UNITED NATIONS
UKRAINE

Kingdom of the Netherlands

SUMMARY OF RESULTS

SURVEY OF COMMUNITY SECURITY
AND CIVIL PROTECTION IN THE

BERDIANSK, KYRYLIVKA, PRYMORSK, YALTA

COMMUNITIES

2020

Image credit: Independent Researching Group

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

Aim of the study:

to conduct a comprehensive assessment of community security and civil protection in four communities in the Sea of Azov region of Zaporizhzhia and Donetsk oblasts (Berdiansk, Kyrylivka, Prymorsk, and Yalta) and provide recommendations on how to improve them.
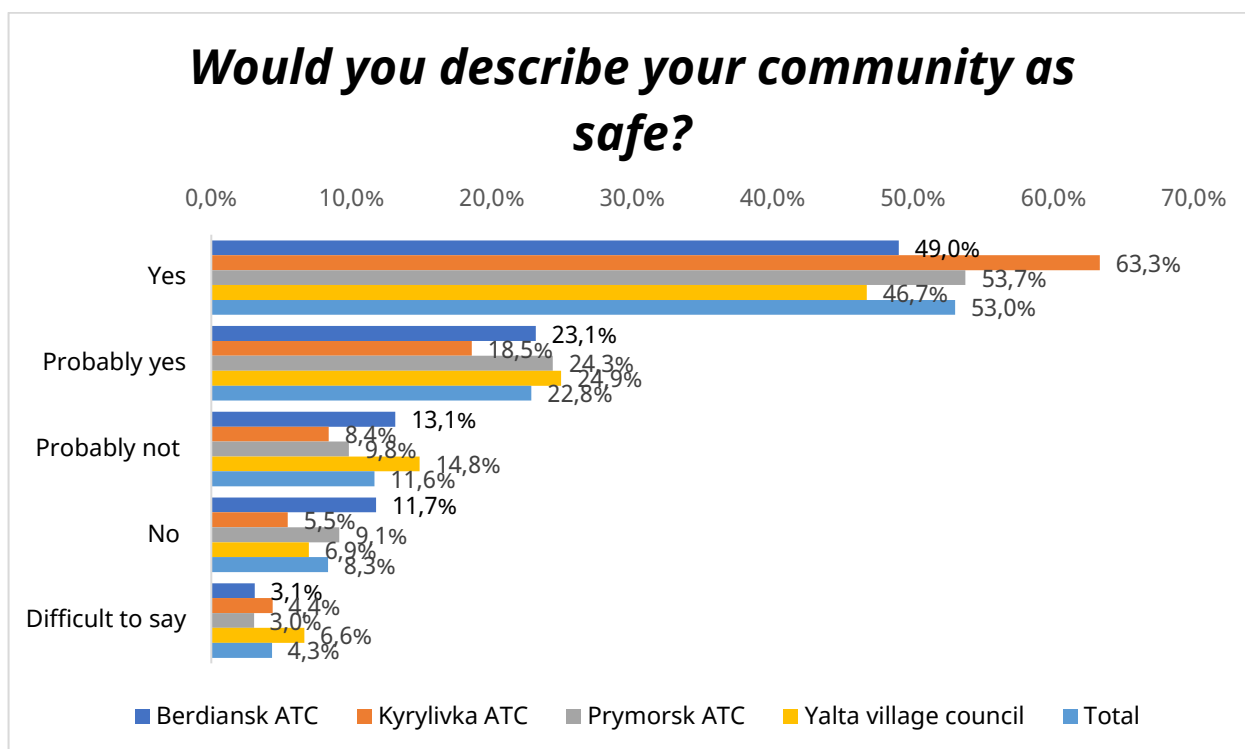
Tasks of the study:

- to assess local safety issues from the perspective of community members, particularly in terms of gender.
- to evaluate the institutional capacity of certain police units to provide police services to community members.
- to assess the institutional capacity of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine and the fire and rescue units of local and voluntary fire brigades to ensure a rapid and appropriate response to emergency situations.
- to evaluate partnership initiatives for interaction between police and communities.

Methods used:

This is a comprehensive study comprising several activities**: eight in-depth interviews** with key informants (representatives of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine, police, and local authorities), **eight focus group discussions** with a total of 73 persons from different age and social groups (including local activists, representatives of local authorities and security service providers, and ordinary citizens), and **surveys of 1,200 community members**.
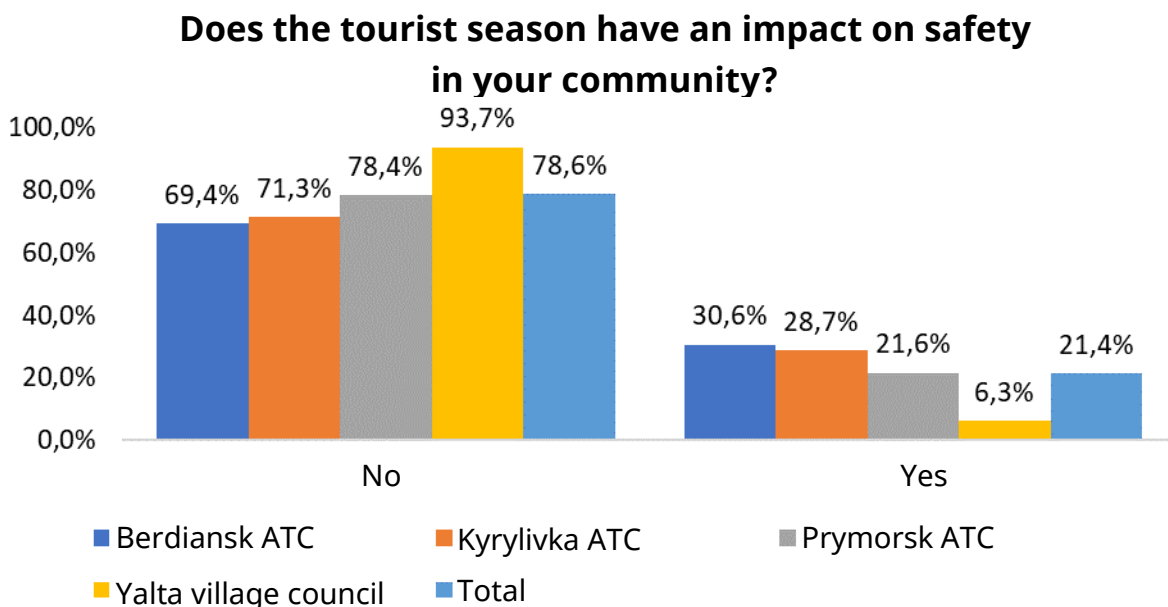
CONCLUSIONS

1. The Kyrylivka community has the most positive perception of its community as being safe, while the lowest number of community residents who consider their community to be safe was observed in the Yalta village council.

Would you describe your community as safe?

	0,0%	10,0%	20,0%	30,0%	40,0%	50,0%	60,0%	70,0%

Yes
- 49,0%
- 63,3%
- 53,7%
- 46,7%
- 53,0%

Probably yes
- 23,1%
- 18,5%
- 24,3%
- 24,9%
- 22,8%

Probably not
- 13,1%
- 8,4%
- 9,8%
- 14,8%
- 11,6%

No
- 11,7%
- 5,5%
- 9,1%
- 6,9%
- 8,3%

Difficult to say
- 3,1%
- 4,4%
- 3,0%
- 6,6%
- 4,3%

■ Berdiansk ATC　■ Kyrylivka ATC　■ Prymorsk ATC　■ Yalta village council　■ Total

Would you describe your community as safe?

2. Residents of all communities feel unsafe both in public places and at home. This indicates an increased level of anxiety, as a significant number of people are living in constant tension and do not feel protected.

3. Above all, the main safety concerns of the population are theft, fraud, unemployment, and poor financial standing.

4. The police force is not fully staffed in all communities and there is a lack of logistics and maintenance support for police (a lack of cars and adequate repairs).

5. There is currently a lack of funds to ensure community security, and there is a need to improve street lighting, install cameras in public areas, and repair road surfaces, water pipes, sewerage systems, power line towers and more.

6. The tourist season affects the lives of ordinary people in these communities in different ways. The biggest impact on safety has been recorded in the Berdiansk and Kyrylivka communities. The incidence of theft, fights, and public alcohol consumption is increasing in all communities, but the communities mentioned have the highest number of such incidents.

Does the tourist season have an impact on safety in your community?

	No	Yes
Berdiansk ATC	69,4%	30,6%
Kyrylivka ATC	71,3%	28,7%
Prymorsk ATC	78,4%	21,6%
Yalta village council	93,7%	6,3%
Total	78,6%	21,4%

7. Most community members do not consider their communities to be cohesive. This issue is particularly pressing for the Berdiansk and Prymorsk communities. This indicates the need to implement measures to improve social cohesion.
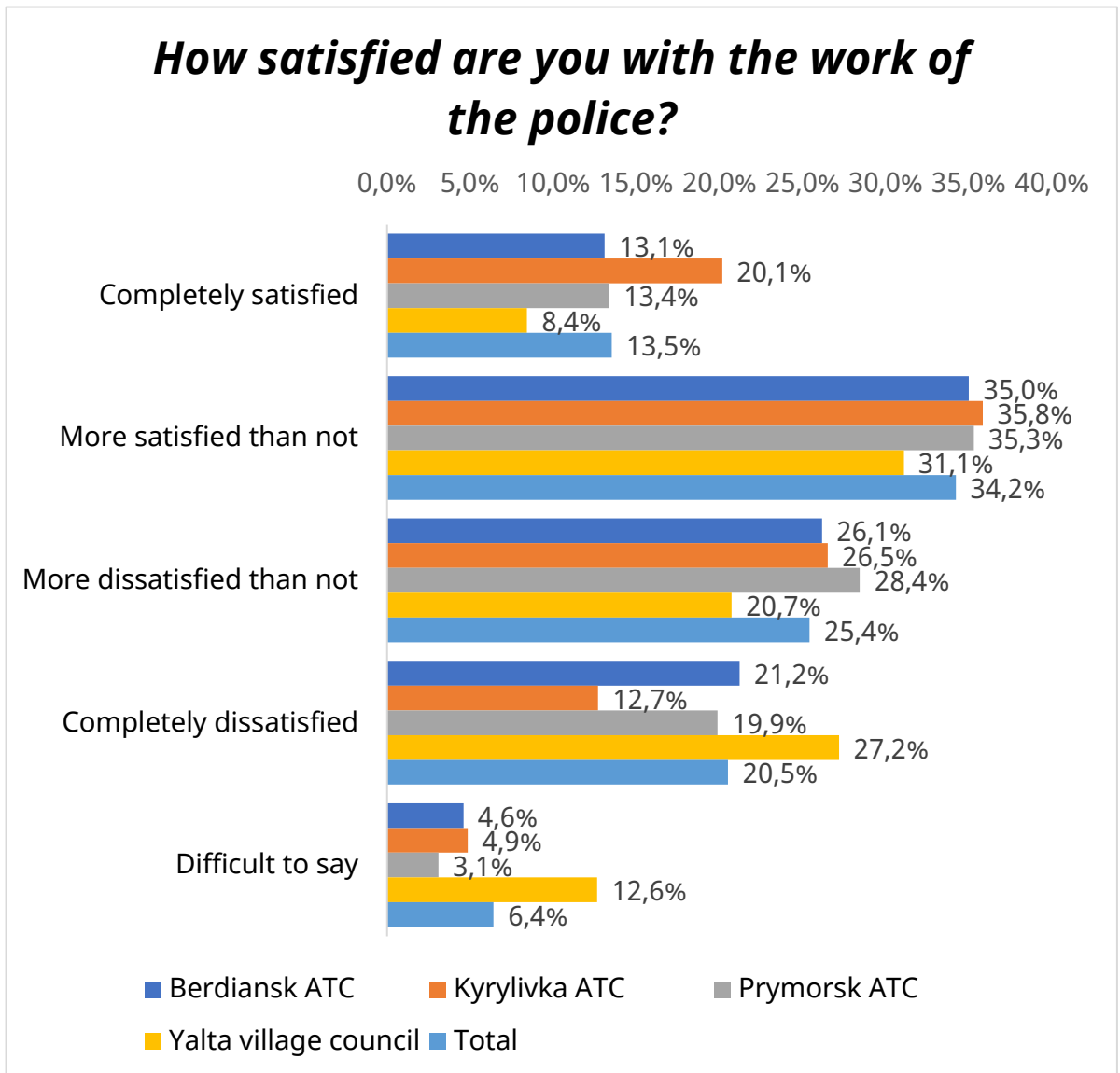
8. The level of trust in legal proceedings and law enforcement authorities in the communities surveyed is low. Satisfaction with the work of courts and prosecutors is lowest among state and local government institutions.

9. Specialised support services for victims of domestic and gender-based violence are important for the communities. The Berdiansk community is the only one to have such services, while in others, support services are assigned to social services. In the case of the Yalta and Kyrylivka communities, these services are not even located within the communities, but in the Manhush and Yakymivka district centres respectively.

10. People feel the highest level of protection against threats to their rights, freedoms, and hunger. They feel the lowest level of protection against fraud and arbitrary behaviour by the authorities.

11. The most vulnerable and unprotected groups include older people, people with disabilities, children, and women.

12. Assessments of the police are polarized, but the number of negative assessments is higher. The Yalta village council community displays the largest number of people dissatisfied with the work of the police.

How satisfied are you with the work of the police?

	Berdiansk ATC	Kyrylivka ATC	Prymorsk ATC	Yalta village council	Total
Completely satisfied	13,1%	20,1%	13,4%	8,4%	13,5%
More satisfied than not	35,0%	35,8%	35,3%	31,1%	34,2%
More dissatisfied than not	26,1%	26,5%	28,4%	20,7%	25,4%
Completely dissatisfied	21,2%	12,7%	19,9%	27,2%	20,5%
Difficult to say	4,6%	4,9%	3,1%	12,6%	6,4%

13. Residents' awareness of partnership projects between the police and communities is very low, with the majority of residents unaware of such projects.

14. Assessments of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine are polarized. However, this reflects a general lack of trust in government authorities (especially those with a controlling function), rather than a justified dissatisfaction with the work of a specific rescue unit.

15. Units of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine in these communities lack funding and require better logistics and maintenance support.

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Encourage all communities to improve interaction between local authorities and civil organisations to jointly seek fundraising ideas (state and non-state funding mechanisms for urgent projects to improve community protection) and to develop projects and project proposals. However, all these communities lack the resources to implement the required projects.

2. Recruit residents into the police force to ensure that community police units are adequately staffed.

3. Conduct systematic police work to combat fraud, theft, disturbance of public peace, fighting, alcohol consumption in public places, and drug distribution. This involves increased patrolling and the implementation of partnership projects between the police and society (such as Neighbourhood Watch, Safe City, etc.).

4. Many projects can be realised with the inclusion of public organisations and non-governmental foundations by local authorities. The most pressing projects are those to improve street lighting, install cameras in public places, repair road surfaces, and renovate power supply lines, water pipes, and sewers.

5. Introduce measures to improve social cohesion and implement projects to encourage civic engagement. The creation of hubs (in communities where they do not already exist), the introduction of public budgets, and an increase in public awareness can be effective in this area.

6. Implement projects to build a positive image of the police and courts and improve the qualifications of police officers. Monitor the transparency and legality of the work of local judges with public representatives.

7. Raise public and police awareness of partnership-based cooperation and use such cooperation to implement projects informing the public about what actions to take in the event of offences, undertake activities to prevent offences, etc. Provide support and safety for older people, people with disabilities, children, women, single mothers, teenage orphans, and single people through cooperation between

the police and representatives of the above-mentioned social groups and the implementation of preventive measures with them.

8. Increase awareness among residents about projects implemented by the National Police.

9. Establish transparent conditions for State Emergency Service of Ukraine control and the compliance of enterprises with required safety conditions by informing business entities of fire safety rules and regulations and applying sanctions in the event of failure to comply with them.

10. Create new rescue units or strengthen existing ones, and add new maintenance personnel to units of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine.