duties of a person and a citizen, the mechanisms of their exercise and protection.

Expected outcomes:

- in cooperation with non-governmental and international organizations, a national programme of human rights education is developed and adopted, which includes a clear evaluation and implementation monitoring system;
- international standards of human rights are introduced in the curricula of the secondary, vocational and higher educational institutions;
- human rights standards are integrated to the requirements of professional competence of individuals engaged in law making and law enforcement;
- the awareness raising of human rights is regularly and systematically carried out in the society, including through alternative communication means and easy language in order to disseminate knowledge about human rights and freedoms.

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Implementation of the National Programme on Human Rights Education
- Development of a methodological framework for the introduction of a human rights course

Process indicators

- Analysis of the level of coverage of the population through human rights curricula (provision of relevant courses in schools and vocational schools and inclusion in higher education curricula)
- Number of civil servants and employees of local authorities who have participated in special human rights training programmes

Result indicators

- Percentage of men and women who assert their rights in cases of rights violation (survey data)
- Percentage of men and women who refer to training curricula or programmes as a source of information on human rights (survey data)



The rights of participants in anti-terrorist operations

Strategic goal:

To create and ensure appropriate conditions for the exercise and protection of the rights of participants in anti-terrorist operations.

Expected outcomes:

- the legislative regulation of the status of certain categories of participants of anti-terrorist operation is provided;
- the adequate material and technical conditions for the participants of anti-terrorist operation for the period of this operation are provided;
- a system for social, medical, and psychological rehabilitation of the participants of antiterrorist operation and their families is established for them to get back to normal life.

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Existence of legal regulations to assign the status of combatant to volunteers
- Regulation of the status of combatant according to the conditions of the Operation of United Forces
- Improvement of legislation relating to medical and psychological rehabilitation for war veterans, and provision of family rehabilitation

Process indicators

- Automation and optimization of services for war veterans and their families
- Provision of high-quality medical and psychological rehabilitation services to war veterans and their families
- Provision of a range of services for professional adaptation and development of entrepreneurship among veterans
- Funding from the public for social, medical and psychological rehabilitation of war veterans and their families

Result indicators

- Number of volunteers who were given the status of combatant
- Number of war veterans who are in employment, particularly those who have started up their own businesses
- Number of war veterans and their family members who sought and received medical and psychological rehabilitation services

Protection of the rights of internally displaced persons (IDPs)

To ensure proper conditions for the exercise and protection of the rights and freedoms of internally displaced persons (IDPs). Structural indicators Expected outcomes: Legal regulation of pension and social security payments to IDPs is in place, and discriminatory provisions are eliminated Legal regulation of the exercise of voting rights of IDPs Legal regulation enshrining the right of IDPs to access free secondary legal aid persons are provided;



- comprehensive measures are taken to support and maintain social adaptation of citizens of Ukraine who moved from the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine and the area of anti-terrorist operation to other regions of Ukraine;
- social rights of internally displaced persons are observed and protected, their educational and other needs are met;
- conditions are created for voluntary return of internally displaced persons to their former permanent places of residence;
- efficient mechanisms for promoting the observance and restoration of rights and freedoms of internally displaced persons are introduced;
- international legal mechanisms for the protection of rights and freedoms of internally displaced persons are used.

Process indicators

- IDPs' living standards (data from the International Organization for Migration IOM)
- Number of complaints to the Commissioner from IDPs concerning their status as IDPs
- Amount of budget funding allocated under the national IDP integration programmes
- Consideration of the number of IDPs living in a territorial community in the respective local health budgets

Result indicators

- Number of IDPs who received housing under state targeted programmes
- Proportion of IDPS who are in employment, number of persons registered at the Employment Centre, number of those who have been retrained and / or received employment
- Number of IDPs seeking free secondary legal aid and number of IDPs receiving free secondary legal aid

Implementation of all necessary measures to protect the rights of persons living in the temporarily occupied territories³⁰

Strategic goal:

To ensure the rights of citizens of Ukraine.

Expected outcomes:

Measures aimed at protecting the rights of citizens of Ukraine residing in the temporarily occupied territories are implemented, including through available bilateral and multilateral international legal mechanisms.

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Existence of a legal framework for a mechanism to enable Ukrainian citizens residing in temporarily occupied territories to exercise their rights to pensions and social protection
- Legal regulation of the administrative procedures for recognition of civil status acts

Process indicators

- Arrangement of checkpoints to and from Crimea and provision of basic services
- Number of appeals to the court to establish the fact of birth or death, etc. and number of court refusals.

Result indicators

- Number of cases initiated by Ukraine in international judicial institutions concerning the protection of the rights of persons residing in the temporarily occupied territories
- Number of certificates of birth and death in Crimea issued in Ukraine

³⁰ According to the <u>Law of Ukraine</u> "On Ensuring Rights and Freedoms of Citizens and Legal Regime on Temporarily Occupied Territory of Ukraine"



Ensuring the rights of persons living in the settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk regions where state authorities temporarily do not perform or partially perform their duties ³¹

Strategic goal:

To ensure the exercise and protection of the rights of citizens of Ukraine.

Expected outcomes:

- the basic livelihood needs of citizens of Ukraine living in the respective settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk regions are provided;
- the adequate conditions for paying social benefits to such citizens are created, measures are taken to observe their rights to health care and education;
- a safe environment for voluntary movement of such citizens to other regions of Ukraine is created;
- the access to justice for such citizens is restored and the crimes committed in the respective settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk regions are investigated.

Indicators

Structural indicators

- Adoption of legislation and implementation of transitional justice principles
- Existence of legal mechanisms for exercising the rights to pension and social security of Ukrainian citizens living in temporarily occupied territories

Process indicators

- Area of territory that has been de-mined in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts
- Arrangement of checkpoints at the contact line and provision of basic services
- Number of students entering university from the occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts

Result indicators

- Number of cases initiated by Ukraine in international judicial institutions concerning the protection of the rights of persons residing in the temporarily occupied territories
- Number of birth and death certificates in the temporarily occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts issued in Ukraine
- Number of sentences for crimes committed in the relevant settlements in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts

Release of hostages and restoration of their rights

Strategic goal: To release the hostages and ensure their rehabilitation. Expected outcomes: • an effective system for the liberation of hostages is established; • Process indicators Indicators Structural indicators • Legal regulation of the status of hostage • Existence of regulations for the procedure for release, provision of medical and psychological assistance and compensation Process indicators

³¹ The <u>Law of Ukraine</u> "On Peculiarities of the State Policy for Ensuring the State Sovereignty of Ukraine in the Temporarily Occupied Territories in Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts" determines what are the temporarily occupied territories in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.



- the rights of the released persons to primary medical and legal assistance are observed;
- the system of social including psychological rehabilitation of the released individuals and their families is put in operation;
- crimes on kidnapping people and taking hostages are effectively investigated.
- Number of people who are hostages or are illegally imprisoned in and outside the temporarily occupied territories

Result indicators

- Number of Ukrainian hostages released
- Number of people released and their family members receiving financial assistance and rehabilitation



Annex II. Map of strategic and thematic acts, the implementation of which intersects with the National Strategy in the field of human rights and the Action Plan for its implementation

This map shows how the thematic areas of the strategy intersect with narrower profile strategic government documents (these are different types of strategies, concepts, programs, action plans, etc.). This link between the document s should have been taken into account at the stage of developing the Strategy and Action Plan to ensure synergies and strengthen the implementation of policies in various areas, to avoid unnecessary duplication and inconsistencies. Unfortunately, the work on synchronization of all strategic and tactical documents in a certain direction is not carried out, which complicates the process of implementation of these documents, and prevents the conclusion of their progress in general.

As you can see, some areas, such as education and health care, have detailed strategic documents, so it is important to take into account their provisions and the state of their implementation when developing a new human rights action plan. There are also some areas in which the strategic vision is not currently enshrined in some government documents (for example, ensuring the right to privacy), it is important to understand that it is the norms of the Human Rights Strategy and the plan that should be the basis for further steps.

	NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS STRATEGY	STRATEGIES
1	 Ensuring right to life. Expected outcomes: an efficient system aimed at ensuring combating criminal acts against life, their prevention, suppression and punishment for such acts and remedies of the families of victims is established rules of the international law are observed for the protection of life of peaceful population on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine the conditions of detention and treating persons in the detention facilities where they are detained upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law are in line with international standards pre-conditions are created for minimizing the increased risks to life and health 	 Strategy for Enhancing the Level of Road Safety in Ukraine by 2020 The concept of development and technical modernization of the centralized alert system for the threat or occurrence of emergencies State Target Program «National Action Plan Implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities» until 2020 Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"
2	 Combating torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment Expected outcomes: an efficient system of investigating crimes related to torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, including enforced disappearances, is established; efficiency of legal protection from the improper treatment is ensured; an efficient remedy and rehabilitation of victims of crimes related to torture, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment is provided to the victims, in accordance with the international standards; 	 State Target Program «National Action Plan Implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities» until 2020 Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"



- conditions of detention and treatment of detainees in all places of custody where they are detained upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law conform to international standards:
- efficient operation of the national preventive mechanism is secured;
- the principle of prohibition of expulsion of aliens and stateless persons to the state where they can suffer from improper treatment is observed.

3 Ensuring the right to freedom and personal inviolability

Expected outcomes:

- existing legal frameworks on arrest and detention are brought in line with international standards, non-documented detentions are not practiced anymore;
- periodic court verifications of the legality of detention or deprivation of liberty take place, while the right to liberty is guaranteed;
- higher efficiency of judicial control of the reasons for deprivation of liberty, in particular during the enforced admission to mental health hospitals;
- efficient investigations take place in order to bring to liability offenders who committed kidnapping on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine and in the area of antiterrorist operation in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, including with the use of international legal mechanisms;
- the arbitrary and undocumented arrest and detention without a court decision is made impossible;
- detention of aliens and stateless persons for the expulsion outside Ukraine is used only as the well-reasoned measure of last resort for ensuring enforced expulsion, alternatives to the enforced expulsion are introduced;
- the protection of human rights of the detainees for an administrative offense established at the level not worse than provided in the criminal procedural law, efficient guarantees are not limited:
- support is provided to victims of enforced disappearances and their families.

4 Ensuring the right to a fair trial

- access to justice is provided to everyone;
- appointing of the judiciary and bringing judges to liability is not dependent on political background and meets international standards;
- independence, impartiality, efficiency and institutional capacity of judicial system is ensured;
- transparency of the activities of judges and level of their responsibility is increased;
- the gaps of procedural legislation are eliminated, providing for effective proceedings within reasonable timeframes and consistent jurisprudence;

- Justice Sector Reform Strategy for 2015-2020
- National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations set out in the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in the eighth periodic report of Ukraine on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women until 2021
- State Target Program «National Action Plan Implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities» until 2020
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand,



- the efficient system of enforcement is in place, court judgments and other decisions are enforced within a reasonable timeframe, in particular through the introduction of private enforcement of judgments;
- the judicial system is simplified and its institutional capacity is built;
- processes of forming judiciary and bringing judges to liability are depoliticized and made in conformity with international standards;
- professional qualifications of judges are improved;
- the system of self-government in the judiciary is ensured;
- safeguards for professional activity of lawyers are ensured;
- quality standards of the free legal aid are improved, their observance is quaranteed;
- possibilities for providing primary and secondary free legal aid in civil and administrative cases are extended:
- high-quality and accessible legal aid is provided through the bar and efficient system of free legal aid;
- distribution of cases between the judges is carried out by the automated system only.

and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand $^{\prime\prime}$

5 Ensuring the freedom of thought and speech, of expression, access to information and free development of personality

- proper functioning of public broadcasting;
- principles of pluralism are observed, the information policy for protection and combatting cyberwar and eliminating the hate speech is implemented;
- the free activities of mass media are guaranteed, including in particular the freedom of editorial policy, transparent information about the ownership and sources of funding of mass media, and protection of professional activities and security of journalists;
- printed state and community media outlets are reformed, state regulation of the mass media is minimized;
- distinctions are made between the activities of official printed media outlets of state authorities, local self-government bodies and other mass media;
- the right to freedom of through and speech and free expression is guaranteed, this right may be only subject to such restrictions as are prescribed by law and are necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, territorial integrity or public safety, for the prevention of disorder or crime, protecting the health of the population, the reputation or rights of others, preventing the disclosure of information received in confidence or for maintaining the authority and impartiality of the judiciary;
- measures are taken to provide information to the disabled persons in the form best suitable for them;
- conditions are shaped for free development of a personality, in particular, by reforming the education system in Ukraine;

- Information Society Development Strategy of Ukraine (for 2013-2020)
- Concept of development of e-democracy in Ukraine
- State Target Program «National Action Plan Implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities» until 2020



- efficient access to information, including to public information, is provided;
 system of safeguards for public access to informational resources, including to the Internet, is provided.
- 6 Ensuring the freedom of peaceful assembly and association

Expected outcomes:

- positive commitments of the state with regard to the freedom of peaceful assembly, in particular to providing their security, are determined and observed;
- government intervention in the statutory activities of non-governmental organizations is prohibited, government intervention in the establishment, operation and termination of non-governmental organizations through registration procedures is minimized;
- equal and transparent access of non-governmental organizations to budget funding is secured:
- the procedures of state registration of religious organizations and endorsement of peaceful assemblies of religious organizations are improved;
- unreasoned and disproportional limitation of the right to peaceful assembly is made impossible.

• Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"

7 Ensuring the right to participate in public administration and vote in elections

Expected outcomes:

- the voting rights of citizens and transparency of appointing servants of state authorities and local self-government bodies through the elections are secured, consistency and sustainability of the national legislation on elections is ensured;
- conditions are shaped for the observance of voting rights of the disabled persons;
- the legislation on the national referendum is improved and the legislative framework for organization of local referenda is provided;
- conditions for introducing e-democracy are set;
- transparency and openness of the activities of state authorities and local self-government bodies are ensured, in particular through the access to public information;
- an efficient modality of cooperation between civil society organizations and state authorities and local self-government bodies is developed.

- The Open Government Partnership (OGP)
- Public Administration Reform Strategy (2016-2020)
- National Civil Society Development Strategy for 2016-2020
- Concept of development of e-democracy in Ukraine
- State Target Program «National Action Plan Implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities» until 2020
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"

8 Preventing and combating discrimination

- a comprehensive and consistent legislation in the area of preventing and combatting discrimination is adopted;
- awareness raising programs for citizens are delivered in order to prevent and combat discrimination;
- National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations set out in the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in the eighth periodic report of Ukraine on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women until 2021
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand,



- everyone is provided with unrestricted access to efficient legal protection from discrimination;
- non-discrimination and respect for diversity and observed and implemented, measures are taken to overcome social stereotypes leading to discrimination;
- appropriate and timely positive actions are taken at the national and local levels for the prevention and combatting discrimination, efficient and timely responses to new challenges are provided;
- responsibility is increased for the refusal to reasonably adjust infrastructure to the needs of disabled persons;
- crimes committed for reasons of racial, national, religious and other intolerance are efficiently investigated, while perpetrators are brought to liability;
- the procedure of anti-discrimination expert assessment of draft legal acts by executive authorities is improved;
- statistical data on violations of the law on preventing and combatting discrimination and on bringing perpetrators to liability are gathered and processed.

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9 Ensuring equal rights for women and men

Expected outcomes:

- international standards of gender equality are implemented, including at the legislative level;
- the mechanisms for ensuring equal rights and opportunities for women and men are improved;
- conditions are provided for balanced participation of women and men in the political processes and public decision-making;
- comprehensive measures are implemented to combat gender discrimination, including gender stereotypes;
- equal access to justice is provided.

- State Social Program on Providing Equal Rights and Opportunities for Women and Men up to 2021
- National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations set out in the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in the eighth periodic report of Ukraine on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women until 2021
- National Action Plan on Implementation of United Nations. Security Council Resolution 1325 "Women, Peace and Security" until 2020
- Anti-Trafficking Program till 2020
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"
- The President of Ukraine Decree "On Sustainable Development Goals of Ukraine for the period till 2030

10 Combating gender-based violence, human trafficking and slavery

- conditions necessary for the prevention and combating all forms of gender-based violence and human trafficking are in place;
- a system of care to survivors of human trafficking crimes is improved;

- National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations set out in the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in the eighth periodic report of Ukraine on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women until 2021
- Anti-Trafficking Program till 2020

- legal regulatory framework in the area of combatting gender-based violence is brought
 in line with international standards;
- crimes related to human trafficking, including those committed on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine and in the area of anti-terrorist operation in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, are effectively investigated;
- the principles of equality are observed while determining the working conditions, remuneration, mandatory state social insurance of persons detained in the detention facilities upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law;
- criminal liability is established for illegal use of labour of persons detained in the detention facilities upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law;
- legal framework is provided to the issues of labour therapy, in particular, the requirements are set with regard to organization of labour therapy in accordance with rehabilitation plan of a patient, regular assessment of efficiency of labour therapy by a doctor;
- strengthened control including civic control over the working conditions of persons detained in the detention facilities upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law.

- Concept of the State Social Programme on Prevention and Combating Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence until 2023
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"

11 Combatting domestic violence

Expected outcomes:

- efficient system to prevent and combat domestic violence is established, in particular, measures are taken to ensure that the authorized bodies are notified about domestic violence cases;
- the procedure of providing care to victims of domestic violence is improved, and the trainings for perpetrators on non-violent behaviour in inter-personal relations are implemented;
- awareness raising events for the population on problems and ways to combat domestic violence and the care available to victims of domestic violence are carried out;
- local measures are taken to prevent domestic violence.

12 Ensuring the rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples

- an effective mechanism to ensure and protect the rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples is established;
- comprehensive measures to meet the demands of citizens of Ukraine belonging to national minorities and indigenous peoples for social and other services are taken;
- an efficient mechanism is established for participation of representatives of national minorities and indigenous peoples in decision-making of state authorities and local self-

- Concept of the State Social Programme on Prevention and Combating Domestic Violence and Gender-Based Violence until 2023
- National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations set out in the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in the eighth periodic report of Ukraine on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women until 2021
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"
- Strategy for the Protection and Integration of the Roma National Minority Into Ukrainian Society up to 2020
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"



is established;

• the property rights are efficiently protected;

	government bodies on issues that concern the rights of national minorities and indigenous peoples; • a policy of inter-ethnic tolerance is implemented.	
13	 Ensuring the right to work and social security Expected outcomes: an effective system of social security that meets the capabilities of the state is established; funding sources of social security system alternative to the state are available; safe and healthy working environment is provided; protection of labour rights, including the right of citizens to establish trade unions, is guaranteed; social responsibility of business is strengthened, conditions for corporate social responsibility of economic entities are shaped; workplaces are reasonably adjusted for the disabled employees, they are provided with support at their workplaces; an efficient system of social service, including social case management and assisted living for the disabled, is in place. 	 Poverty Reduction Strategy (until 2020) Program of Activities of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations set out in the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in the eighth periodic report of Ukraine on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women until 2021 Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"
14	 Ensuring the right to health care Expected outcomes: compatibility of health care infrastructure with needs of local communities is provided; a guaranteed amount of health care provided at the expense of budget is ensured; rights of patients are protected; vulnerable populations are provided with access to health care; criteria for determining disability and providing the disabled persons with rehabilitation equipment and services are brought in line with the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health; equal access to high-quality health and social care of drug addicts, people living with HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis and other socially dangerous diseases is provided; measures are taken to prevent mental and intellectual disorders; the respective care is provided. 	 Emergency medical services system-Concept Program of Activities of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine State Target Program "National Action Plan Implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities" until 2020 Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"
15	Creating conditions for the freedom of entrepreneurship Expected outcomes: a system of taxation that promotes the development of small and medium enterprises is a stabilished.	 Program of Activities of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine The Strategy for the Development of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises in Ukraine for the period up to 2020 Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement

performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand,

• conditions for self-expression and development of a child are created;

• social orphanage and institutional care of children is prevented;



	 government intervention in the legal entrepreneurial activity is eliminated; government control over the entrepreneurial activity is minimized: in particular, strict regulations for the reasons and procedure of such control are provided by law; the right to start economic activities just by declaring it is provided. 	and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"
16	 Ensuring the right to education Expected outcomes: a network of pre-school, secondary, and extra-curricular educational institutions meets the needs of local communities; educational curricula encompass the issues of human rights education, including children rights and gender equality; inclusive education is implemented to enable the disabled persons to fulfil their right to education; equal rights to education are provided without privileges or discrimination on any grounds, including on the grounds of ethnic and social origin, economic status, place of residence and other grounds lifelong learning opportunities are provided 	 National Education Development Strategy of Ukraine until 2021 Program of Activities of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations set out in the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in the eighth periodic report of Ukraine on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women until 2021 State Target Program «National Action Plan Implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities» until 2020 Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"
17	 Ensuring the right to privacy Expected outcomes: efficient institutional mechanism for observing the right to privacy is established; efficient system of independent control over the protection of right to personal data in the activities of law enforcement authorities is introduced; cases of government intervention with the right to privacy are minimized and clearly regulated; the right to privacy is ensured for persons detained in detention facilities where they are detained upon the court or administrative decision pursuant to the law, in particular, when mandatory mental care is provided; standards of the protection of privacy right are observed with regard to videotaping; a system preventing the creation of excessive government databases and illegal intervention into privacy is established. 	Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"
18	Ensuring the rights of the child Expected outcomes: • efficient system for the protection of childhood is established;	 National Action Plan for the Implementation of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child for the period up to 2021 National Strategy for the Reform of the Juvenile Justice System until 2023

• Program of Activities of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine



- every decision made about child is based on the best interests of the child and takes into account the child's views, appropriate with the child's age and maturity;
- conditions for the development and upbringing of children in families or in the closest to family environment are created; the reform of boarding schools (institutions) is implemented, they are gradually eliminated;
- the child-friendly services especially medical, social, and legal services are introduced;
- all children have equal access to services necessary to them regardless of health, ethnic or social origin, religion, place of residence, citizenship and other grounds;
- the system of early intervention is introduced and functional in order to create favourable life conditions for children having development conditions, support is provided to families of these children, measures are taken to prevent the parents from refusing from their children having development conditions and incapacitation of children;
- an efficient system of juvenile justice is established in accordance with international standards:
- efficient measures aimed at the re-socialization and rehabilitation of minor convicts and former inmates are taken;
- children born on the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine and in settlements where state authorities temporarily do not perform or partially perform their duties are duly registered;
- the legislation on refugees and persons in need of additional and temporary protection is strictly observed with regard to children, including children separated from their families:
- the number of child survivors of violence and all forms of exploitation, as well as the children in conflict with the law is decreased;
- conditions are created to prevent the involvement of children in the armed conflicts, all possible measures are taken to ensure the protection of rights of children in the area of military operations and armed conflicts;
- minimal standards of security and well-being of the child are set;
- child neglect, homelessness, vagrancy are eliminated.

19 Ensuring the rights of refugees, persons in need of additional protection, foreigners and stateless persons legally staying in Ukraine

- the legislation on refugees and persons in need of additional protection is brought in line with the international standards;
- the measures for the integration of persons acknowledged as refugees or persons in need of additional protection in Ukraine, foreigners and stateless persons legally staying in Ukraine into Ukrainian society are implemented;
- Action Plan on integration of refugees and persons in need of complementary protection into the Ukrainian society for the period until 2020
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"



- appropriate conditions are provided for the person to apply for a status of a refugee or a person in need of additional protection, especially for children separated from their families: • rights to work, health care, education of the persons acknowledged as refugees or
- persons in need of additional protection in Ukraine are observed;
- conditions are shaped for the integration into Ukrainian society of persons acknowledged as refugees or persons in need of additional protection in Ukraine and of foreigners and stateless persons that legally stay in Ukraine for a long time.

The rights of participants of anti-terrorist operation 20

Expected outcomes:

- the legislative regulation of the status of certain categories of participants of anti-terrorist operation is provided;
- the adequate material and technical conditions for the participants of anti-terrorist operation for the period of this operation are provided;
- a system for social, medical, and psychological rehabilitation of the participants of antiterrorist operation and their families is established for them to get back to normal
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"

Protection of the rights of internally displaced persons 21

Expected outcomes:

- the basic livelihood needs of internally displaced persons are provided;
- comprehensive measures are taken to support and maintain social adaptation of citizens of Ukraine who moved from the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine and the area of anti-terrorist operation to other regions of Ukraine;
- social rights of internally displaced persons are observed and protected, their educational and other needs are met;
- conditions are created for voluntary return of internally displaced persons to their former permanent places of residence;
- efficient mechanisms for promoting the observance and restoration of rights and freedoms of internally displaced persons are introduced;
- international legal mechanisms for the protection of rights and freedoms of internally displaced persons are used.

- Strategy of Integration of Internally Displaced Persons and Implementation of Long-Term Solutions to Internal Displacement until 2020
- Action Plan for Implementation of the Strategy of Integration of Internally Displaced Persons and Implementation of Long-Term Solutions to Internal Displacement until 2020
- Program of Activities of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine
- National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations set out in the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in the eighth periodic report of Ukraine on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women until 2021
- Targeted State Program for Recovery and Peacebuilding in the Eastern Regions of Ukraine
- Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"
- Strategy for Information Reintegration of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol

Implementation of all the necessary measures in order to protect the rights of persons 22 living in the temporarily occupied territory



	 Expected outcomes: the measures aimed to protect the rights of citizens of Ukraine residing in the temporarily occupied territory are implemented, including through the available bilateral and multilateral international legal mechanisms. 	• Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"
23	 Ensuring the rights of persons living in the settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk regions where state authorities temporarily do not perform or partially perform their duties Expected outcomes: the basic livelihood needs of citizens of Ukraine living in the respective settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk regions are provided; the adequate conditions for paying social benefits to such citizens are created, measures are taken to observe their rights to health care and education; a safe environment for voluntary movement of such citizens to other regions of Ukraine is created; the access to justice for such citizens is restored and the crimes committed in the respective settlements of Donetsk and Luhansk regions are investigated. 	 Strategy of Information Reintegration of Donetsk and Luhansk Regions Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "About agreement performance about association between Ukraine, on the one hand, and the European Union, European Atomic Energy Community and their state members, on the other hand"
24	Release of hostages and restoration of their rights Expected outcomes: an effective system for the liberation of hostages is established; the rights of the released persons to primary medical and legal assistance are observed; the system of social – including psychological – rehabilitation of the released individuals and their families is put in operation; crimes on kidnapping people and taking hostages are effectively investigated.	
25	 Raising awareness of human rights in cooperation with non-governmental and international organizations, a national programme of human rights education is developed and adopted, which includes a clear evaluation and implementation monitoring system; international standards of human rights are introduced in the curricula of the secondary, vocational and higher educational institutions; human rights standards are integrated to the requirements of professional competence of individuals engaged in law making and law enforcement; the awareness raising of human rights is regularly and systematically carried out in the society, including through alternative communication means and easy language in order to disseminate knowledge about human rights and freedoms. 	 The Concept of civic education development in Ukraine National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Recommendations set out in the Concluding Observations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women in the eighth periodic report of Ukraine on the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women until 2021