Results of the public opinion survey on violence against children 29 May 2015

The Council of Europe Project "Strengthening and Protecting Children's Rights in Ukraine" funded by the Government of Norway together with the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology conducted a survey on violence against children. It is the first survey of such scale in Ukraine on the issues of violence against children in and outside the family.

METHODOLOGY OF PUBLIC OPINION SURVEY

In the first part of the study which was carried out in December 2014, the experience of exposure to violence in the childhood and social orientations of Ukraine's adult population (aged 18 years and older), which relate to the use of violence against children were studied. 1800 respondents in 110 settlements of Ukraine were interviewed. In the Luhansk oblast, the survey was carried out only in the territories controlled by the Ukrainian authorities. In Donetsk oblast, the survey was carried out mainly in the territories controlled by the Ukrainian authorities. In the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol no survey was carried out. Method of the survey – an interview joined with self-reporting questionnaire.

To conduct a survey, a stratified four-stage random sample was developed. It was random at each stage. The sample is representative for adult population which domiciles in the territory of Ukraine, is not doing military service and is not in prison or medical institution (hospital, medical care home). At first the population of Ukraine was stratified by the oblasts (24 oblasts and Kyiv). Further on the population of each oblast was stratified additionally into the city-dwellers (cities and urban-type settlements) and rural population (except for Kyiv, where the population is entirely urban). That is, in general, the population of Ukraine was divided into 49 strata. For each stratum in proportion to the number of adult population it was defined how many interviews must be conducted, as well as how many settlements to be surveyed must fall on it.

After stratification there was a selection of certain stations for the interviewers to work on. At the first stage the settlements were selected within every stratum. Urban settlements were selected with a probability proportional to the number of adult population in the settlement. Within strata of rural population, at first the districts were selected (with a probability proportional to the number of adult rural people in the district), and within the selected area – the villages were selected in a random manner. At the second a stage, within each settlement polling stations were selected. At the third stage, for each polling station the initial address – a street, a house number and, in case of multi-storey buildings, a number of the apartment from which interviewers began their survey – was selected. At the fourth stage, there was a random sampling and interviewing of respondents according to a modified route sampling method.

Statistical margin of error (with a probability of 0.95 and without design effect 1.5) does not exceed:

- 2.4% for indices proximal to 50%,
- \circ 2.1% for indices proximal to 25 or 75%,
- 1.6% for indices proximal to 12 or 88%,
- 1.1% for indices proximal to 5 or 95%,
- 0.5% for indices proximal to 1 or 99%.

In the second part of the **study**, which took place in April 2015, they studied the experience of exposure to violence among children 12-17 years old who study in grades 6-11 of secondary schools, in vocational schools and universities of Ukraine. 1800 children in 120 schools were surveyed according to the sample, which is representative of all children who study in secondary schools, vocational schools and universities of Ukraine (1600 pupils of schools, 100 students of vocational schools and 100 students of universities). In Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts the survey was conducted

only in the territories controlled by the Ukrainian authorities. Survey method – self-reporting questionnaire in the group of children.

Children were interviewed in educational institutions, as carrying out such research in households would be unreasonable considering sensitivity of the studied topic (it would call into question sincerity and frankness of answers) and a dispersed character of a target group of households (those with children aged 12-17). Taking into consideration that most of children of the specified age are pupils of educational institutions, it was decided to interview them at the places of their study.

To interview the children, a stratified three-stage random sample was developed. It was random at each stage. The sample was representative for children aged 12-17, who study at secondary comprehensive, vocational schools or are the first-year students of the universities¹.

For the interviews in comprehensive educational institutions (schools) children were stratified by oblasts (24 oblasts and Kyiv). Further on children of each oblast were additionally stratified into the citydwellers (cities and urban-type settlements) and rural population (except for Kyiv, where the population is entirely urban). That is, in general, children were divided into 49 strata. For each stratum in proportion to the number of children it was defined how many interviews must be conducted, as well as how many settlements to be surveyed must fall on it.

After stratification there was a selection of certain stations for the interviewers to work on. At the first stage, the settlements were selected within every stratum. Urban settlements were selected with a probability proportional to the number of adult population² in the settlement. Within strata of rural children, at first the districts were selected (with a probability proportional to the number of adult rural population in the district), and within the selected area – the villages were selected in a random manner.

At the second a stage, in a random manner, the address in a settlement was selected (a street and a house number) and a school which was the closest to that initial address. 16 pupils who study in grades 6-11 were interviewed in each school. The pupils to be interviewed were selected in a random manner by the following method: the class in a parallel was selected with an interval, and in the class itself the pupils were selected by the first letter of their surname – it coincided with the first letter of the name of the settlement where the interview was held (in case when there were no pupils with such surname in the class, the next letter was chosen alphabetically).

Children who study in vocational school were sampled in the following way. At the first stage, in 4 macroregions³ in proportion to the number of children who study in vocational school, according to the statistics data, 10 settlements of different types were selected in a random way. At the following stage, an address in the settlement (a street and a house number) and a vocational school which was the closest to that initial address were selected in a random way. 10 pupils were interviewed in each vocational school.

Sampling of children who are the first-year students of the universities was made in the following way. At the first stage, in 4 macroregions⁴ in proportion to the number of children who study in universities, according to the statistics data, 10 administrative centers of obalsts were selected in a random way (in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts the cities with the population over 100 thousand people were selected). At the following stage an address in the settlement (a street and a house number) and a university which was the closest to that initial address were selected in a random way. 10 students were interviewed in each university.

Statistical margin of error (with a probability of 0.95 and without design effect 1.5) does not exceed:

2.4% for indices proximal to 50%,

2.1% for indices proximal to 25 or 75%,

1.6% for indices proximal to 12 or 88%,

¹ Statistical bulletin "Comprehensive educational institutions in Ukraine for the beginning of 2012-2013 school year" was used for building a sample. We assume that correlation of children of different age is relatively equal in the regions of Ukraine. That is why we think it is possible to use statistical relations between the regions of Ukraine for children aged 6-17 to interview the children aged 12-17.

² With regard to unavailability of statistics on the number of children in the settlements of Ukraine, we assumed that children are distributed over the settlements in the same proportions as the adults.

³ Western region: Volyn, Zakarpatska, Ivano-Frankivska, Lvivska, Rivnenska, Ternopilska, Khmelnytska, Chernivetska oblast; Central region: the city of Kyiv, Kyivska, Vinnitska, Zhytomyrska, Kirovogradska, Poltavska, Sumska, Cherkaska, Chernihivska oblast; Southern region: Dnipropetrivska, Zaporizka, Mykolayivska, Odeska, Khersonska oblast; Eastern region: Kharkivska, Donetska, Luhanska oblast.
⁴ Western region: Volynska, Zakarpatska, Ivano-Frankivska, Lvivska, Rivnenska, Ternopilska, Khmelnytska, Chernivetska oblast; Central

region: the city of Kyiv, Kyivska, Vinnitska, Zhytomyrska, Kirovogradska, Poltavska, Sumska, Cherkaska, Chernihivska oblast; Central region: the city of Kyiv, Kyivska, Vinnitska, Zhytomyrska, Kirovogradska, Poltavska, Sumska, Cherkaska, Chernihivska oblast; Southern region: Dnipropetrivska, Zaporizka, Mykolayivska, Odeska, Khersonska oblast; Eastern region: Kharkivska, Donetska, Luhanska oblast.

- 1.1% for indices proximal to 5 or 95%,
- 0.5% for indices proximal to 1 or 99%.

HOW MANY CHILDREN ARE EXPOSED TO VIOLENCE IN UKRAINE?

- In general 65% of children were exposed to at least one type of violence. Among them 55% of girls and 45% of boys. These children are evenly distributed in different age groups.
- Compared with the youngest cohort of adults at the age of 18-29, much less children reported that they were exposed to at least one type of violence 65% against 85%. Separately decreased the cases of physical, psychological and economic abuse of children aged 12-17 in comparison with the adult group of 18-29. At the same time cases of sexual abuse became more often. In the cohort of 18-29 year-olds of adult population, 8% of respondents were exposed to sexual abuse in the childhood, and among children of 12-17 years old 21% of respondents (in general the cases were connected with Internet Technologies).

	Children aged 12-17 which study at schools	Adults 18+	Adults 18-29 (the youngest cohort)
Psychological abuse	45%	62%	60%
Physical abuse	27%	63%	60%
Witnesses of physical abuse	73%	38%	29%
Economic abuse	25%	53%	44%
Sexual abuse	21%	7%	8%
Physical and psychological abuse	19%	44%	40%
Were exposed to at least one type of violence	65%	89%	85%
Were exposed to all types of violence	4%	5%	4%
Were not exposed to any violence	35%	11%	15%

- Psychological abuse appeared to be a "leader". A bit less than half of the interviewed children were exposed to it – 45%. It means, at least one of the following situations happened to them at least sometimes (except as noted):
 - \checkmark At home they reproach me that I eat too much (often or always).
 - ✓ At home they use offensive, humiliating words to me.
 - ✓ At home they spent their rage on me (other family member, a pet).
 - ✓ When my parents (guardians) or relative argue, one of them forces me to support him (her).
 - ✓ Because of the conflicts at home I feel like running away, injuring myself or committing suicide.
 - \checkmark To punish me, they don't talk to me or ignore me at home.
 - ✓ My parents (guardians) are not interested in my life.
 - ✓ My parents (guardians) have too much control over my life (often or always).
 - ✓ In my presence my parents (guardians) or relatives use bad language, call bad names to each other.
- Among those who were exposed to psychological abuse, the overall majority 71% were exposed to physical abuse as well. These two types of violence are strongly connected with each other.
- **Physical abuse** is on the second place; a bit less children were exposed to it 27%. It means that at least one of the following situations happened to them at least sometimes:
 - ✓ I miss classes at school becomes of injuries I got at home.

- ✓ At home I was punished with a belt, rod, slapped with a hand, slapped in the face, given the stick, pulled by my hair, etc.
- ✓ At home they forced me to stand still (for example, in the corner).
- ✓ At home they tied me up, cuffed me.
- ✓ At home I was locked in the room.
- ✓ At home they offered me to smoke, drink alcohol or use drugs.
- 73% of children **witnessed physical abuse**, according to the study. It means that at least one of the following situations happened to them at least sometimes:
 - ✓ In our school there are cases when teachers slap pupils or take away personal belongings.
 - ✓ I saw how pupils were beating other pupils.
 - ✓ I saw how some pupils were taking away personal belongings or money from others.
 - ✓ At home during a quarrel my relatives are fighting or breaking different things intentionally.
- Among the children who witnessed physical abuse, 34% were exposed to it themselves. Among those who did not witness physical abuse only 10%. It means children who witnessed physical abuse become its victims more often.
- Every fourth child was exposed to **economic abuse** 25%. It means that at least one of the following situations happened to them at least sometimes:
 - ✓ I spend my pocket money as I like (never).
 - ✓ I had to ask strangers for money or steal it as I did not have enough for absolutely necessary things.
 - ✓ When my parents (guardians) get angry, they spoil or throw away my belongings (toys, clothes, etc.).
 - ✓ The adults hide my things to force me stay at home.
 - ✓ I was forced to work on somebody or give them money (personal belongings).
 - \checkmark At home they don't give me food when I am very hungry (often or always).
 - ✓ Instead of going to school, I have to work.
 - ✓ The adults force me to beg or steal money, things, food from other people.
 - ✓ My parents (guardians) don't buy things which are absolutely necessary for my studies or diet.
 - ✓ My classmates force me to do their homework or write tests for them.
 - ✓ At school they force me to work as a punishment.
- 21% of interviewed children were exposed to **sexual abuse**. This is the least common type of violence, but it happens almost three times more often than the youngest cohort of adult residents of Ukraine aged 18-29 (8%). The following situations were related to the index of sexual abuse (at least one of them happened to a child at least once):
 - ✓ My naked private parts of the body were pictured or filmed.
 - ✓ Adults (people over 18) offered me to show their genitals, touch their naked private parts of the body or have sex with them.
 - ✓ For the reward from the adults (people over 18) I agreed to show my genitals, touch their naked private parts of the body or have sex with them.
 - ✓ I was forced to have sex with adults and keep it secret.
 - ✓ Strangers made me indecent proposals in the Internet (on forums, chats, social networks, emails, etc.), by phone or in letters.
 - ✓ Adults (except for medical personnel and parents in my early childhood) touched my genitals against my will.
 - \checkmark At home I had to have sex with adults or touch their genitals.
 - ✓ At home we are used to using dirty word for genitals and sexual relations.
 - ✓ At school they make me indecent proposals, for example, to spy on other children in the toilet or take off my underwear.
 - ✓ At school other pupils pawed me against my will and touched my genitals.
 - ✓ Other pupils forced me to touch their genitals.

PHYSICAL ABUSE

To a question concerning cases of physical punishment for bad behavior, only 1% of children noted that they were beaten with a strap, belt or rod, another 1% of children were beaten with a hand. Besides, children were asked a separate question if at home they were punished with a belt, rod, beaten with a hand, slapped in the face, kicked, dragged by the hair, etc. 10% answered it happened sometimes, another 1% told it happens often. It can testify to the tendency among children to excuse their offenders or unwillingness, shame to report about such facts, conceal them. Among those who were exposed to such cases of physical abuse, more than a half – 67% reported that it happened to them for the first time when they were 6-10 years old. So, primary school age children (1-4 grades) are beaten more often.

REPLICATION OF EXPERIENCE OF PHYSICAL ABUSE

- Those who were exposed to physical abuse in their childhood more often used it to their children or loved ones when they were adults. Besides they more often justify physical abuse as a form of punishment and consider it to be normal.
- Among those who were exposed to physical abuse in their childhood, 21% reported they punish their own children using physical force. Among those who had no such experience in their childhood, this indicator is much lower – 7%.
- Among those who were exposed to physical abuse in their childhood, 20% cannot resist beating another person who outraged them at least sometimes. Among those who had no such experience in their childhood, this indicator is much lower 7%.
- Among those who were exposed to physical abuse in their childhood, 14% confessed there were sometimes cases in their lives when they beat their boyfriend (girlfriend). Among those who had no such experience in their childhood, this indicator is much lower 5%.
- Among those who were exposed to physical abuse in their childhood, 58% agreed that traditional forms of children upbringing (for example, standing in the corner) are effective and time proved. Among those who had no such experience in their childhood, this indicator is much lower – 30%.
- Among those who were exposed to physical abuse in their childhood, 39% agreed that a child upbringing in the family would be ineffective without corporal punishment. Among those who had no such experience in their childhood, this indicator is much lower – 19%.

TOLERANCE TO PHYSICAL ABUSE

- In general high level of tolerance to using physical abuse was discovered. In respondents' view, corporal punishment is an effective form of upbringing.
- Majority of the adult population of Ukraine 68% informed that almost all their acquaintances with children can sometimes give a slap on the bottom to a naughty child for the purpose of upbringing.
- Almost every second (48%) adult Ukrainian agreed that traditional forms of children upbringing (for example, standing in the corner) are effective and time proved. And almost every third (32%) said a child upbringing in the family would be ineffective without corporal punishment.
- Besides, almost half of the respondents (52%) agreed that they at least sometimes deserved the corporal punishment which they had been exposed to in their childhood. However, only 20% of children noted that they deserve corporal punishment.

PROBLEM OF SCHOOL BULLYING AND HUMILIATION CONTINUES TO BE RELEVANT

- At least every third child (36%) indicated that at least sometimes there must be "a whipping boy" in the class.
- Every fifth child (21%) informed that at his/her school it sometimes happens that teachers slap pupils or take away their personal belongings.
- Every fourth child (24%) indicated that at his/her school sometimes some pupils happen to be stronger that he/she is, that is why he/she is afraid of them and tries to take care with them.
- As for the attitude of children to teachers, it may be assumed that teachers are also exposed to psychological abuse from their pupils. 9% of children confessed that there are cases in their school

when pupils give a bad time to teachers. Another 21% informed that they know about such cases from their mates.

CHILDREN BEHAVIOR IN THE CASES OF VIOLENCE AGAINST THEM

- Declared behavior of a child in relation to his/her actions in case he/she is humiliated or abused in most situation comes down to turning to parents (72%), police (militia) department (43%) or just settling the problem independently (37%) or turning to friends (35%). 12% of children intend to turn to the Ombudsman in case of abuse, 11% to a school psychologist, 5% to state social institutions, 1% to non-governmental organizations.
- As for the real experience of a child's behavior after he/she was exposed to violence, the majority of those who had such experience (33%) turned to parents or guardians 61%. Half (52%) did not turn to anybody, decided to settle the problem themselves, 42% turned to their friends, 16% to police (militia) department, 15% to teachers, 11% to relatives, 7% to a school psychologist, 5% were looking for a solution in the Internet, 4% turned to human/children's rights Ombudsman, and 3% to social services.
- Thus, the level of turning to social services is extremely low only 3% had such experience. At the same time 16% of children informed that after being exposed to violence, they turned to the police (militia) department.

KNOWLEDGE OF LEGISLATION ON PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

- 30% of the adult population of Ukraine knows that there is legislation on protection of children's rights. To give more details, half of the adults who are aware of such legislation failed to provide its name. 11% named Laws on the rights of the child, 7% UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 5% remembered Constitution, 2% Declaration of the Rights of the Child and 2% Criminal Code.
- 49% of children are aware of the legislation on protection of children's rights. 27% of them name Laws on the rights of the child in general, 21% UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 5% more remembered just the name of the organization United Nations (we can assume they meant the Convention; in which case awareness about the Conventions rises to 26%). 15% failed to provide the specific name, 11% remembered the Constitution, 7% Declaration of the Rights of the Child, 5% social protection organizations, 4% law enforcement organizations, 2% Criminal and 2% Family Code.
- Thus, much more children than adults are aware of the laws that protect children's rights. Approximately every fifth child and every tenth adult know about the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

"BREAKING THE MYTHS/ TESTING HYPOTHESES"

One of the key tasks of the study was to check some hypotheses and break the so called "myths" on child abuse.

VIOLENCE IS TYPICAL OF INCOMPLETE FAMILIES (confirmed **PARTIALLY**)

- Results of interviewing children allowed us to cast doubt on the thesis that violence is more typical of incomplete families. 21% of children in Ukraine live in an incomplete family with one of the parents or without any parents. If to compare % of children who were exposed to violence of any form, we will find out that children from two-parent families are exposed to it just a little less rarely than the children from an incomplete family.
- 26% of children from two-parent families and 30% of children from incomplete families were exposed to physical abuse.
- 44% of children from two-parent families and 50% of children from incomplete families were exposed to psychological abuse.

- 25% of children from two-parent families and 26% of children from incomplete families were exposed to economic abuse.
- 20% of children from two-parent families and 22% of children from incomplete families were exposed to sexual abuse.
- Thus, the hypothesis that violence against children is more typical of incomplete families was confirmed only partially.

	Two- parent families	Incomplete families	TOTAL			
Were exposed to physical abuse at least once	26%	30%	27%			
Were exposed to psychological abuse at least			45%			
once	44%	50%	45 %			
Were exposed to economic abuse at least once	25%	26%	25%			
Were exposed to sexual abuse at least once	20%	22%	21%			
*Two-parent family - there is father and mother, there may be other relatives; an incomplete						
family - there is one of the parents, there may be other relatives or there are no parents, but						
there may be other relatives						

VIOLENCE IS TYPICAL OF THE FAMILIES WITH LOW SELF-EVALUATION OF FINANCIAL POSITION (CONFIRMED)

- Violence is more typical of the families with low self-evaluation of financial position, than of the families which give higher evaluation to their material welfare.
- 70% of children with the lowest self-evaluation of financial position ("we hardly have any money for food") and 17% with the highest lowest self-evaluation of financial position ("we can afford to buy everything we want") were exposed to physical abuse. Let us remind that 27% of all interviewed children were exposed to physical abuse.
- 70% of children with the lowest self-evaluation of financial position ("we hardly have any money for food") and 37% of children with high self-evaluation of financial position ("we can afford to buy expensive things") were exposed to psychological abuse. At the same time, among the families with the highest self-evaluation of financial position the percentage of children who were exposed to psychological abuse is a bit bigger in comparison with the families with high self-evaluation of financial position and makes 43%. Let us remind that 45% of all interviewed children were exposed to psychological abuse.
- 50% of children with the lowest self-evaluation of financial position ("we hardly have any money for food") and 21% with the highest lowest self-evaluation of financial position ("we can afford to buy everything we want") were exposed to economic abuse. Let us remind that 25% of all interviewed children were exposed to economic abuse.
- 30% of children with the lowest self-evaluation of financial position ("we hardly have any money for food") and 18% with the highest lowest self-evaluation of financial position ("we can afford to buy everything we want") were exposed to sexual abuse. Let us remind that 21% of all interviewed children were exposed to sexual abuse.
- Thus, the hypothesis that violence is more typical of the families with low self-evaluation of financial position was confirmed. However, that does not mean that in the families with the higher self-evaluation of financial position such situations do not happen. They just have the lower level of frequency.

			We hardly have any money for food	We have enough money for food, but not for clothes	We have enough money for food and clothes and we can save something	We can afford to buy expensive things	We can afford to buy everything we want	TOTAL
Were	exposed	to	70%	40%	29%	22%	17%	27%

physical abuse at least once						
Were exposed to psychological abuse at least once	70%	68%	47%	37%	43%	45%
Were exposed to economic abuse at least once	50%	38%	28%	20%	21%	25%
Were exposed to sexual abuse at least once	30%	26%	21%	18%	18%	21%

VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN HAS A SPECIFIC CHARACTER DEPENDING ON THE SIZE OF A SETTLEMENT (MORE OFTEN IN A VILLAGE THAN IN A CITY) (confirmed **PARTIALLY)**

- It turned out that the city with population over 500 thousand people is the environment in which a child is exposed to violence comparatively more often.
- To physical abuse were exposed 26% of children who live in villages and 26% of those who live in towns with population up to 500 thousand, while from cities 33%.
- 46% and 43% of children who live in villages and in towns with population up to 500 thousand correspondingly, and every second child (50%) from a big city were exposed to psychological abuse.
- The situation is a bit different concerning economic abuse. Almost the same number of children from villages and from big cities 29% and 27% correspondingly, and a lower number of children from the towns with population up to 500 thousand 22% were exposed to it.
- 20% and 19% of children who live in villages and towns with population up to 500 thousand correspondingly and 26% of children from big cities were exposed to sexual abuse.
- It is worth noting that the percentage of children who were exposed to any form of violence separately from 4 mentioned and live in a big city is higher than the general indices for the sample. Thus, children are more often exposed to violence in big cities and not in villages. In towns with population up to 500 thousand children are less often exposed to violence than in villages (except for the physical abuse).

	Village	Town with population up to 500K	City 500K+	TOTAL
Were exposed to physical abuse at least once	26%	26%	33%	27%
Were exposed to psychological abuse at least once	46%	43%	50%	45%
Were exposed to economic abuse at least once	29%	22%	27%	25%
Were exposed to sexual abuse at least once	20%	19%	26%	21%

VILENCE HAS REGIONAL CHARACTER ("MORE OFTEN IN THE EAST THAN IN THE WEST") (PARTIALLY)

- Comparatively bigger number of children who live in the Central region 30% were exposed to physical abuse. Western and Sothern regions are on the second place – 27% correspondingly. In the Eastern region 23% of children were exposed to physical abuse.
- Comparatively bigger number of children who live in the Sothern region 51% were exposed to
 psychological abuse, the Central region is on the second place 48%. In the Eastern and Western
 regions the percentage is comparatively lower 43% and 39% correspondingly.

- Approximately the same number of children in all regions (23-27%) was exposed to economical abuse, but comparatively bigger number is in the Western region 27%.
- Approximately the same number of children in all regions (18-22%) was exposed to sexual abuse, but comparatively bigger number is in the Central and Sothern regions 22% correspondingly.
- Thus violence against children really has regional character, but it is not what we expected. According to the study results, children who live in the Central and Sothern regions are exposed to violence more often⁵.

	Western	Central	Southern	Eastern	TOTAL
Were exposed to physical abuse at least once	27%	30%	27%	23%	27%
Were exposed to psychological abuse at least once	39%	48%	51%	43%	45%
Were exposed to economic abuse at least once	27%	24%	26%	23%	25%
Were exposed to sexual abuse at least once	19%	22%	22%	18%	21%

**Western region*: Volyn, Zakarpatska, Ivano-Frankivska, Lvivska, Rivnenska, Ternopilska, Khmelnytska, Chernivetska oblast; *Central region*: the city of Kyiv, Kyivska, Vinnitska, Zhytomyrska, Kirovogradska, Poltavska, Sumska, Cherkaska, Chernihivska oblast; *Southern region*: Dnipropetrivska, Zaporizka, Mykolayivska, Odeska, Khersonska oblast; *Eastern region*: Kharkivska, Donetska, Luhanska oblast.

⁵ It can partially be connected with the fact that the survey was not conducted on the territories of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts not controlled by the Ukrainian authorities.