



# RADNYK Programme Report

for the period from  
June 2019 to March 2020

## RADNYK Activities



**22,072** services provided by Radnyks



**9,370** specialists  
from the social protection  
system and NGO  
representatives provided  
with consultations on social  
protection of vulnerable  
populations



**4,363** IDPs  
provided with  
consultations on social  
protection issues



**576**  
events



**8,546**  
participants of the events

## Veterans Reintegration Support



**1,614** services provided  
by the Houses of Veterans



**330** events



**1,284** persons  
provided with legal and psychological consultations

- The Programme provided methodological support in conducting needs assessment and developing social profiles to 64 Amalgamated Territorial Communities (ATCs) in 20 oblasts of Ukraine. Formal recommendations on the implementation of social services were developed and submitted for each ATC. More than 1,000 representatives of ATCs participated in the training sessions on needs assessment and conflict sensitivity.
- The Programme representatives developed *A guidance manual for needs assessment procedures of the populations in the ATCs*, infographics and information videos. They were distributed via the Radnyks network in 20 oblasts, on the checkpoints in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, and in the Houses of Veterans in Zhytomyr, Rivne, Mykolaiv and Odesa oblasts. The booklet *Prevention of Professional Burnout* and anti-burnout videos were created for public officials, and published on the websites of the Ministry of Social Policy (MOSP), Ministry for Veterans Affairs and State Employment Center.
- More than 370 ATC and local government representatives participated in facilitated dialogue sessions on social cohesion and critical conflict-related issues that were conducted together with the NGO *Foundation for Freedom*. Recommendations on the issues and ways for developing the social services delivery system were submitted to the MOSP and Ministry for Communities and Territories Development (MCTD).
- The information campaign *New Victories of the Heroes* was launched in partnership with Hromadske Radio within the signed Memorandum on Cooperation with the State Employment Center. The campaign aimed to help veterans reintegrate into their civilian lives and project a positive image of the Ukrainian military. 5 podcasts, 5 radio interviews, and 10 online articles tell about ATO/JFO veterans who received funding to start their own business.
- The research report *Children Affected by the Conflict in Ukraine* was prepared within the Programme activities. The report analyzes state legislation and policy on social protection of children in conflict, institutional and financial conditions for their protection, including the capacity of the relevant government bodies. The Radnyks at the regional level developed/updated 21 local programmes on including conflict-affected children into social protection and support system. The programme in Mykolaiv oblast was already adopted at the Regional State Administration level.
- On October 15-16, the Cross-regional Forum *Social Services in Communities: Legal Dimension* was held in Kyiv. The participants included representatives of the MOSP, in particular, the Minister of Social Policy, representatives of MCTD, ATCs, Departments of Social Protection and Labour, NGOs (*U-Lead*, *Despro*, *Crimea-SOS*, etc.) as well as national and regional Radnyks.

- On November 30 – December 1, a Hackathon on Social Cohesion was conducted in Kyiv by the Radnyk Programme in partnership with 1991 Civic Tech Center, Noosphere, Beetroot Academy and Yakaboo. The winner was an innovative Facebook chatbot *Legal Advisor for IDPs*. More than 30,000 beneficiaries have received legal consultations through the chatbot since December 2019.
- On December 5, a Memorandum on Cooperation was signed between the Radnyk Programme and the Coordination Centre for Legal Aid Provision. The Memorandum aims to ensure free legal aid for people affected by the conflict, promote and protect their human rights and fundamental freedoms by establishing cooperation in particular in organizing and conducting joint events, distributing informational materials, exchanging best practices, etc.
- The Programme finalized the draft on *Digitalization of a register of provision of social services to internally displaced persons and their monitoring*. The manual *100+ Anti-corruption measures* was finalized and submitted to the Minister of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine (CMU), who supported the initiatives stated in the manual. On September 26, a conference at the CMU club was held to agree upon an anti-corruption agenda.
- The project *Houses of Veterans* was implemented in Zhytomyr, Mykolaiv, Odesa and Rivne oblasts in cooperation with the Ministry for Veterans Affairs. More than 1,000 veterans and their family members received psychological and legal consultations, and participated in the support group meetings, training sessions and art-therapy sessions.
- Four draft recommendations for the implementation and operation of Houses of Veterans for local authorities and regional state administrations (RSAs) were developed and submitted to the Ministry for Veterans Affairs. The Ministry is discussing these recommendations with the RSAs. In January, the recommendations were adopted in Odesa and Rivne oblasts.
- On January 29, the concept of the National Centre for Documentation of Human Rights Violations on Temporarily Occupied Territories (TOT) was submitted to the Ministry for Veterans Affairs and was adopted at the session of the Interagency working group. The concept was developed within the Radnyk Programme activities. The Centre's purpose is for collecting information on human rights violations on the TOT, documenting crimes against humanity and war crimes, preparing analytical materials, and submitting them to the relevant government bodies.



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## Conclusions.

### The New Law of Ukraine *On Social Services and ATCs*

With the process of decentralization, the social services delivery system undergoes major changes. Along with new opportunities, ATCs took on new responsibilities. According to the New Law of Ukraine *On Social Services* adopted in January 2019 (came into force on January 1, 2020), ATCs are now responsible for providing social services to their residents instead of local divisions of state government bodies. This has led to the following issues:

- Financial decentralization is not accomplished so the mechanism for financing social services is not effective. The state allocates budgetary resources to the regional and oblast Departments of Social Protection and Labour, while the services are provided by ATCs. When the Departments re-allocate the funds, they must be utilized by legal entities (social welfare services), but since there are no such services in the ATCs, funds return to the state budget.
- There are no social services providers in ATCs. There are social workers employed in local government bodies, the departments providing social administrative services (benefits, certificates), but there are no eligible legal entities registered as social services providers by the Ministry of Social Policy.
- The Law stipulates that ATCs can outsource social services provided for their residents (they can be purchased from other communities, private entrepreneurs), but calculations to determine the cost of such social services have not been adopted yet. Therefore, small communities cannot ensure that social services are provided for their citizens.