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**UNIVERSITY OF
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Project UUT11

«Suffering into hope for the future»: status of vulnerable women and children in Ukraine and identification of post-conflict solutions to support their reintegration and re-socialisation»

ANALYTICAL RESEARCH

**ANALYSIS OF THE INTERACTION OF
VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS WITH
VULNERABLE WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM
DISPLACED PERSONS**



Odesa, 2023

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This research was carried out within the framework of the international project "Suffering in hope for the future: the status of vulnerable women and children in Ukraine and the determination of post-conflict solutions to support their reintegration and resocialization" [1], which is implemented *thanks to the UK-Ukraine Twinning grant scheme, funded by Research England with the support of International Universities of Great Britain and UK Research and Innovation.*

The focus of this research on the impact of the military conflict on the affected women and children in Ukraine is to analyze the help they can receive from the environment, including from charitable organizations. Accordingly, the participation and contribution to the assistance of professionals from social services, non-governmental organizations, charitable foundations and volunteer organizations, individual volunteers who work with vulnerable women and children from displaced persons were analyzed.

The analysis is based on an online survey of 213 professionals from social services, non-governmental organizations, charitable foundations and volunteer organizations, individual volunteers with the aim of obtaining data on conflict victims and opportunities to help these people.

Grouping of results

The results of the research are structured into 7 groups in accordance with the questionnaire on the aspects of interaction between charitable organizations and internally displaced persons from among women and children who are victims of the conflict [2]:

1. General questions.
2. Demographic characteristics of specialists involved in providing services to victims (role, gender, age, experience).
3. Interaction with displaced persons (including frequency of interaction, severity of the situation encountered (physical violence, sexual violence, other), place of origin (location and urban/rural environment).
4. Identified humanitarian needs.
5. Interventions identified for displaced victims (type, frequency, training of specialists).
6. The impact of working with displaced women and children on professionals of aid organizations (including welfare).
7. Willingness/receptivity of local authorities to support migrant women and children.

Obtained results

1. General questions

According to the terms of the project, the survey is purely voluntary and anonymous, so the participants were required to give their consent to the survey.

A total of 213 people took part in the survey, but 2 (0.9%) people refused to give their consent to data processing, so the total number of processed questionnaires is 211.

All survey participants confirmed that they were familiar with the project abstract.

2. Demographic characteristics of specialists involved in the provision of services (role, gender, age, experience)

People from 18 to 70 years of age and older took part in the research (Fig. 1).

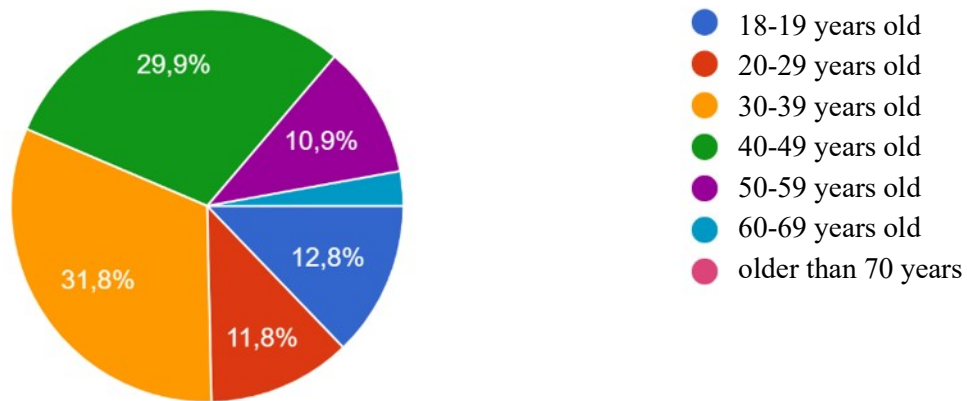


Figure 1 – Age structure of respondents represented by voluntary and charitable organizations, municipal services, volunteers and benefactors

The majority of respondents who took part in the research were aged 30 to 39 years - 31.8% of the total number of people. Also, many participants are between 40 and 49 years old - 29.9%, which indicates that young, active people mostly participate in the process of providing assistance to victims (Fig. 2).

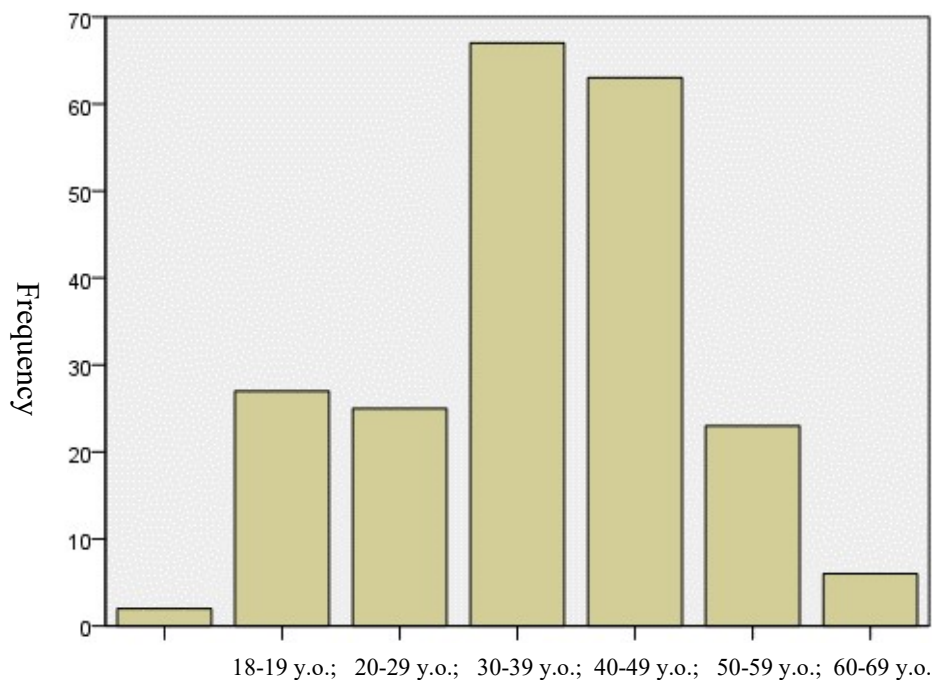


Figure 2 – Frequency distribution of respondents by age
(data processing using IBM SPSS Statistics)



As for the gender factor, the research shows that the majority of respondents who took part are women - 82.9%, the other 17.1% are men, the rest are absent (Fig. 3).

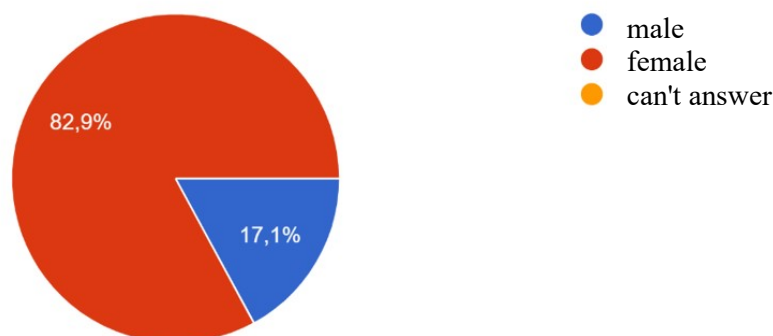


Figure 3 – Distribution of respondents by gender

The research analyzed the status of respondents in relation to volunteer activities aimed at helping internally displaced persons, especially women and children (Fig. 4).

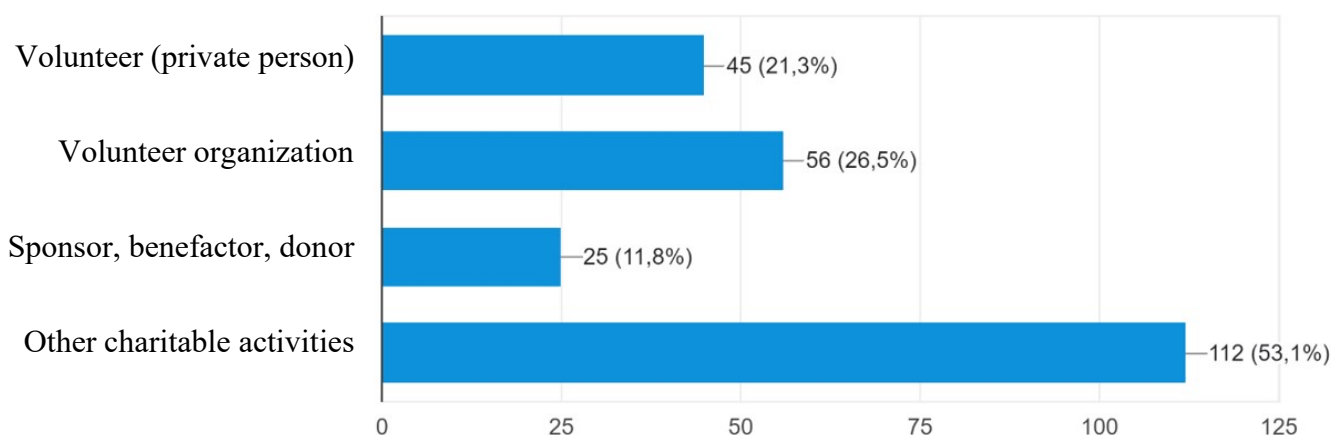


Figure 4 – Analysis of respondents' status regarding volunteering/charitable activities

It was established that 26.5% of respondents represent volunteer organizations, 21.3% are volunteers (private individuals), 11.8% are benefactors, and the majority of respondents - 53.1% - are engaged in other charitable activities.

Thus, the research covers all aspects of volunteering/charity activities and helps to understand the structure of assistance to internally displaced persons.

The regional section of the research shows that the majority of surveyed benefactors are located in the Odesa region (65.4%), but cover many other regions of Ukraine and abroad (Fig. 5).

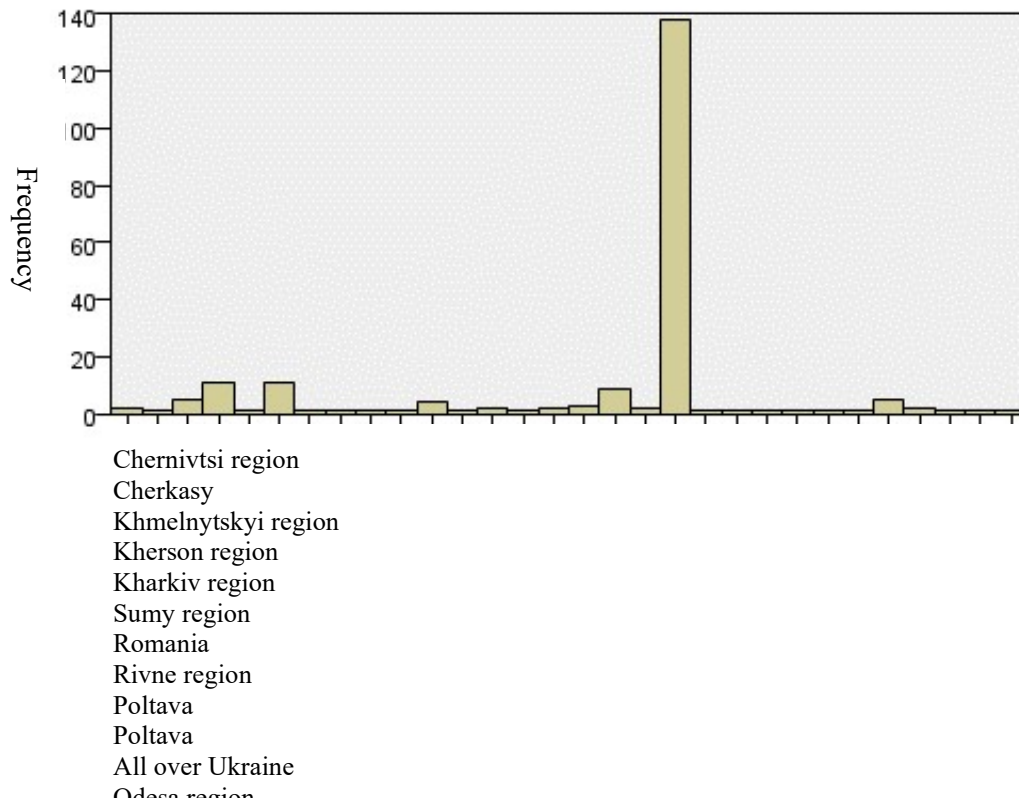
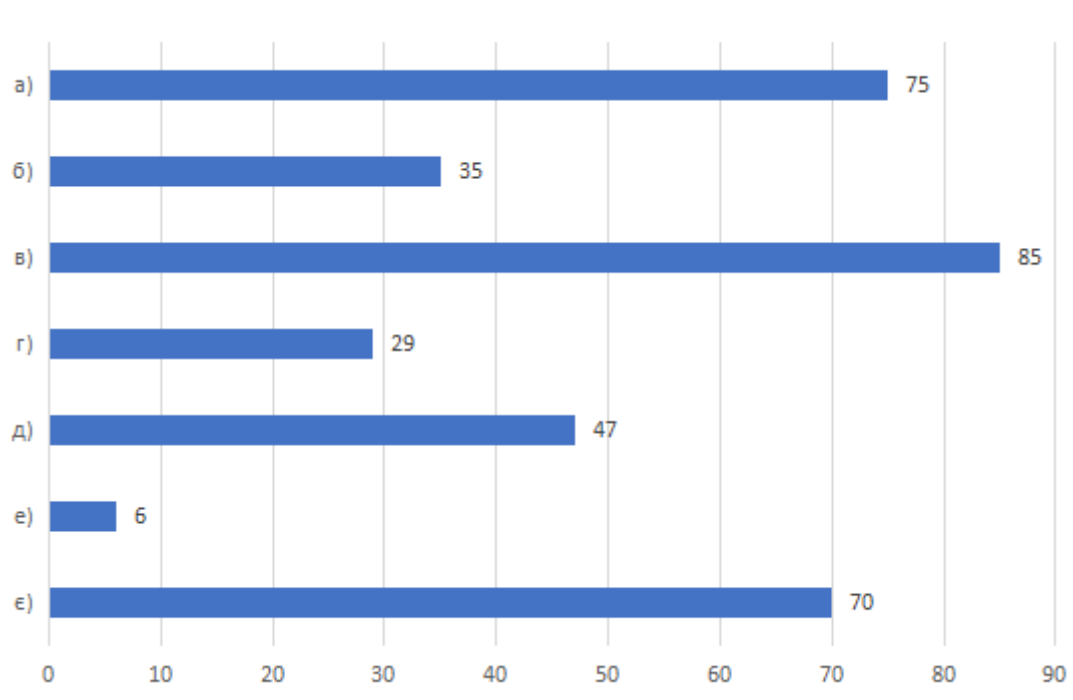


Figure 5 – Frequency distribution of respondents by region
(data processing using IBM SPSS Statistics)

The analysis of respondents' directions for volunteering is shown in Fig. 6.

The results indicate that the majority of respondents - 85 (40.3%) are engaged in providing assistance to citizens who have suffered as a result of an emergency situation of a man-made or natural nature, the action of a special period, legal regimes of emergency or martial law, conducting an anti-terrorist operation, implementing measures to ensure of national security and defense, repelling and deterring the armed aggression of the Russian Federation in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as a result of social conflicts, accidents, as well as victims of criminal offenses, refugees, internally displaced persons, which emphasizes the impact of the conflict on people.

At the same time, 35.5% (75 people) of respondents indicated that they provide volunteer assistance with the aim of supporting the low-income, the unemployed, those with many children, the homeless, the homeless, and those in need of social rehabilitation. 33.2% (70 people) provide volunteer assistance in other areas not prohibited by law. 47 people (22.3%) provide volunteer assistance to the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other military formations, law enforcement agencies, state authorities during a special period, legal regimes of emergency or martial law, conducting an anti-terrorist operation, implementing measures to ensure national security and defense, repulse and deterrence of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions.



- a) provision of volunteer assistance for the purpose of supporting the low-income, unemployed, those with many children, the homeless, the homeless, persons in need of social rehabilitation;
- b) providing care for the sick, disabled, lonely, elderly and other persons who, due to their physical, material or other characteristics, need support and assistance;
- c) providing assistance to citizens who suffered as a result of an emergency situation of a man-made or natural nature, the action of a special period, legal regimes of a state of emergency or martial law, conducting an anti-terrorist operation, implementing measures to ensure national security and defense, repelling and deterring the armed aggression of the Russian Federation in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, as a result of social conflicts, accidents, as well as victims of criminal offenses, refugees, internally displaced persons;
- d) providing assistance to persons who, due to their physical or other disabilities, are limited in the realization of their rights and legitimate interests;
- e) provision of volunteer assistance to the Armed Forces of Ukraine, other military formations, law enforcement agencies, state authorities during a special period, legal regimes of emergency or martial law, conducting an anti-terrorist operation, implementing measures to ensure national security and defense, repelling and deterring armed aggression of the Russian Federation in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions;
- f) provision of medical assistance, rehabilitation assistance during the period of martial law in Ukraine and within the period established by law after its termination or cancellation;
- g) provision of volunteer assistance in other areas not prohibited by law.

Figure 6 – Directions of volunteering

It can be stated that respondents participated in the research covering all types of volunteer activities, which is not prohibited by the state according to current legislation. But it is not possible to unequivocally define deficient (absent) areas of assistance, since 33.2% of respondents (70 people) provide volunteer assistance in other areas not prohibited by law. To clarify them, additional research should be conducted or detailed data from this group of respondents should be included. Without this, it is difficult to determine which areas of assistance may be missing in the specified research.

As for the time during which volunteer activities are carried out, the majority of respondents - 61.1% have been engaged in this business for 1 year (Fig. 7), which:

- on the one hand, it emphasizes the emergence of the need for volunteer activities precisely during the conflict, because more and more people need help,

including due to the emergence of internally displaced persons, and the state is not able to fully provide this help;

– on the other hand, it may also indicate that many people become volunteers in response to a conflict or crisis situation, when the need for help is greatest.

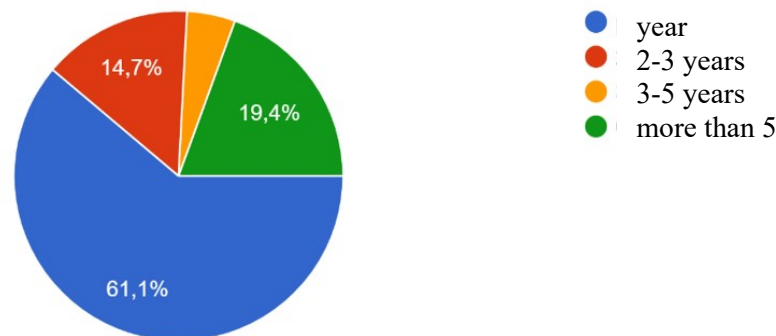


Figure 7 – Time analysis of volunteering/charity activities

But there are also many organizations that have been engaged in volunteering for more than 5 years, they make up 19.4% of the total number of responses, 14.7% have been involved for 2-3 years, and 4.7% have been engaged in volunteering or charitable activities for 3-5 years.

The data indicate the following groups of participants in volunteer activities in the context of a conflict or crisis situation:

1. Short term of volunteering (up to 1 year): this is the majority of respondents (61.1%). This may indicate that many people volunteer in response to a conflict or crisis situation when the need for help is greatest.

2. Long-term volunteering (more than 5 years): there are organizations and individuals who have been volunteering for more than 5 years (19.4%). This indicates the persistence and delay of volunteer initiatives over time, perhaps due to ongoing social problems or the need for continued assistance.

3. Average terms of volunteering (2-5 years): A significant share of respondents (19.4%) also indicated the average terms of volunteering. Moreover, a clear differentiation indicates a threefold excess of shorter terms over longer ones: 2-3 years (14.7%) versus 3-5 years (4.7%). This may indicate that a certain number of volunteers find stable and long-term employment in this field, making efforts over a period of time.

These data highlight the diversity of the duration of volunteering, from short-term response to a crisis situation to long-term commitment of volunteers over a number of years.

3. Interaction with displaced persons (including frequency of interaction, severity of the situation encountered (physical violence, sexual violence, other), place of origin (location and urban/rural environment)



In the course of the research, it was found that the overwhelming number - 90.5% of volunteers and organizations during the war provide assistance specifically to vulnerable categories of the population (Fig. 8).

Do you provide assistance to vulnerable populations during wartime?

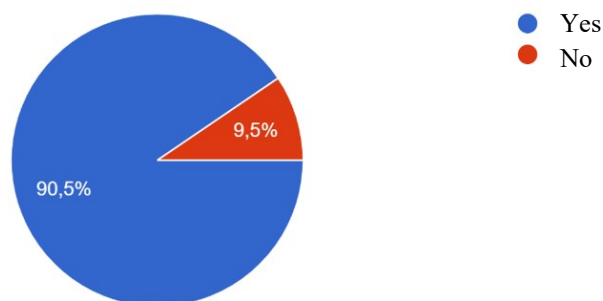


Figure 8 – Availability of assistance to vulnerable categories of the population

This once again emphasizes that the war changes the target audience of volunteer organizations and public (municipal, public, etc.) structures, which are forced to provide more help to the victims during the military conflict.

The analysis of volunteer aid by categories of vulnerable population (Fig. 9) was carried out on the basis of the results of the questionnaire of 192 respondents who answered positively to the previous question about the provision of aid to vulnerable categories of the population.

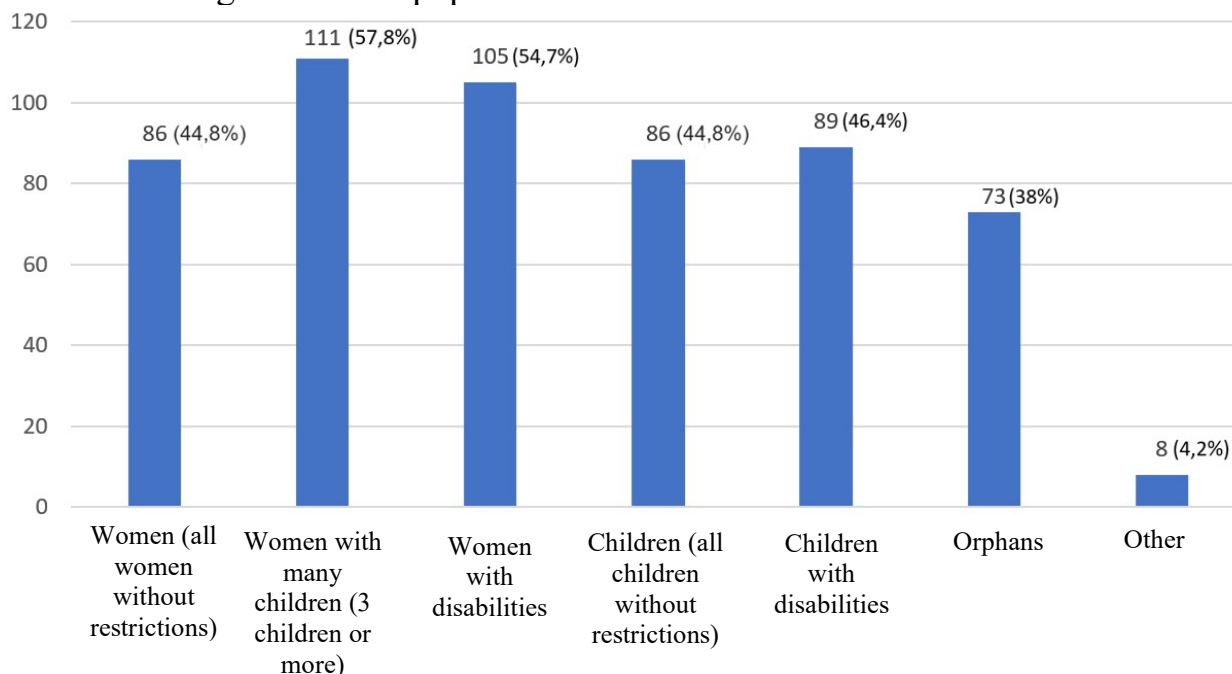


Figure 9 – Voluntary assistance by vulnerable population categories

The results show that the majority (57.8%) of volunteer organizations provide assistance to women with many children, as well as women with disabilities - 54.7%. But volunteer assistance to one degree or another is provided to all categories of women and children affected during the conflict (38-46.4%).

Therefore, it is possible to draw a *conclusion about the mass provision of assistance to all vulnerable categories of the population affected by the military conflict.*

An analysis of the victims and their requests for help was also carried out regionally (Fig. 10). As can be seen from the above results, volunteer organizations that participated in the survey work with victims from all regions of Ukraine. But it can be observed that there are more victims who turn to volunteer organizations for help from the Kherson (64%), Donetsk (56.9%), Mykolaiv (56.3%) and Kharkiv (48.2%) regions, which once again emphasizes that most of the victims were close to the front line, where active hostilities are taking place. That is, *there is a certain attraction of victims to help on the spot or as close as possible to their place of residence.*

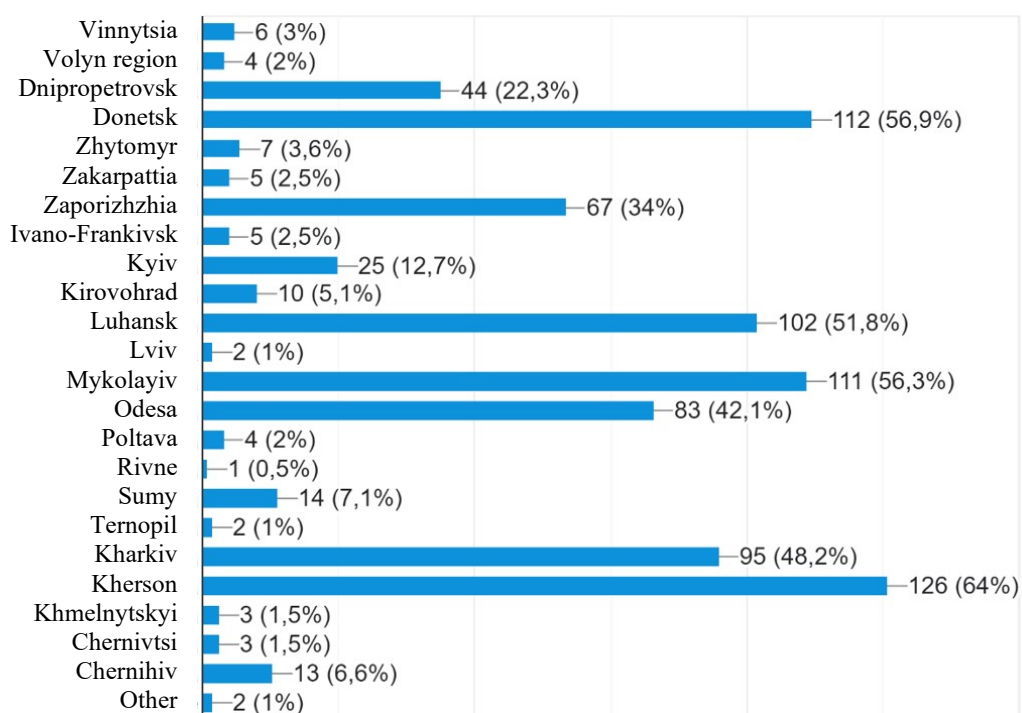


Figure 10 – Analysis of appeals of affected women and children in a regional section to volunteer and charity organizations, municipal services

In the process of research, the emotional and ethical complex question of violence in wartime constantly arises. During the analysis of the survey of affected women and children, it was established that 61.7% of the respondents experienced any violence, most of whom are prone to psychological (emotional) (43.9%) and economic (41.1%) violence [3, 4]. Understanding the need to comprehensively investigate this phenomenon, this research analyzed how vulnerable categories of the population, namely women and children who suffered violence during the war, turn to volunteer organizations (Fig. 11).



Have you received any appeals from people who suffered violence during the war?

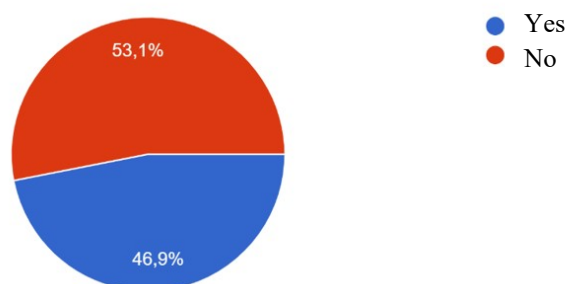


Figure 11 – Analysis of the appeals of people who experienced violence during the war

Horrifying survey data show that 46.9% of people who turned to volunteer organizations for help experienced violence during the war. At the same time, the results of this research fully correlate with previous findings regarding violence experienced by women and children. Thus, 74% of the volunteer organizations that took part in the survey noted that they were approached for help by people experiencing psychological (emotional) violence, and 51.2% - drew attention to the fact that victims of economic violence turned to them, 48% experienced physical violence and 12.2% of volunteers emphasized that they were approached by people who experienced sexual violence during the war (Fig. 12).

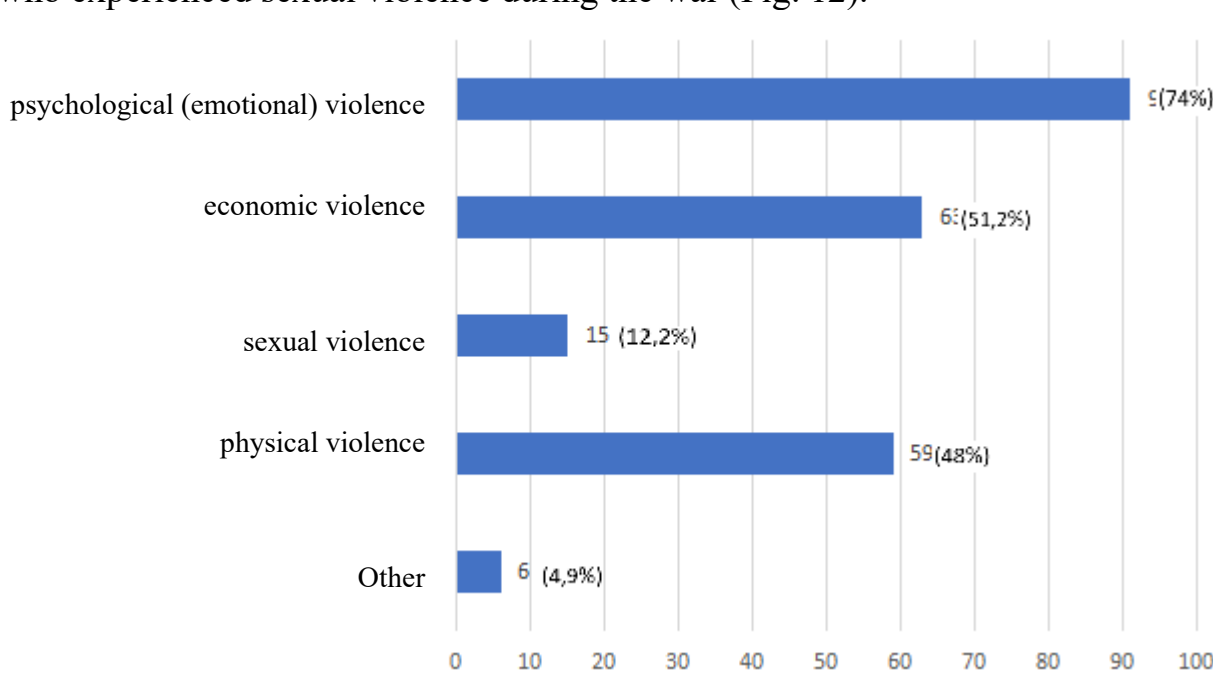


Figure 12 - Recording of facts of different types of violence experienced by people who sought help from charitable organizations and municipal services

Corresponding results were obtained regarding the provision of assistance to victims of violence by volunteer organizations (Fig. 13).

The statistics of the analysis show that the majority of volunteer organizations - 74.4% provide assistance to victims of psychological violence, 44.4% - provide

assistance to victims of economic violence, 26.5% of volunteer organizations that took part in the survey take care of victims of physical violence, 16.1% provide assistance to victims of sexual violence.

From what types of violence do you / your organization provide assistance to vulnerable categories of the population?

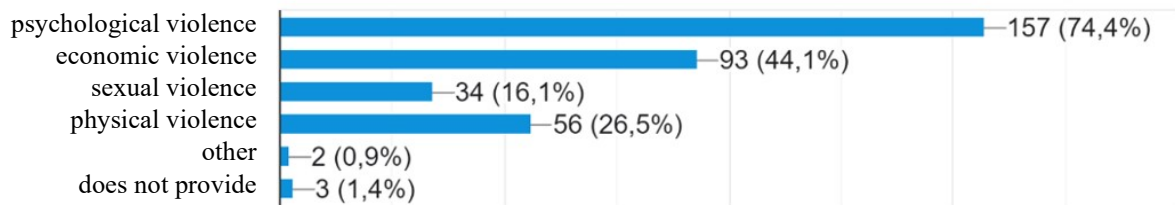


Figure 13 – Analysis of assistance provided to victims of violence by volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal services

It can be concluded that:

- violence during war is a big problem that needs to be solved at all levels of state administration and society in order to provide assistance to persons affected not only by the consequences of war, but also prone to violence;

- volunteer organizations focus their assistance widely, on different aspects of violence, which is important in the context of social support and rehabilitation. The most widespread area of assistance is psychological violence (74.4%). This shows that volunteers understand the importance of psychosocial support and psychological rehabilitation for victims;

- a significant part of volunteer organizations provides assistance to economically affected persons (44.4%), which indicates their awareness of the need for economic support to restore stability and independence of households;

- a certain part of volunteer organizations undertook to help victims of physical, sexual and other types of violence. This testifies to the diversity of assistance and readiness to cover various aspects of the problems of violence in society.

Summarizing, it can be stated that voluntary and charitable organizations, municipal and national services *show a high level of sensitivity to various forms of violence and actively direct their efforts to provide assistance and support to victims in these areas.*

4. Identified humanitarian needs

In the course of the research, questions were raised regarding the identification of humanitarian needs of women and children affected by the military conflict, who turn to volunteer/charity organizations, municipal and other services for help.

With the help of an on-line survey, it was found out what help the vulnerable categories of the population, shown in fig. 14.



What help do vulnerable categories of the population most often need?

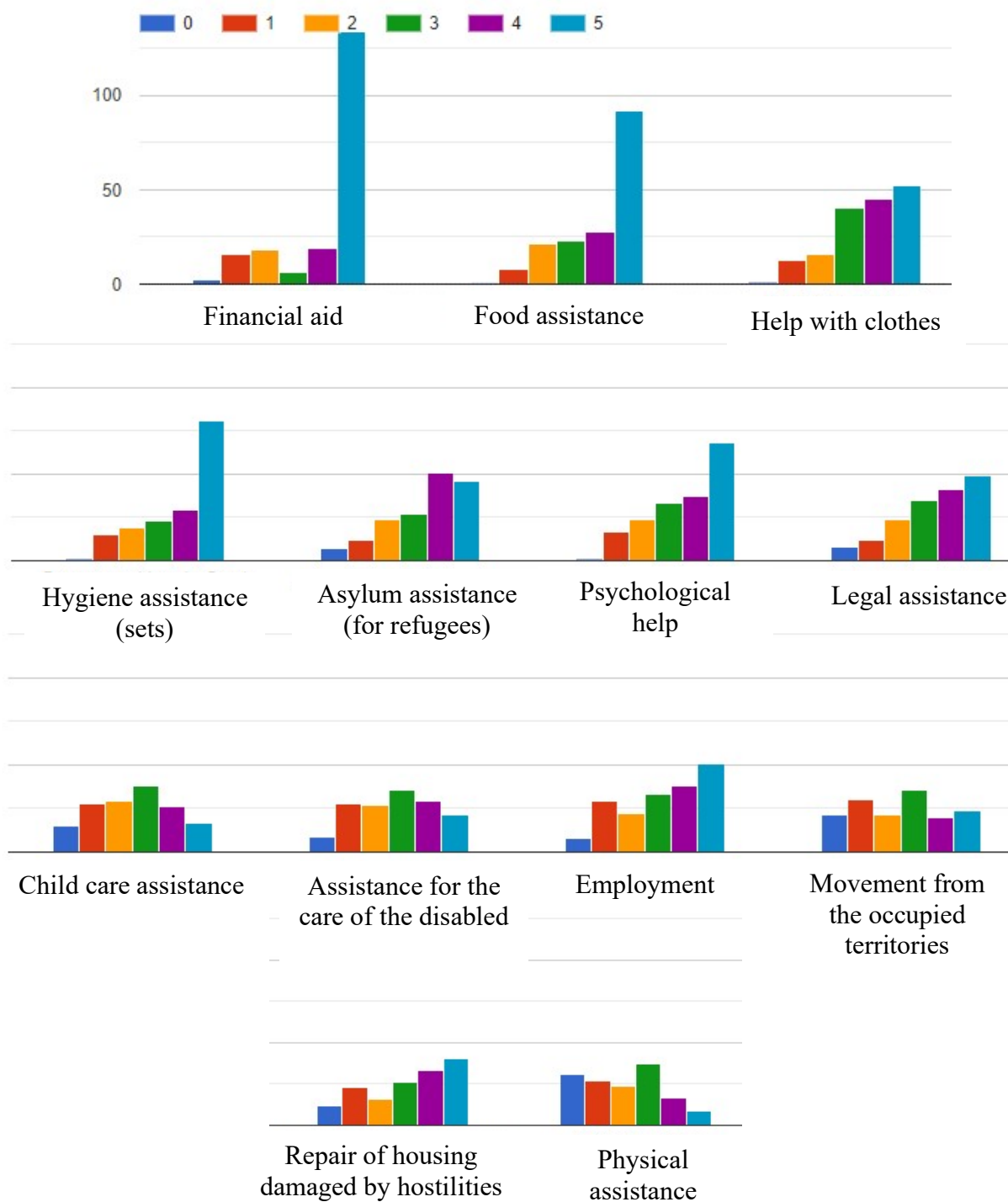


Figure 14 - Results of the survey on the needs of vulnerable categories of the population by types of assistance

The researchers were asked to choose several types of assistance:

- cash assistance;
- food assistance;
- help with providing clothes;
- assistance in providing hygiene products;

- refugee shelter;
 - psychological assistance;
 - legal assistance;
 - taking care of children;
 - care for the disabled;
 - employment;
 - movement from the occupied territories;
 - repair of housing damaged by hostilities;
 - physical assistance;
- which had to be evaluated on a 5-point scale:
 0 – do not need help,
 5 - most often need one or another type of help.

The results of the survey on this issue were processed using the *IBM SPSS Statistics* software and summarized in the table. 1.

Table 1 – Analysis of the needs for assistance by vulnerable categories of the population according to volunteer/charity organizations, municipal and other services

Type of help	Rating scale												Missing values	
	0		1		2		3		4		5			
	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%	number	%
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Financial assistance	2	0,9	16	7,5	18	8,5	6	2,8	19	8,9	134	62,9	18	8,5
Food assistance	0	0	8	3,8	21	9,9	23	10,8	28	13,1	92	43,2	41	19,2
Help with providing clothes	1	0,5	13	6,1	16	7,5	40	18,8	45	21,1	52	24,4	46	21,6
Assistance in providing hygiene products	1	0,5	15	7,0	19	8,9	23	10,8	29	13,6	81	38,0	45	21,1
Shelter for refugees	7	3,3	12	5,6	24	11,3	27	12,7	51	23,9	46	21,6	46	21,6
Psychological help	1	0,5	17	8,0	24	11,3	33	15,5	37	17,4	68	31,9	33	15,5
Legal assistance	8	3,8	12	5,6	24	11,3	35	16,4	41	19,2	49	23,0	44	20,7
Babysitting	15	7,0	28	13,1	29	13,6	38	17,8	26	12,2	17	8,0	60	28,2



Continuation of table 1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Care for disabled people	9	4,2	28	13,1	27	12,7	36	16,9	29	13,6	21	9,9	63	29,6
Employment	8	3,8	29	13,6	22	10,3	33	15,5	38	17,8	51	23,9	31	15,0
Movement from the occupied territories	21	9,9	30	14,1	21	9,9	36	16,9	20	9,4	24	11,3	61	28,6
Repair of housing that was damaged due to hostilities	12	5,6	23	10,8	16	7,5	26	12,2	33	15,5	40	18,8	63	29,6
Physical assistance	31	14,6	27	12,7	24	11,3	37	17,4	17	8,0	9	4,2	68	31,9

The results of the analysis show that victims most often need monetary assistance - 62.9% of respondents rated this need at 5 points, followed by food assistance - 43.2% of respondents rated this need at 5 points.

Also, the highest score of 5 points was given to hygiene assistance - 38% of respondents, psychological assistance - 31.9% of respondents, clothing - 24.4% of respondents, employment assistance - 23.9% of respondents, legal assistance - 23% of respondents and home repair - 18.8% of respondents, which correlates with the results of a previous research on the needs of vulnerable categories of the population, namely women and children [3-4].

All other types of assistance are specific and do not generally have high ratings, but some vulnerable categories need them, this concerns assistance for relocation from occupied territories (most often respondents gave 1 point), care for children and the disabled (3 points), physical assistance (3 points), from a refugee shelter - 4 points.

Analysis of the results indicates that:

- the most important (primary) for the victims is financial aid: 62.9% of respondents define this need with the highest score. This shows that economic support is key for victims;

- food assistance is also significant, as 43.2% of respondents rate this need highly. This indicates that providing basic food needs is an important aspect of relief for victims.

- other important areas of assistance include hygiene assistance (38%), psychological assistance (31.9%), clothing (24.4%), employment (23.9%), legal assistance (23%) and home repair (18, 8%). This indicates the complex nature of needs and the need for a variety of support for the effective recovery of victims;

- however, some specific types of assistance, such as relocation from occupied territories, care for children and the disabled, physical assistance and shelter for refugees, received lower scores, which may indicate less popularity or limited need among specific groups of victims.

As can be seen, the received data of the analysis testify to the importance of the diversity and flexibility of assistance, specifying the needs of the victims in different situations.

5. Interventions identified for displaced victims (frequency, type, training of specialists)

Also, during the research, it was determined which categories of victims most often turn to volunteer and charity organizations, municipal services for help (Fig. 15).

How often do they ask for help? (often - 5; do not apply - 0)

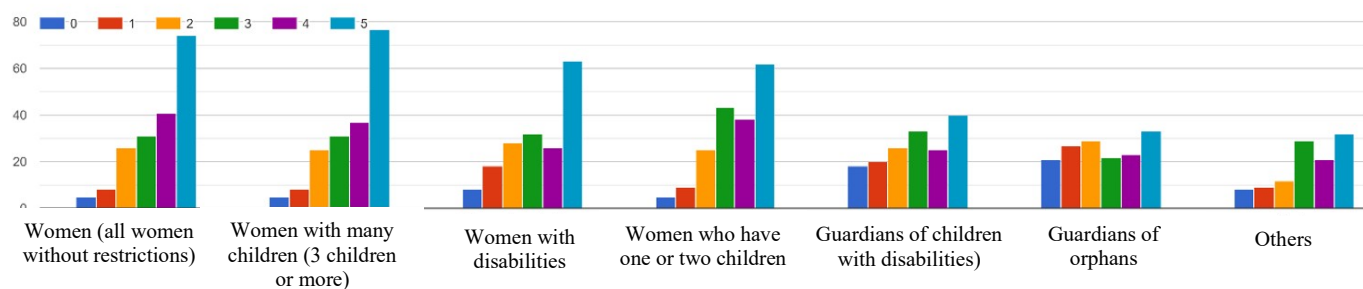


Figure 15 – Analysis of population categories according to the frequency of their appeal for help to volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other services

Most of the respondents' answers refer to women with many children (3 children or more), and many benefactors/volunteers noted all women without restrictions. It can also be seen that regardless of the category of vulnerable population, all respondents answered that they are often contacted by all victims. It should also be noted that quite a number of respondents emphasized that they are not approached by guardians of orphans and disabled children, that is, it suggests that there are not very many of them.

Regarding the method of providing assistance to victims by volunteer/charity organizations, municipal services: the following options were offered: real (provision of things, medicines, etc.) and virtual (on-line volunteering).

The obtained results are shown in fig. 16, from which it can be seen that the majority (89.6%) of respondents provide real assistance, virtual assistance is provided by 24.2% of respondents, which indicates that many volunteer organizations provide both real and virtual assistance.



How is help provided?

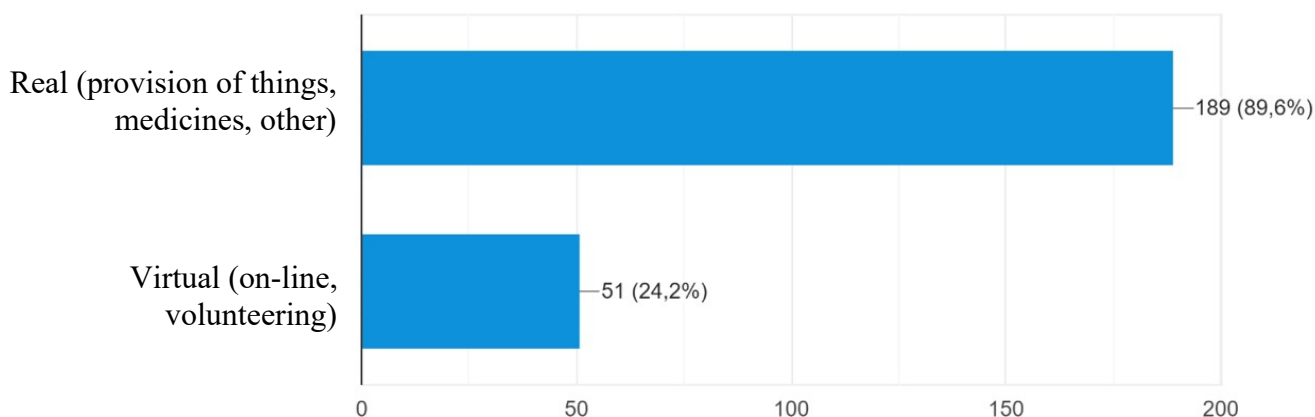


Figure 16 – Analysis of types of assistance provided by volunteer organizations

In order to find out the quality of assistance, a question was formulated regarding the availability of special training for volunteers (Fig. 17), because there are no requirements from the state authorities for the qualifications of representatives of volunteer organizations.

Do you have special training for providing assistance to victims?

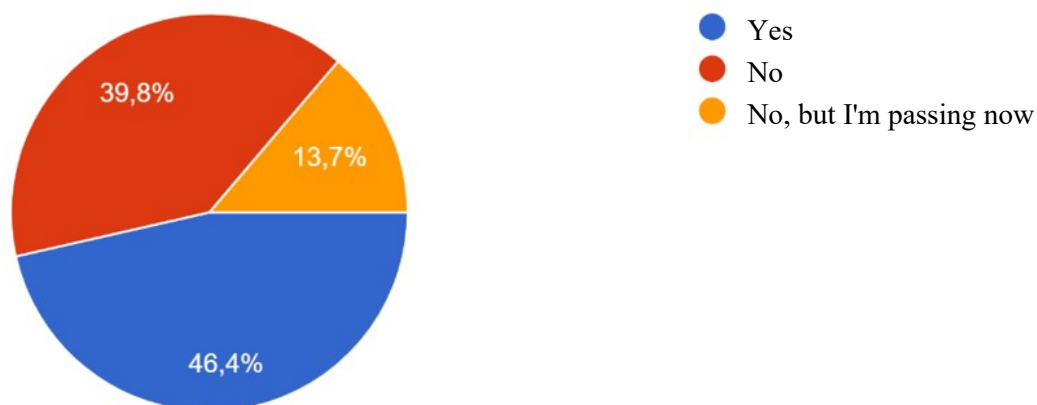


Figure 17 – Analysis of the availability of special training for providing assistance to victims

The results show that the majority - 46.4% of respondents who are related to volunteering or charitable or social activities have special training, but almost 40% of respondents do not have it, which may affect the quality of providing psychological, legal and other types of assistance. for which you need to have the appropriate qualifications and experience.

The analysis of the answers regarding special training according to the data of those who answered that they have special training is shown in fig. 18.

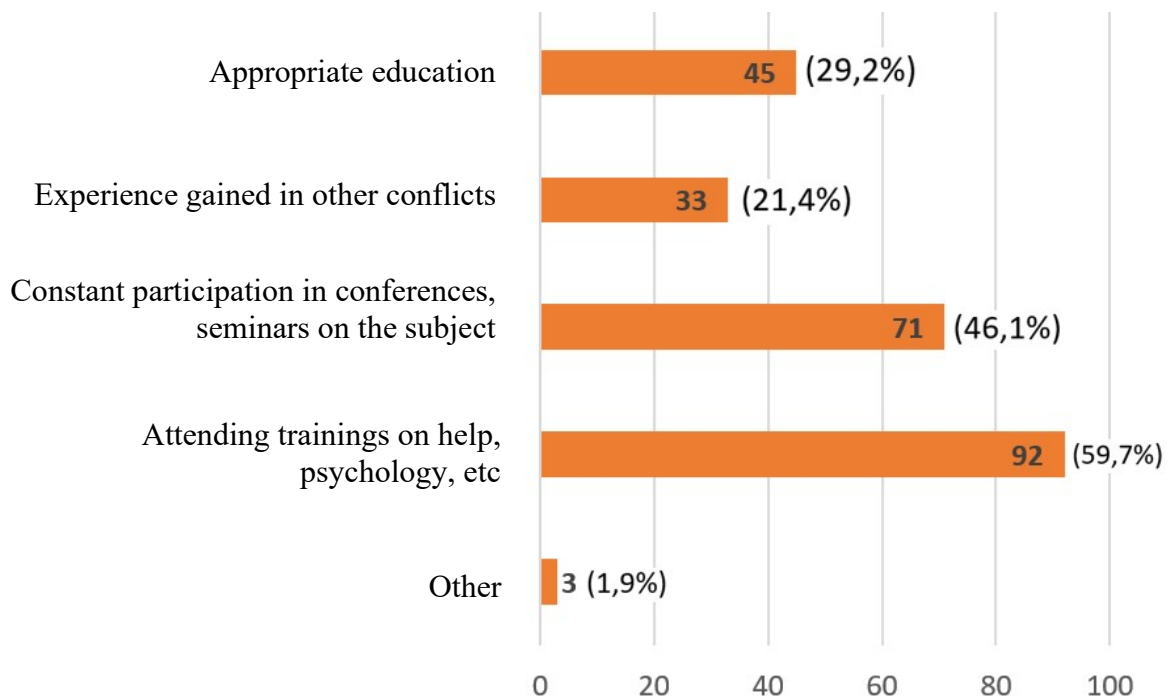


Figure 18 – Analysis of types of special training of respondents to provide assistance

The majority of respondents (59.7%) who answered about the availability of special training attend assistance trainings, 46.1% take part in conferences and seminars on the subject on a regular basis, and 29.2% of respondents have the relevant education, which gives it will be possible to make assumptions about some shortcomings in the provision of quality assistance to women and children affected during the military conflict. At the same time, the data also indicate that a significant part of the respondents is interested and active in obtaining special training for volunteering. The main methods of obtaining such training include one-off events - trainings (59.7%), conferences and seminars (46.1%), as well as systematic training through the acquisition of appropriate education (29.2%) of respondents.

In general, these data indicate a high level of professionalism of the staff of volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other services and its growth over time, its involvement, which can positively affect the quality and efficiency of assistance to those in need of support.

Obstacles to providing assistance to victims were also identified and analyzed during the research (Fig. 19).

Most of all, volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other services emphasize that in these conditions *there is an excessive number of appeals to victims* - 56.9% of respondents (which correlates with the conditions of a military conflict), and for them, *the lack of documents* is also an obstacle to providing assistance, *that confirm the status of the victims* - 45% of the respondents noted this, 23.2% of the respondents emphasized that the victims provide *false data* and this is also an obstacle to providing assistance.

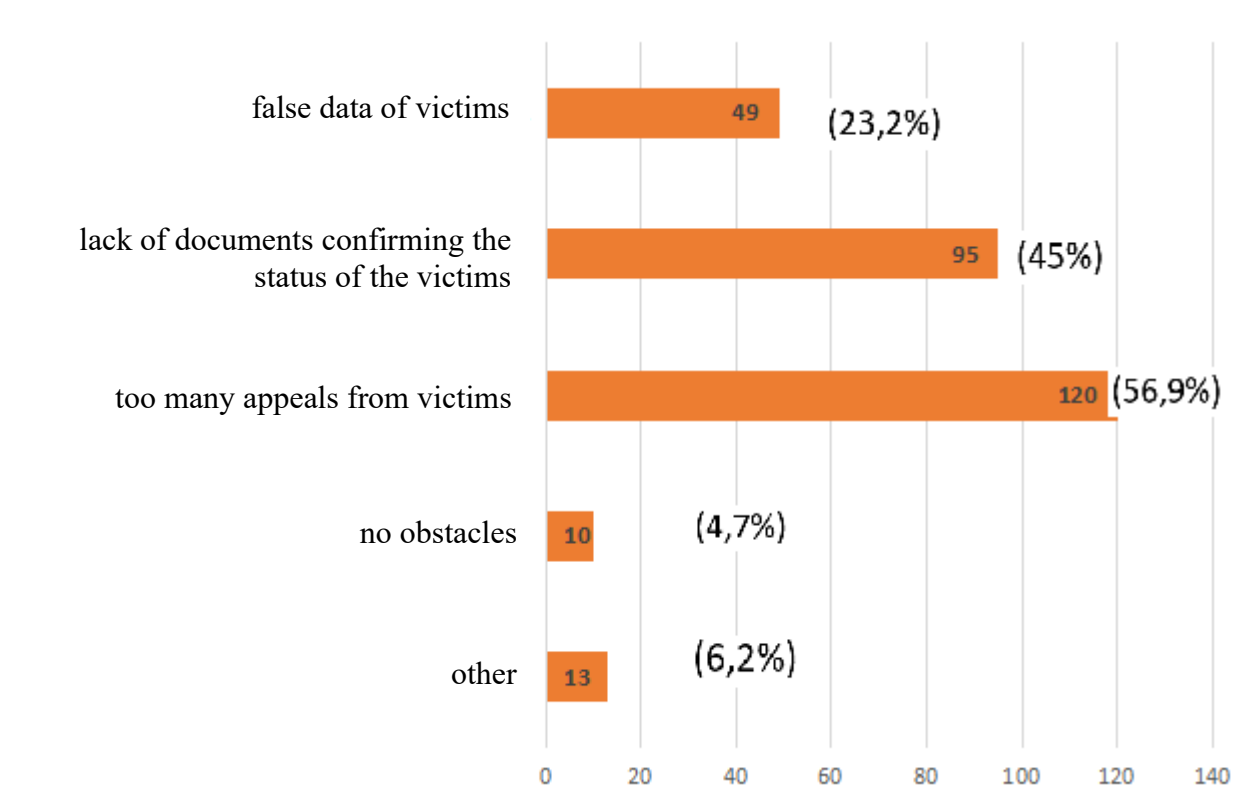


Figure 19 – Analysis of obstacles to providing assistance to victims

Only 4.7% of respondents noted that they have no obstacles to providing assistance to the victims.

It can be summarized that these data indicate:

- complexity of managing the flow of requests,
- need to develop effective strategies to overcome obstacles in providing aid in conditions of conflict and uncertainty.

6. Impact on practitioners of work with displaced women and children (including welfare)

In the course of the research, the impact of work with victims of the conflict - displaced women and children on volunteers / benefactors, staff of volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other services was analyzed.

With the help of an on-line survey, data was obtained (Fig. 20), which indicates that the influence and relationship exists.

It was established that 50.2% of respondents experience a worsening of their psychological and emotional state due to this work, 48.8% of respondents note a loss of energy, i.e. burnout, 43.6% note an increase in stress, chronic stress appears, 20.9% of respondents moral and ethical problems arise, 15.2% note a decrease in work efficiency. And only 1.9% of respondents noted that this work does not affect them in any way.

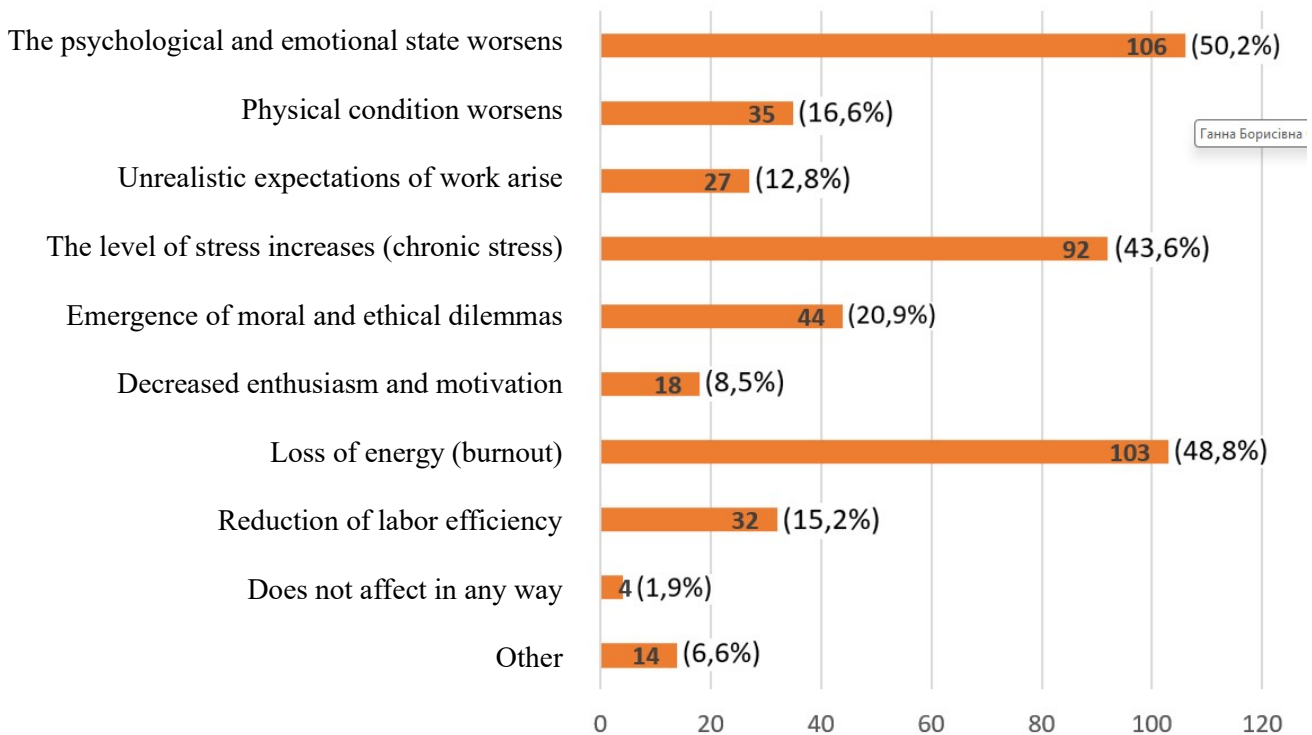


Figure 20 – Analysis of the impact of work with victims on volunteers, benefactors, staff of volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other services

These data testify to the negative consequences and significance of the impact of volunteering and charitable activities on the psychological and emotional state and the general state of well-being of the respondents:

- deterioration of the psychological and emotional state: it is noted by more than half of the respondents (50.2%). This may be related to the emotional stress caused by constant interaction with the difficulties and needs of the victims⁴
- burnout and increased stress: the first mentioned by 48.8% of respondents. This indicates physical and emotional exhaustion, which occurs with high energy expenditure and emotional intense shock. Stress and its chronic nature are noted by 43.6%. This is due to the challenges and long-term unexpected situations faced by the staff in the course of their activities;
- moral and ethical problems: they were noted by 20.9%. This includes difficult solutions to situations where the interests of victims may conflict with the ethical or moral principles of staff;
- decrease in work efficiency: this is characteristic of 15.2% of respondents and is associated with fatigue and burnout, which affects work productivity.

A very small number of respondents are highly stress-resistant - only a small percentage of respondents (1.9%) do not experience the effects listed above.

It should be noted that these results emphasize the importance of managing emotional stress and providing psychological support for volunteers working in difficult conditions.



7. *Willingness/receptivity of local authorities to support migrant women and children*

In the process of working on the project at all stages of its implementation, the attitude of the local authorities to the problem of the suffering of women and children during the military conflict is studied. Therefore, volunteer/charity organizations were asked to assess the willingness/receptivity of local authorities to support affected women and children (Fig. 21).

Rate on a five-point scale the willingness/receptivity of local authorities to support migrant women and children (highest level of willingness/favorability - 5; completely absent - 0)

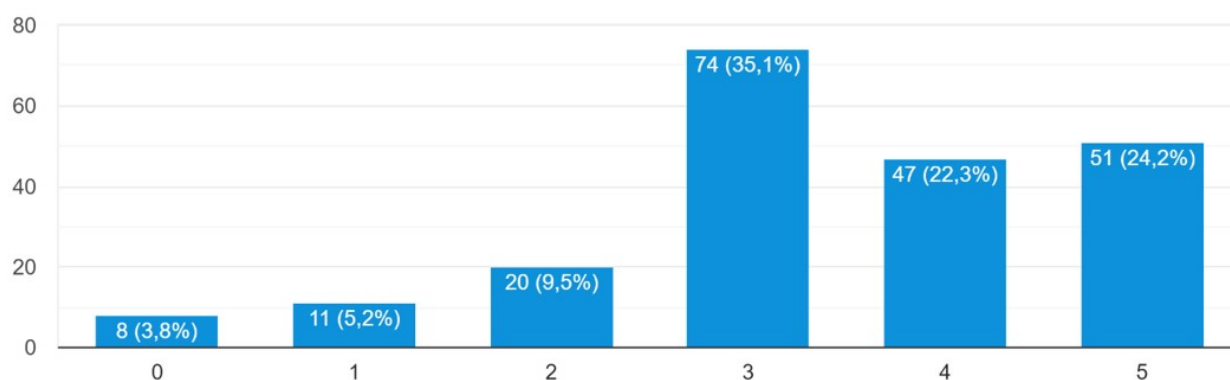


Figure 21 – Impact analysis of work with victims

In general, the results indicate the willingness/receptivity of local authorities to support affected women and children. 24.2% of respondents rated this desire at 5 points, 22.3% at 4 points, most respondents (35.1%) at 3 points. Only 3.8% of respondents noted a complete lack of desire / receptivity of local authorities to support affected women and children.

Conclusions

Thus, it is possible to summarize in this way the results of the survey of professionals from social services, non-governmental organizations, charitable foundations and volunteer organizations, individual volunteers who work with vulnerable women and children from displaced persons, as well as the analysis of their activities carried out on its basis, in relation to the research issues related to the impact of the ongoing conflict:

1) The majority of volunteers, benefactors, staff of volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other services are women (82.9%) aged 30-39 (31.8%). Of them, representatives of volunteer organizations - 26.5%, private volunteers - 21.3%, persons engaged in other types of charitable activities - 53.1%, most of whom work in Odesa region (65.4%).

This may be the result of the interaction of several factors contributing to charitable activity in the Odesa region, which require further verification:

- socio-cultural context: there are traditions or values in the Odesa region that support activity in the field of charity;
- social problems: if there are serious social problems or a need for help in the region, people may be more inclined to charity;
- development of charitable initiatives: perhaps there is an active community environment in Odesa region that supports and develops charitable initiatives;
- network of connections: having a large number of social networks, organizations or groups supporting the charity can play an important role in motivating people to join the movement.

The majority of volunteers, benefactors, staff of volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other services have one year of work experience (61.1%), which is due to the occurrence of a conflict, but the majority has special education and experience in this field (46.4%).

2) The main activity of volunteers, philanthropists, volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other services is to provide various types of assistance, including to victims of Russian aggression. Help is provided to vulnerable categories of the population during the war - 90.5% of respondents: women with many children (57.8%), women with disabilities (54.7%), children with disabilities (46.4%) from different regions of Ukraine. Most often, women with many children and women with disabilities seek help. 46.9% of volunteers, philanthropists, volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other services sought help from people experiencing violence (psychological - 74%, economic - 51.2%, physical - 48%, sexual - 12.2%).

3) Most of the vulnerable categories of the population need financial assistance and assistance with food and clothing. 89.6% of volunteers, benefactors, volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other services provide real assistance (provision of things, medicines, etc.) and 24.2% provide online volunteering for affected women.)

4) Constant work with affected women and children causes a deterioration in the psychological and emotional state of volunteers (50.2%), burnout (48.8%), the emergence of moral and ethical dilemmas (44%), an increase in the level of stress (chronic stress) - 43.6% and other complications that require monitoring of their health, both physical and emotional.

5) 24.2% of volunteers noted the highest level of receptivity of local authorities to support women and children - displaced persons, complete absence - 3.8%. The majority of respondents (35.1%) rate the willingness of local authorities to support immigrants at 3 points out of 5, which indicates that it is necessary to increase the interaction of authorities with volunteer organizations.

Therefore, *there are a number of potential problems and tasks* for volunteers, philanthropists, volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other social



services working with vulnerable population groups, in particular women and children from displaced persons:

- *gender problem*: absolute dominance of women (82.9%);
- *local influence on the formation of the specifics of the support environment for victims*: a significant number of respondents and activity in Odesa region (65.4%) may be the result of a number of factors (socio-cultural context, presence of social problems, development of charitable initiatives and presence of a network of connections);
 - *quality and professional level of assistance (experience and education)*: although most volunteers have one year of work experience (61.1%), it is important that most have special education and experience in this field (46.4%). However, it is important for the staff of volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other social services to ensure continuous professional development;
 - *areas of activity*: providing assistance to vulnerable groups, especially those affected by the aggression of the Russian Federation, focuses on various types of support, including monetary, food and clothing assistance;
 - *needs of vulnerable groups*: the primary mass needs of vulnerable population groups are three needs (cash food, clothing), which requires effective coordination and supply (accumulation) of necessary resources;
 - *impact on volunteers, benefactors, staff of volunteer and charitable organizations, municipal and other services*: work with vulnerable categories of the population can affect the psychological and emotional state of volunteers, causing stress, burnout and moral dilemmas. It is therefore important to provide support and resources for staff recovery and rehabilitation;
 - *interaction with local authorities*: there is a need for systematic interaction between volunteer and charitable organizations and local authorities to support and effectively implement charitable initiatives.

These findings indicate the need for:

- a) improvement of strategies of volunteer and charity organizations, municipal and other social services and structures;
- b) changes in methodological approaches to support - in the sector of volunteers, philanthropists - for maximum joint impact and systemic support of vulnerable women and children in Ukraine, and in the sector of state influence - for determining post-conflict solutions to support their reintegration and resocialization.

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**"Suffering in hope for the future": the status of vulnerable women and children
in Ukraine and determining post-conflict solutions to support their reintegration
and resocialization"**

ANALYTICAL RESEARCH

ANALYSIS OF THE INTERACTION OF VOLUNTARY ORGANIZATIONS WITH VULNERABLE WOMEN AND CHILDREN FROM DISPLACED PERSONS

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In order to implement projects and principles of partnership between the National University "Odesa Polytechnic" and the University of Portsmouth in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding and within the framework of the concluded Agreement between the universities, as well as within the framework of the UK-Ukraine Twinning Grants Scheme initiative, for the coordination of international project activities of university employees and divisions the UUT11 project "Suffering in hope for the future": the status of vulnerable women and children in Ukraine and the determination of post-conflict solutions to support their reintegration and resocialization" and the composition of its executors was approved by the order of the Rector of the National University "Odesa Polytechnic" No. 43a dated 03/23/2023.

The electronic version is available on the Economic Scientific Portal of the Odesa Polytechnic National University at the address:

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