

ANALYSIS OF THE CURRENT STATE OF POLITICAL EDUCATION IN UKRAINE

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Introduction

One of the main problems of modern Ukrainian society is the lack of political responsibility of officials and political education of citizens. Political education encourages people to acquire new knowledge and their participation in public affairs, to form responsible interaction and cooperation of citizens with the authorities.

Democratic regime establishing and civil society building is impossible without participating in the process of political decisions-making of active and conscious citizens who are capable of realizing their rights and being responsible to the community and society for their actions. In order to be able to do this, the citizen must understand the social and political reality and the processes that take place in it. Political education is aimed at creating a critical mass of citizens who have comprehensive and reliable information about political reality, independently and critically form their own opinions and are ready for public activity. It acts as a vital element not only in the construction and establishment of a democratic civil state, but also in the development and effective functioning of all spheres of social life.

The complicated economic, political and social situation in Ukraine during all years of independence is a consequence of a set of factors, among which the low level of participation of ordinary citizens in the process of political decisions-making plays an important role. The lack of multi-year tradition of political activity of citizens has become a significant barrier to build a civil society in the independent Ukraine.

A key factor in the process of political transformation of society is the comprehensive awareness of citizens about the activities of public authorities and its results, since political education is intended: 1) to eliminate political illiteracy of citizens; 2) to form democratic views and values; 3) to develop an understanding of politics; 4) to develop the ability of citizens to think critically.

As a result, political education should give people guidance – to promote awareness of its own interests, to search for ways of their acceptable implementation and influence on the existing political situation.

In view of this, the most important tasks are the collection, description and analysis of the current state of political education in Ukraine, identification of the main shortcomings of existing political education programs organized by political parties and non-governmental organizations, as well as ways of overcoming them.

This study is aimed to solve these problems. The document may be useful for representatives of higher education institutions, government agencies, political parties and non-governmental organizations in terms of studying the best practices in developing political education programs based on comparing existing programs, identifying the strengths and weaknesses of each of them. The paper contains a comprehensive analysis of political education programs from different actors, as well as analysis of needs that are not met by existing programs. As a result, political parties that do not currently have their own youth education projects or party literacy activists will receive the necessary guidance and experience that will encourage them to intensify their work in this direction. When developing such programs, political parties should pay attention to international non-governmental organizations, funds that provide support, including financial, for the implementation of such initiatives.



Chapter I.

Political education in Ukraine as a factor ensuring transition to the democratic state: challenges and opportunities

During the years of independence of Ukraine a low level of political awareness among citizens, including a lack of knowledge about their rights and responsibilities, low interest in participation in public affairs and solving social problems, indifferent attitude to political decision-making process essentially contributed to the deterioration of the social, political and economic situation in the country. These factors promoted the formation of passive Ukrainian society, which prevented the implementation of strong democratic values in it. The 2013–2014 Revolution of Dignity was a response of the active part of the society to the unlawful governing methods of the former Ukrainian authorities and demonstrated their willingness to take responsibility for addressing important public issues.

Today there is a rapid process of formation of civil society that actively controls the government. Some of them are currently represented in the politics. The significance of providing systematic knowledge of political education is explained by the need of political modernization and sustainable transition to a new social order based on democracy and the rule of law. In this context, the attention should be paid to the learning of important political experience of the democratic states, features of their political systems, and its adaptation to the realities of the political life in Ukraine.

Political education has a leading role in promoting democratic ideals and values in the Ukrainian society. Successful democratic state is based on the politically educated citizens who are involved in political decision-making and are able to take responsibility for the fate of their own country. Political education provides for the recognition of basic human values, including liberty and dignity of every individual, his natural rights. It promotes proper

understanding of the existing social and political order, its place and role in the country, rights and obligations. Having no knowledge of the political education and not understanding the nature of social and political processes in the country, a person can easily become the object of manipulation by various political forces, including destructive one. Politically educated citizens is the key prerequisite to the formation of conscious and responsible authorities¹.

Political education is a practice of systematic distribution of knowledge and learning about citizen's rights, freedoms, mechanisms of their implementation, ways of problems solving, political system and institutes of public governance as well as procedures of their functioning and ways to influence them, which results in competent participation of citizens in public life. The aim of the political education is to educate people to adequately react to the challenges of the complex and controversial world, to represent and protect their interests, while respecting the interests and rights of others and together solve common problems².

The main tasks of political education are the following:

- to eliminate the political illiteracy of citizens (respect for state symbols, provide politically unbiased knowledge of history, to study modern principles of good governance, the essence of political power and political regimes, electoral and party systems, rights and freedoms of people and citizens);
- to form democratic attitudes and values (respect for themselves and others, adherence to peaceful means of conflict resolution, justice, freedom and equality);
- to develop the understanding of policy (the process of creating, making and implementing political decisions);
- to develop the ability to think critically, to properly assess an event and offer the best solution to the problem)³.

Principles of political education:

- ☑ resolution of the problems through mutual agreement and respect for the interests of all parties;
- ☑ dialogue as essential component of a democratic political culture;
- ☑ preservation of the values of an open and fair society;
- ☑ political responsibility of public and government figures⁴.

System of political education includes academic education (schools and universities); postgraduate professional political education (training of public servants and civil activists); political education programs run by political parties and NGOs. Educational and scientific institutions are the centres of the civic formation of the younger generation. NGO activities should contribute to acquisition of knowledge by citizens as well as ideals and practical experience of participation in public affairs. Political parties promote raising the level of political literacy of citizens by simultaneously promoting their own programs, ideologies and electoral platforms. An important role in the spreading of the knowledge of political education plays media that permanently inform citizens about the constitutional structure of the country, legislative power, the election campaign and current political developments.

The target audience of political education are the citizens of different age groups, politicians, party activists, civil society leaders, public servants, law enforcement officers, military personnel and also scientists⁵.

There are the following stages of age-related political education:

- 1) school education;
- 2) higher and professional education;
- 3) adult education.

At the first stage there is the formation of the main values and settings of human behavior, sense of human dignity, respect for others, the person receives systematic knowledge about the organization of society, its institutions and governing bodies, the course of social processes, rights, freedoms and responsibilities of man and citizen. At the second stage, there is an expansion and comprehension of philosophical, cultural, legal and economic preconditions, the formation of a civic position and socio-political orientation of the individual. The fourth stage contributes to the adaptation of the adult to the changes taking place in society and its social status.

Along with the concept of “political education” there is another concept of “civic education” exists. Both terms are differently interpreted in the West. In the countries of Western Europe, the terms were fixed, which affects the process of obtaining knowledge about politics and education of civic culture. For the most part, the term “civil education” is used here, which is etymologically consistent with the term “civil education”. However, in some countries (Austria, Germany) the term political education (politische Bildung) is used. It should be noted, however, that, despite such a difference, these concepts combine educational measures for the formation of the values, skills and knowledge of the citizen, fundamentally important for the

reproduction and development of democratic mechanisms in society⁶. In the American interpretation the concept “civic education” is broader than “political education”, while in the German interpretation is vice versa. In Ukraine, political education is considered as a part of the civic education, means of creating a culture of citizenship⁷.

Democratic political education is characterized by the following topics: law-abiding, responsibility, political participation, critical attitudes towards government, individual freedom and tolerance. Law abiding as a self-limitation of the human, rejection of part of its freedom is closely associated with demanding and critical attitude towards authorities. Responsibility is considered as the necessity to subordinate to the requirements of order, stability and interests of other people, to coordinate the satisfaction of individual needs with the public interest in order to achieve social justice, with the obligatory observance of the individual rights and freedoms of man and citizen. Political activity provides for direct participation of citizens in the formation of public agenda and practical participation in solving social problems. Critical attitudes towards authorities combine recognition of legitimate power of the government and binding character of its decision with critical and demanding attitudes towards its actions, denying the facts of power abusing, the requirement to satisfy legitimate interests. Individual freedom is the free choice of the person's own path of development. Tolerance is a prerequisite of free realization of personal potential, the implementation of the principle of non-conformism⁸.

Chapter II.

System of political education: needs for modernisation

2.1. Political education by political parties

A number of parliamentary and extra-parliamentary parties organize their own political education programs aimed at educating young people in political leadership. First, let's consider in alphabetical order the program of political education of the parliamentary parties such as "Batkivshchyna" Party, "Petro Poroshenko Bloc" and "Samopomich Union". Then we will analyze in alphabetical order the program of political education of the non-parliamentary parties "Democratic Alliance" and "Syla Ludey".

2.1.1. Political education programmes run by the All-Ukrainian Union "Batkivshchyna"

The Political Party the All-Ukrainian Union "Batkivshchyna" provides programs of political education by means of the Centre for Political Education, which was established in January 2016. The Centre for Political Education is headed by an MP of 5th and 6th convocations Olena Shustik while the programs of political education are administered by the all-Ukrainian youth NGO "Young Batkivshchyna".

The all-Ukrainian youth NGO "Young Batkivshchyna" conducts biannual *School of Political Success* that seeks to form conscious political elite, educate a new generation of young politicians on the basis of national and patriotic values, share knowledge on how to promote their leadership skills in current political situation in Ukraine. As the Head of "Young Batkivshchyna" and MP Ivan Krulko said, such events allow educating new political elite who will run the country in 10–15 years. Forms of study include lectures, training, discussions, practical assignments and imitation games. In particular, the participants are assigned to set up a program and an election campaign in line with political ideologies, take part in presidential and parliamentary elections, form a coalition and appoint a government. Lecturers in the School of Political Success are mostly MPs from Batkivshchyna Ivan

Krulko, Borys Tarasyuk, Oleksandra Kuzhel, Vadym Ivchenko, civic society activists Andriy Shevchenko, Bohdan Hawrylyshyn (died in October 2016), Oleksandr Solontay as well as Ukrainian and foreign experts. The School of Political Success provides the following classes: “Values in Politics and Public Activity”, “Small and Medium Business in Ukraine”, “Youth Opportunities”, “Current Situation in Ukraine’s Foreign Policy”, “Political Ideologies”, “Positioning in Social Media”, “Openness and Communications in Politics”, “Election Marketing”, “How to Conduct Election Campaign without Significant Resources”, “Political PR”. The target audience is youth aged 16–28 years.

Apart from the “School of Political Success”, “Young Batkivshchyna” also periodically organizes the “*School of European Politician*” in partnership with the Konrad Adenauer Foundation – Office in Ukraine. The project includes a three days’ course of lectures and practical trainings covering the following subjects: “Political Ideologies in Europe”, “EU Youth Policy Experience”, “Role of Political Youth Organizations in Election Campaigns”. The School seeks to train a young generation of politicians in line with European traditions. German, Dutch and Ukrainian experts lecture in the School of European Politician⁹.

In November 2016, “Young Batkivshchyna” with the support of the National Democratic Institute (NDI) launched a new project “*School of Young Female Politicians*”. The project seeks to provide a new generation of young female politicians with patriotic education as well as knowledge, necessary to demonstrate leadership skills and assert civil rights in the current political situation in Ukraine.

2.1.2. Political education programmes run by the Party “Petro Poroshenko Bloc “Solidarity” (PPB)

The Party “Petro Poroshenko Bloc “Solidarity” (PPB) conducts periodic trainings, seminars and internship programs both in Ukraine and abroad in order to provide party activists and members with practical knowledge on political education. These events are carried out in a close cooperation with international NGOs, namely the Konrad Adenauer Foundation, International Republican Institute (IRI), National Democratic Institute (NDI), Robert Schuman Institute (Budapest). Currently a new program is being elaborated for young party members.

From June 6 to July 28, 2016 the Party Internship Program was held in Kyiv. It was initiated by the first deputy head of PPB branch in Kyiv Pavlo Tarasyuk. 46 PPB party members were willing to take the internship program and master their skills in political activities. They learnt organizational management in the Secretariat of PPB Territorial Organization and local branches in Pecherskyi, Holiivskyi, Sviatoshynskyi and Solomianskyi districts of Kyiv.

The interns also learnt work standards in PPB Secretariat, took part in special communication seminars via social media, basic eloquence training and organizational management in campaign headquarters. As Pavlo Tarasyuk said, the internship program helps to improve communication between the party and its voters¹⁰.

In 2016, the PPB conducted 5 trainings and educational programs aimed at acquiring and mastering skills related to political activities (2 in Ukraine and 3 abroad). In February 2016 upon the initiative of MP Artur Herasymov PPB Donetsk branch held a seminar “How to arrange an efficient work by newly elected deputies of a local council” for local deputies. The following month the NDI assisted in conducting training “Women in Policy” for female party activists. It was stressed that women should be more actively involved in policy while establishment of female interfactional entities in local councils should promote gender-oriented projects at local level¹¹.

PPB pays a high attention to learning foreign experience. In June 2016, PPB with the assistance of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation Office in Ukraine organized an educational program in Berlin for Ukrainian local politicians and civic activists. The program included meeting Bundestag and Bundesrat deputies, Christian Democratic Union leadership and visiting Reichstag and Administration of German Federal Chancellor. The participants also attended 12th Kyiv Dialogue – a platform for sharing ideas between Ukrainian and German leading experts in politics, business and technologies aimed at forming Ukraine’s positive image in Europe¹². On September 15, 2016 PPB activists took part in three weeks” courses for youth leaders from Eastern European countries in Budapest organized by the Robert Schuman Institute and supported by the Eduardo Frei Foundation. Three weeks” courses (one week per month in September, November and December) covered topics that are relevant to Ukraine nowadays, namely development of democracy and civil society in various European countries¹³. On September 24, 2016 Vienna held a three days” training on voter education during inter-election period organized by the Robert Schuman Institute and International Republican Institute to the end that female politicians could efficiently interact and communicate with voters¹⁴.

2.1.3. Political education programmes run by “Samopomich” Union

A Youth wing of the Political Party “Samopomich” Union was established in November 2015. It conducts one day’s trainings on political education for youth. In December 2015, they launched a project “School of Young Politician” – a series of practical master classes conducted by MPs from the “Samopomich”. Subsequently, they started trainings on various subjects: “How to become successful”, “How to unleash and use a unique potential”, “PR-technologies in politics”, “Holding negotiations”, “Art of time management”, “Values in urban management”, On August 20, 2016 the “Sam-

opomich” youth wing organized a one days project “School of Young Diplomat”. The event included three trainings: eloquence training, diplomatic protocol and etiquette and image-making. These trainings were important to solidify the acquired knowledge on political education in practice¹⁵.

In the near future, the “Samopomich” youth wing plans to launch two projects: 2nd School of Young Politician (aimed to continue the above project) and an internship program “First Step”. The latter is scheduled for several months and provides for flexible working hours, an option to choose a sphere of internship and job prospects in case of successful completion. The interns will take a role of lawyers, deputy assistants, analysts, HR managers, press assistants, project managers, interpreters and economists. The internship program “First Step” demonstrates that political education programs by the “Samopomich” are gradually transformed from one day’s trainings to more prolonged events.

2.1.4. Political education programmes run by the political party “Syla Luday”

Political parties “Syla Ludey” and “Democratic Alliance” are active in political education programs among extra-parliamentary parties.

The “Syla Ludey” organizes a number of periodic projects at national and local levels. A project “Party School” is conducted at the national level. Apart from projects, there are also courses, lectures, seminars and trainings relevant to political education.

The Project “Party School” seeks to provide education for senior executives, candidates for respective positions and senior party members who intend to build up the party. The training course consists of six trainings devoted to the following subjects: the “Syla Ludey” structure, rights and obligations of senior executives at different levels, powers of controlling and auditing commissions at different levels, party financial structure, history and ideology of the “Syla Ludey”. Upon completion, the participants are eligible to take a test and subsequently receive certificates¹⁶.

The “Syla Ludey” also conducts lectures, seminars and trainings on the following issues: “State financing of political parties”, “Citizen’s outreach and intraparty communication”, “Communications with citizens during inter-election period”, “Fundraising”, “Media relations” etc.

2.1.5. Political education programmes run by the political party “Democratic Alliance”

Political education projects by the “Democratic Alliance” are conducted by the party itself, the all-Ukrainian youth NGO “Democratic Alliance Youth”

and the “Democratic Alliance” Kyiv branch. All three structures conduct a joint summer camp “Country of Responsibility” aimed at solidifying their representatives for studying and future planning. Program issues of the summer camp are determined by the needs and current situation in Ukraine. In particular, the previous summer camps were devoted to the following subjects: local elections, parliamentary elections, capacity building of politicians and team skills.

“Democratic Alliance” organizes schools, trainings (a “*School of Political Management*” and a series of trainings from trainers were conducted in 2016) and training camps on a non-systemic basis. Besides, the party delegates its activists to international programs and exchanges, internship in the European Parliament and annual visits to Trier, Germany.

The “Democratic Alliance Youth” is the most active structure in organizing political education programs. It carries out a number of non-systemic projects, such as “*ICity: a City Friendly with You*”, “*Academy of Political Education*” and “*School of Young Leader*”. The project “*ICity: a City Friendly with You*” seeks to train experts in urban infrastructure in order to create favourable urban conditions for youth and young families. This course includes two trainings for two groups in various cities aimed at learning their experience. The target audience is youth aged 16–28, “Democratic Alliance Youth” members and externally involved participants. There were three training courses held in 2013 (on transport and infrastructure held in Lviv and Vinnytsia), 2014 (on transportation and energy efficiency held in Lviv and Vinnytsia), and 2015 (on tourism in Ukrainian cities held in Odessa and Ivano-Frankivsk).

Youth may also acquire political literacy within an international project “*Academy of Political Education*” which was carried out in 2007–2011 and resumed in 2015. The project is implemented by the “Democratic Alliance Youth” in cooperation with Swedish partners. The project is aimed at increasing the number of value-oriented and competent young people who are willing to take responsibility for Ukraine’s democratic and tranquil development. It is carried out by means of seminars, roundtables, research, debating articles. The project covers the following subjects: “*Democracy*”, “*Civil Society and its Means of Influencing the National Development*”, “*Political Systems*”, “*Party Systems and Political Parties*”, “*Mechanisms of Political Responsibilities by Political Parties in Ukraine and in the World*”, “*Modern Political Ideologies*”, “*Christian-Democratic Movement, its Origin and Development*”, “*Subsidiarity and Local Self-Governance*”, “*Youth Participation in State-Building Processes*”. The event provides for practical trainings on developing and running political campaigns, writing appeals to state authorities, running fundraising campaign, media relations, drawing up and implementing projects. It is targeted at young people aged 16–28 years. The events are mainly held in the regions of Mykolaiv, Zhytomyr, Dni-

pro, Odessa, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Zaporizhia, Chernihiv, Ivano-Frankivsk and Vinnytsia.

Since 2012, the “Democratic Alliance Youth” has been running a project “Leader School” with the support of the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine and foreign partners. Its primary goal is to promote the development of leadership skills by Ukrainian youth in the context of educating responsible, value-oriented and patriotic Ukrainian public and political elite. The project program provides for two days’ seminars in various regions and an integral seminar in Ukraine. It is based on unique European techniques and stirring-up trainings that help develop leadership and team skills and learn to resolve societal problems by means of project teamwork. The motivation of participants to work in this environment and their potential for career development rather than their previous experience of public activity are taken into consideration during the selection.

The “Democratic Alliance” Kyiv branch runs a project “Democratic Alliance Teams” on a constant basis. There are the following requirements for participation in this project: to put together a team of 3–5 persons, fill up a form, comply with the task and win selection, select a team leader, start work project, attend two training weekends and three master classes, work with target audience in the field and finally gain a support for implementing the project. The projects shall be aimed at lobbying a decision by local authorities to address concrete urgent problems facing a societal group. Seminars have the following subjects: “How the power and local self-government are organized”, “What are district passport, playing field and points of clash”, “Project management”, “PR technologies of political activity”, “Access to public information”, “Practical experience of current local councils deputies”, “Fundraising in a political party”, “Campaign headquarters”. The last project was organized in autumn 2016. The “Democratic Alliance” Kyiv branch conducts non-regular trainings, master classes, namely a training on an access to public information or a master class “How politicians should run social media”. A close attention is paid to transport issues in Kyiv. The “Democratic Alliance” Kyiv branch plans a launch a debating club.

2.1.6. Differences in political education from political parties

Only a small percentage of active political parties in Ukraine are implementing programs on political education. “Batkivshchyna”, “Democratic Alliance” and “Syla Ludey” implement short-and medium-term projects on political education, such as young people’s training and active political party functionaries for political leadership. Such parliamentary parties as “BPP” and “Samopomich Union” mainly carry out short-term measures – seminars, lectures and trainings within the framework of the subjects of political education. Above-mentioned political forces, both parliamentary and non-parliamentary, have plans to launch their own longer-term projects on



political education. Such parliamentary forces as “Narodnyi front”, “Opposition bloc”, “Vidrodzhennya” and “Volya narodu” don't pay particular attention to the problem of political education, almost they don't have such programs and don't declare intentions about its development in the future.

The common features in the implementation of political education by the above-mentioned political forces are the following:

- 1) the predominant orientation towards young people and functionaries of their own political party;
- 2) used tools for political knowledge assimilating – lectures, trainings, discussions, internships;
- 3) the emphasis on the upbringing of future political leaders as the main focus of political education;
- 4) the consolidation of political education, mainly for youth units of the party;
- 5) raising awareness of the gender issue in politics and conducting appropriate training for women-politicians;
- 6) the focus on the study of the world, particularly European experience.

If to talk about the distinctive features of the political education projects implementation by Ukrainian parties, among them should be mentioned the following:

- 1) the presence of a special unit that would deal with political education (only “Batkivshchyna” created the Center for Political Education, in other parties these functions are performed by departments for work with the public, regions, etc.);
- 2) regularity and duration of the events;
- 3) audience of events being conducted – orientation to the external or internal audience;
- 4) the breadth of coverage of political education.

On the basis of this we can conclude that although the tendency to increase attention to the problems of political education is observed, this problem still does not occupy a prominent position in the work of most political parties of Ukraine. The main reason is the absence of a long-term strategy of working with the electorate in the majority of political forces and the consideration of the party as a political project for elections. One more

reason is that representatives of many parties do not have any knowledge of the algorithm of their own projects developing on political education. That is an urgent need for consulting these parties in terms of their projects development on political education.

2.2. Political education from non-governmental organizations (Ukrainian and international)

Ukrainian and international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are very active in the area of delivering political education knowledge. Among Ukrainian NGOs, such activities are carried out by the civil organization “The Interns League”, Bohdan Hawrylyshyn Charitable Foundation, the “Institute for Political Education”, “Eidos: Centre for Political Studies and Analysis”, and the “Laboratory for Legislative Initiatives”.

International NGOs both run their own projects and support initiatives of their Ukrainian colleagues. Those are the International Republican Institute, the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (US), German organizations Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Friedrich Ebert Stiftung, Friedrich Naumann Foundation, and the International Centre for Democratic Transition (ICDT).

2.2.1. Training program at the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine

Participation in the training program at the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine is an important stage in the professional carrier of the future Ukrainian politicians. This project has been successfully working for 20 years. The training program was established in July 1995 under a joint initiative of MPs from the US Congress and the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. Since 2014, the Program is administered by the “Interns” League” (established in May 2009) under support by the USAID “RADA Program: Responsible Accountable Democratic Assembly” and the East Europe Foundation. Participants are admitted to the traineeship program on an annual basis. In addition to traineeship at the Verkhovna Rada, similar programs are administered at the regional executive bodies and at the Presidential Administration. About 1,500 individuals participated in the traineeship program during its lifetime. People's Deputies of Ukraine Ostap Semerak and Valerii Karpuntsov, Deputy Head of the Central Election Commission Andriy Magera, assistant deputies, public figures are among its graduates.

A goal of the traineeship program is to provide youth with an opportunity to participate immediately in the legislative and public decision-making processes, obtain experience of work at the legislative and executive bodies, create preconditions for their professional growth and successful social and political activities.



The traineeship program includes the following components: the traineeship itself, study and leadership development. Under the traineeship component, participants are involved into activities of the Verkhovna Rada committees and staff. Interns actively participate in developing laws and normative legal documents, prepare briefs on topics related to current legislation, prepare draft laws to the first reading, explanatory notes and comparative tables. Under the study component, participants attend study courses, workshops, trainings on law-making technique, gender policy, public policy analysis.

Main topics of study include: “Fundamentals of the legislative process and the Verkhovna Rada regulation,” “Main elements of draft law approval process,” “Peculiarities of the budgetary process,” “Development of interpersonal communication skills and teamwork.”

At trainings on law-making technique, trainees discuss principles of normative activities, fundamentals of norm-making technique, a structure of the law, and general requirements to the language of the law. Seminars on gender policy concentrate on the efficient inclusion of gender approaches in the budgetary policy and in the process of adapting the Ukrainian legislation to the requirements of international organizations and agreements. A goal of the course on policy analysis is to provide knowledge on the theory of public administration, public policy analysis and mechanisms of its introduction, formation and development of analytical writing skills. Under the leadership development component, interns can meet with famous political and public figures from Ukraine and all over the world, in particular: President of Ukraine Viktor Yushchenko, People's Deputies Yulia Tymoshenko, Mykola Tomenko, Anatoliy Hrytsenko, US Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Jovanovic, members of the US Congress Marcie Kaptur and Bob Sheffer.¹⁷

2.2.2. Political education programmes run by the Bohdan Hawrylyshyn Charitable Foundation

The **Young Generation will Change Ukraine** Program of the Bohdan Hawrylyshyn Charitable Foundation is a good example of practical acquisition of knowledge in the area of political education knowledge, when groups of participants study successful experience of reforms in various spheres of socio-political life in leading European countries. A target audience of this program is young people in the age of 20 to 35, including NGO activists, public servants, deputies of the city, district and oblast councils, students. A goal of the *Young Generation will Change Ukraine* Program is mastering by participants of a successful experience of political and economic transformations in the leading European states to prepare them for future political activity, participation in local and parliamentary elections, work at public bodies and NGOs.

The *Young Generation will Change Ukraine* Program includes the following stages. At the first stage, participants form teams of 6–7 persons. Each team must include a political expert, lawyer, economist, sociologist or a cultural anthropologist, or persons who have scientific interest in those areas. At the second stage, participants study, in detail, experience of one of the six European states (Austria, Germany, Norway, Switzerland, Sweden, and Poland). These states were selected for their achieving complete political freedom (transparency and openness of the power), high level of economic well-being for all population, social equity, and symbiotic coexistence with the biosphere. Teams study constitutions of those states, structure and power of all public authorities, their system of effective decision-making and implementation of public decisions, an ideology and plans of three leading political parties, an economic system, a role of the state in economy, employer-trade union relations, social system (science, education, health care, pension provision) and environmental policy. After that, the program organizes meetings with ambassadors and advisors at the respective embassies in Kiev to further enhance participants' knowledge. Then the first one-week visit to the selected state takes place, when participants study possibilities to use successful experience of a respective state in Ukraine. Further stages of the program envisage reporting, joining the Alumni Association of the *Young Generation will Change Ukraine* Program, internship at public bodies, work at the local executive or legislative bodies, participation in the parliamentary elections.

The participants disseminate knowledge and experience obtained through writing papers, giving TV and radio interviews about main conclusions of their research. The main idea behind establishing this program is to unite the progressive young generation on the basis of common values, world views, who, in the perspective, may establish political parties on various sociological platforms (socialist, centrist or liberal). Program alumni may go to the parliament with the newly created parties and suggest laws necessary for successful socio-political and economic transformation in Ukraine.¹⁸

In addition to the *Young Generation will Change Ukraine* Program, in March 2015, the Bohdan Hawrylyshyn Charitable Foundation launched a new project, the **Bohdan Hawrylyshyn Political School**, with a goal to help young people in creating new political philosophy. Its main tasks are to increase a level of political education in youth; to involve young people into active participation in Ukraine's political and civic life; to have young people meet with European and Ukrainian politicians, experts and public figures of the new formation; and to foster development of competences inherent to the politician of the new generation. Education at the school is delivered in the format of lectures and meetings with European policy-makers from Austria, Germany, Norway, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, discussions, debates, simulations, retreats and workshops. The school curriculum envisages mastering the following topics: *Political systems and activities of politicians*

in different states; Peculiarities of political party functioning; Values and ideology as a basis for political activity; peculiarities of the legislative activities; Lobbying in politics; Political Fundraising; Public speaking; Business style of a politician; Using modern political technologies in electoral campaigns; Activities of mass media and cooperation with them; Work with voters locally; and Use of new media in politician's work. A target audience for the Bohdan Hawrylyshyn Political School includes members of the Young Generation will Change Ukraine Program Association and youth in the age of 20–35.¹⁹

2.2.3. The Studio of the European Politics run by the Institute for Political Education

The Institute for Political Education implements a project, which is called the **Studio of the European Politics**. A goal of this project is to create a pro-European network of the new-tide promising political leaders and activists that will impact local, regional and state policy through supporting synergy in efforts of Ukrainian participants and the European community.

The Studio of the European Politics Project includes the following stages. The first stage takes place in Kyiv and is dedicated to the creation of a team and setting up communication among participants. The main goal of lectures and trainings delivered is to provide basic knowledge about the current situation in the Ukraine-EU relations, to study experience and best practices of the new EU member states in implementing various reforms. The second and third stages take place in a particular Ukraine's regional centre and are focused on problem discussion. At the fourth stage, a study visit abroad is organized with a goal to learn about activities of EU institutions, central and local authorities and social infrastructure. The Project's target audience includes youth under 40 with leadership achievements in the area of political activity, public service, and civic activism.²⁰

The Institute for Political Education organizes many other projects on political education; however, they mostly deal with education of local politicians and decentralization reform, which will be discussed in part 3 of this study.

2.2.4. The Ukrainian School for Political Studies run by the Laboratory of Legislative Initiatives

NGO "The Laboratory of Legislative Initiatives", together with the Council of Europe, has been running an educational networking project **The Ukrainian School for Political Studies** (USPS further on) for ten years in succession already.

A goal of the project is to improve culture of public policy in Ukraine based on principles of justice, trust and dialogue. The USPS program includes three sessions that take place during a year in different regions of Ukraine. The education is delivered in the form of lectures, discussions, round tables, role and strategic games, trainings. Participants gain necessary knowledge and skills needed to build a successful political carrier, participation in the decision-making process at all levels, solving social problems. Main topics of the Ukrainian sessions include: *Fundamentals of democracy: The political processes. The national idea; Local governance and regional policy; Mass media in the democratic society; The market economy and democracy; and Major reforms in Ukraine: Public policy analysis; International issues and the European policy.* The main stage of the educational program includes a trip to Strasburg to the Council of Europe, to the World Forum for Democracy.

The program also envisages study tours to the European Court on Human Rights and to the Permanent Representative Office of Ukraine at the Council of Europe. A target audience of the project is people up to 35 who hold an active civil position and are able to use knowledge in their everyday activities.²¹

2.2.5. Political education projects run by the International Republican Institute (IRI)

The International Republican Institute (IRI) runs three periodic projects on political education. Two of those – The Academy of Political Leadership and The School of Young Politician – are national, while the third one, Support to Development of Local Governance in Ukraine, is dealing with education of policy-makers at the local level.

The Academy of Political Leadership is aimed at training of new responsible and effective political leaders, which envisages practical study, and creation of the site to enable experience exchange among young politicians from different regions of Ukraine. Traditionally, three series of two-day educational seminars cover the following topics: *The political leadership, Efficient media communications, and Organization of public lobbying campaigns.* Seminars usually take place in different regions of Ukraine. A target audience of the program is youth in the age from 19 to 40, deputies of local councils, political party and public activists.²²

A goal of the **School of Young Politicians** is to provide active youth who want to realize themselves in the public or political sphere with knowledge on political party activities, means and methods of state building in Ukraine, as well as peculiarities of local governance. The school alumni receive some advantages, including an access to all vacancies in public bodies, guaranteed placement in the state bodies, free participation in all future school's

seminars, membership in the Young Politicians Club and participation in round tables and political talk shows.

The IRI project **Support to Development of Local Governance in Ukraine** that will be described in Chapter 3, is dedicated to regional aspects of political education.

2.2.6. Political education projects run by The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI)

The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI) has three programs on political education: Political Party Strengthening, Gender Equality in Politics at All Levels, and Citizen Participation in Governance and Election Monitoring.

A goal of the **Political Party Strengthening** Program is to enhance and broaden democratic values and practices in Ukraine through providing political parties with an opportunity to develop their party structures at all levels and establish contact with voters all over the country both during the elections and in the period between elections, as well as to broaden rights and opportunities of party members and supporters. This is performed by training of party trainers who then transfer knowledge obtained at trainings to their colleagues. In the long term, NDI intends to encourage its partners to create separate training departments. NDI cooperates with all Ukrainian political parties representing the whole political spectrum upon their requests. A separate area under the Political Party Strengthening Program is keeping voters databases. This mechanism allows to better understand attitudes in the society. Main topics of study are Pre-Election Technologies; Fundraising; Women's Leadership; Public Speech; Organization of Activities in Constituencies; and Intraparty Communications.

A goal of the **Gender Equity in Politics at All Levels** Program is to involve women into party activities and to include gender policy issues into party platforms. NDI offers trainings and educational seminars for women-candidates to elective offices, women-deputies and party activists aimed at development leadership qualities and professional development in women in politics. In addition, NDI provides technical assistance to the Inter-Fractional Deputy" Association "Equal Opportunities" and supports the subcommittee for gender equality and non-discrimination of the Committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on human rights, ethnic minorities and ethnic relations.

The **Citizen Participation in Governance and Election Monitoring Program** is aimed at introduction of comprehensive strategies of public lobbying campaigns involving citizens, representatives of elective bodies, political leaders and government officials. NDI actively cooperates with NGOs in-

volved in election monitoring in Ukraine, in particular, with the civil network OPORA, helping its members to develop their organizational potential and improve professional knowledge in the area of election monitoring.

NDI uses various methods in its activity. In particular, it organizes seminars where only one or several parties may participate, consultations and meetings for representatives of party headquarters, trainings for trainers and educational trips to other states for political activists. It offers trainings and seminars for women-elected officials, candidates and party activists. NDI provides technical assistance to gender-oriented inter-fraction deputy associations that involves events on strategic planning, communication building and networking with citizens and civil society organizations. It uses the newest technologies to achieve democratic values, including online instruments for public consultations regarding local budgets; develops databases for citizen network management; introduces use of tablets for public opinion studies; uses online videos to teach parties and visualize citizens' requests for changes; and teaches online fundraising techniques to parties.

2.2.7. Political education projects run by the Konrad Adenauer Foundation

In cooperation with Ukrainian NGOs, the representative office of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation runs the following recurrent political education projects: The Advanced Political School (in partnership with "Eidos: Centre for Political Studies and Analysis"), the Studio of the European Politics (in partnership with the "Institute of Political Education"), the School of the European Politician (in partnership with "Young Batkivshchyna"), and the East Partnership Leaders for Changes (in partnership with the "Ukrainian Institute of International Politics" and the Eduardo Frei Foundation).

A goal of the **East Partnership Leaders for Changes** Project is to foster political modernization of the East Partnership countries (in particular, Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova) by educating political party representatives and public activists. Workshop under the project envisage introduction to the European integration processes, provision of the expert opinion on the East partnership to the participants, and interactive trainings to improve communication skills.

In addition to the projects above, the Ukrainian Office of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation organizes various annual events, in particular, a round table dedicated to research of the contemporary political landscape in Ukraine (in partnership with the Committee of Voters of Ukraine), and a series of seminars on the following topics: Public Funding of Political Parties – How Can the Political Corruption be Stopped?; Decommunisation and Policy of National Memory: Implementation, Outcomes, Prospects; and Youth Political Organizations as a Component of the Political Life.

One of priorities in activities of the Office of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Ukraine is support to development of the party system in Ukraine. The Konrad Adenauer Foundation supported publication of the book “Ukraine’s Party System Before and After Maidan: Changes, Development Tendencies, Social Demands.” In the context of the Verkhovna Rada reform, the Konrad Adenauer Foundation has also supported publication of the textbook “Activities of German Bundestag – Ideas for Work of the Ukrainian Parliament” by Philipp Austerman and Jan Menzer.²³

2.2.8. Political education programmes run by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES)

The main goal of activities of the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) is implementation of fundamental ideals and values of social democracy, in particular: freedom, justice, solidarity. The Foundation works closely with social democrats and free trade union organizations. Main forms of FES activities are political education activities, political consultations, international cooperation, support to gifted youth, and preservation of the collective memory of social democracy.²⁴

In the context of popularization of the idea of social democracy in the Ukrainian society, the FES Ukraine Office organizes the following annual events: a summer school of social democracy and a social-democratic campus. In total, seven summer schools on social democracy have been organized so far, each of them dedicated to a particular topic: From Populism to Radicalism: What Social Democracy Can Counter (the 7th summer school); Active Citizenship (the 6th summer school). Main tasks of this project are to study best public initiatives at the local and national levels and experience of cooperation between the public and the government in Germany, as well as to improve knowledge in the area of project planning and implementation. The target audience of the summer school of social democracy is youth in the age of 20–30 who are interested in the ideas of social democracy and ready to contribute to their dissemination.

Similarly to the project above, the FES Ukraine Office organizes the social democratic campus. In 2015–2016, two such campuses took place on the following broad topics: *Social Democracy. Trade Unions. Initiatives. Focus on Renewal of the State*, and *Innovative ideas. Efficient Campaigns*. The main goal of the social democratic campus is to create a platform to unite active leaders of NGOs, trade unions and activists of the social democratic platform. At seminars and master classes organized under this project, its participants study history of social democracy, a new image and prospects of social democracy and trade unions in Ukraine, and the austerity policy in the prism of social democracy.

The FES Ukraine Office also uses educational and informational visits to Germany, which include meetings with representatives of the Social-Democratic Party of Germany (SPD). The aim of such visits is to learn about peculiarities of SPD operation and funding, its structure, main areas of activities and activities of the youth wing of the party.

2.2.9. Political education projects run by the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF)

The Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF) is the liberal policy foundation that supports strengthening of human freedom and dignity. Its goal is, by means of political education, to create preconditions for people in Germany and all over the world to enjoy benefits of freedom. Main priorities of Foundation's activities in Ukraine include intraparty democracy and efficient organizational structure of political parties and youth associations; local governance and citizen-centered municipal policy. FNF's Ukrainian partners are political parties, non-governmental organizations and think tanks.

The FNF Office in Ukraine actively cooperates with political parties of liberal orientation, in particular, the "Power of People" (Syla Ludey) Party. The *Activation of Local Organizations of the Power of People Political Party Project* is being implemented on a regular basis under its support. Under this project that took place during April – October 2016, 75 trainings were delivered for party activists and trainers on effective use of information requests and citizen appeals, and organization and carrying out of peaceful meetings. A goal of the project is to invigorate activities of party activists and organizations in promoting an ideology and program of the Power of People political party.

Under support of the FNF Office in Ukraine, in September 2016, the "Power of People" party members made an information visit to the Austrian liberal party NEOS. In 2013, this party made it to the Austrian Parliament for the first time. NEOS party members shared with Ukrainian colleagues their experience of forming a parliamentary candidate list, successful communication strategy of the political party, and party building.

In the context of disseminating knowledge on the liberal ideology, in August 2016, the FNF Office in Ukraine organized a liberal summer camp, where participants attended lectures on liberalism, its advantages and directions. One of the main areas of FNF activity is transparent funding of political parties. With this goal, a forum *Transparent Finances: Ways of Law Implementation* was organized, where such topics as prevention and combatting political corruption in Ukraine, a need to adopt a law on media transparency, prohibition of political advertising, funding of parliamentary parties

from Ukraine's state budget as implementation of the adopted law, were discussed.²⁵

2.2.10. Differences in political education from international and Ukrainian non-governmental organizations

Non-governmental organizations demonstrate a completely different level of organization of political education activities than political parties. First of all, they are distinguished by the regularity in the projects implementation on political education. A major theme of most non-governmental organizations' projects is teaching to political leadership. The main audience is the youth, whom the organized events are directed to. Most programs, both from political parties and from non-governmental organizations, are financed with the support of international organizations and foundations, in particular the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom. Most regular NGO projects are targeted at both the national and regional levels (for example, programs of the International Republican Institute). Non-governmental organizations generally conduct training for the entire spectrum of political parties at their request (for example, the National Democratic Institute for International Relations of the USA), although some are oriented towards cooperation with specific political forces, that profess a certain ideology (for example, the Frederick Naumann Foundation for Freedom predominantly co-operates with the political party "Syla Luday").

The common features of political education programs organized by non-governmental organizations are the following:

- 1) the regularity of projects that implemented by non-governmental organizations (some projects have been implemented for over 20 years, such as the Training program at the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine);
- 2) focus on the topics of political leadership;
- 3) sources of funding – international organizations and funds;
- 4) coverage at both regional and national level;
- 5) orientation towards cooperation with the political forces of the entire political spectrum;
- 6) great attention to the study of best practices and the creation of conditions for its implementation in Ukraine.

Among the distinctive features of political education programs organized by non-governmental organizations are the following:

- 1) thematic filling of programs on political education (content of studies within the program);
- 2) the scope of coverage of political education problems (some non-governmental organizations implement a complex of interconnected political education programs, and some are limited to some aspect of the given problem);
- 3) the audience targeted by political education programs (some non-governmental organizations are oriented towards the general public, and some focus their attention, for example more on political parties).

Thus, international and Ukrainian non-governmental organizations are the leading actors involved in implementing a significant stratum of political education programs in Ukraine. Their activities in this area are characterized by systematic, regularity and quality. An urgent task is to create an appropriate platform for coordinating the work of non-governmental organizations in the direction of political education implementation.

Chapter III.

Changes in the system of political education caused by the conflict in Donbas

Every year, NGO The Centre for Civic Initiatives, under FNF support, organizes *the Summer School of Self-Governance: East*. In August 2016, such school took place in Svyatohirsk, north from Slavyansk in the Donetsk Oblast. A goal of the summer school in Svyatohirsk was to foster development and spread of real multifaceted local governance in Ukraine's territorial communities. An immediate result of this summer school was that Kramatorsk joined the Open City portal and the Association of Open Cities of Ukraine which currently unites 23 cities that use e-governance in their work with local communities.

In October 2016, NGO *The Agency of Democratic Development of Donbas*, under support of the Ukrainian Women's Fund, launched *The Active Women – Strong Donbas Communities Project*²⁶. Seven local organizations from Slovyansk, Mykolaivka, Kramatorsk and Oleksandrivka in Donbas joined the project. A goal of the *Active Women – Strong Donbas Communities Project* is to enhance participation of women and women's organizations in development of the new communities created in the Donetsk Oblast as a result of the decentralization process and to produce clear mechanisms of participation of the internally displaced persons (IDPs further on) in the life of new communities. Its main tasks are to revitalize women's civic movement in Donbas, provide consultations and deliver educational events for active women in Donetsk Oblast. During the awareness-raising campaign, activists of the Agency of Democratic Development of Donbas disseminated a booklet *The Gender Map of Donbas in the Conditions of Decentralization*²⁷, which visually demonstrated women's representation in the political life of Donbas. In particular, there are 14% of women among town and village heads, 74% of senior public service positions. 29% of local and district councils of Donetsk Oblast are women, as well as 46% of members of local organizations of political parties represented at the Verkhovna Rada

of Ukraine. At the same time, there is not a single woman among mayors of the cities of oblast significance in the Donetsk oblast, heads of district state administrations or heads of oblast organizations of political parties represented at the Ukrainian parliament.

NGO *The Active Youth Bloc*, under support of the National Endowment for Democracy, periodically organizes trainings on civic activism for IDPs. Its goal is to train a new generation of civic leaders among IDPs. Importance of this project is explained by the fact that before the outburst of the war, the situation in occupied territories had been characterized by public passivity, political illiteracy and residents' inability to influence power. Main topics that will be discussed at the training are *How to write a request for information; How to submit a petition; How to bring together likeminded people; How to control taxes.*²⁸

NGO STUDENA, in partnership with the Centre for Political and Legal Reforms, Department of Social Policy of the Kyiv City State Administration, the Social Centre for Family, Youth and Sports, and the Employment Service launches the *For Veterans to Power! (For VDV!) Project* with a goal to prepare veterans of the Anti-Terroristic Operation (ATO) for work in public service positions and their integration into bodies of the executive. To achieve this goal, an educational centre for veterans opens in the city of Kyiv. Education in the centre will include two stages: the general and the specialized ones. At the general stages, participants study fundamentals of paperwork management, public relations, a package of anticorruption nature, basic laws and regulations. The specialized stage is aimed at the practical preparation for work in the public sphere and study of its sphere of responsibility. A target audience of the project is ATO veterans from Kyiv and the Donetsk Oblast. The project has the following anticipated outcomes. In the short run: setting up implementation of the planned state programs for veterans; change in the attitude in former military personnel to participation in the public service; 60 veterans trained in Kyiv and 25 veterans from the Donetsk Oblast. A long-term project implementation result is an improved process of psycho-social adaptation as a result of simplification in communication with the state agencies and reduced sabotage at the local level. A course of lectures for future public servants from former ATO participants will be available through the open online platform *Prometheus*.

The *Strong Communities of Donechchyna Movement* established in December 2014 by NGO "Centre UA" does not specialize in political education, limiting itself to purely civic education. A goal of this movement is to assist the civil society of Donetsk region to get practical skills of control and influence over the authorities by means of studies, investigations, direct actions. In 2016, representatives of the Strong Communities of Donechchyna Movement have organized five public lectures in towns of Toretsk, Kramatorsk, Slovyansk, Druzhkivka and Novohrodivka. Main topics included de-



velopment of the civil society, fundamentals of democracy, preparation for public speeches. Project's target audience is public activists and representatives of small and medium business.

In September 2016, representatives of the Strong Communities of Donechchyna Movement conducted a two-day educational course *Modern Means of Public Influence and Financial Control* in Severodonetsk in the Luhansk Oblast. Seminar topics were *Anticorruption agencies in Ukraine*, *The administrative and judicial appeal as an effective form of protection of rights of citizens*; *Instruments of communication between the power and the public*; *Journalist investigation in the public activity*; *Participatory budget*; and *Effective public work: activity and professionalism*.²⁹

In January 2017, the Kyiv Office of the Kennan Institute, in cooperation with the Fulbright Academic Exchange Program, NGO *The Ukrainian Fulbright Circle* and the Institute for Leadership and Administration of the Ukrainian Catholic University (Lviv) organize the *Winter School of Leadership* for students from Donbas and Crimea. A goal of the School of Leadership is to support public initiative of youth from Donbas and Crimea. Project's target audience is relocated students and students from universities relocated from the ATO zone and Crimea. Education will take place in the form of lectures by leading researchers and professors from Ukraine and USA, public figures and policy-makers. Topics will cover issues of international politics and security, diplomacy, culture, history, social entrepreneurship, effective media communications, project management.

Conclusions

Outline of the gaps in the political education to be addressed

Presence of politically educated citizens is a guarantee of forming of a responsible and fair government that will efficiently and consistently perform its undertakings given to the society. During the different stages of education, an individual gains knowledge in civic education, as well as in political education. At universities, a cycle of socio-political disciplines, first of all, political science, is aimed at training future public and political leaders by means of mastering a complex academic curriculum in political education. However, considering a necessity to lifelong education, a need arises to develop additional programs in political education. The post-graduate political education is performed mostly by political parties and non-governmental organizations.

Among Ukrainian political parties active in implementing political education programs are *Batkivshchyna* (a parliamentary party), *Democratic Alliance* and *Syla Ludey* (extra-parliamentary parties). These political forces have recurrent short- or mid-term projects on teaching political leadership to youth and party activists. *Petro Poroshenko's Bloc*, *Samopomich*, *Radical Party*, *UKROP* offer, on an ad-hoc basis, short-term lectures, seminars, trainings on political education. In the nearest future, those parties plan to launch their own political education projects. *People's Front*, *Opposition Bloc*, *Revival* and *People's Will* do not pay much attention to the issue of political education and do not have similar programs, which is explained, inter alia, by the fact that representatives of many parties do not have professional knowledge on the algorithm of developing projects aimed at teaching political leadership. With this in mind, a need arises in consulting those parties regarding their development of their own political education projects.

NGOs are most active in organizing political education projects. Many of them have regular projects that aim at teaching active youth about political leadership. Most programs offered by both political parties and NGOs are conducted under financial support of international organizations and foundations, in particular, Friedrich Ebert Foundation, Konrad Adenauer Foundation, Friedrich Naumann Foundation. The International Republican Institute has a number of regular projects oriented at both national and regional levels. The National Democratic Institute of International Relations offers study for political parties of all political spectre by their requests.

A method of content analysis was used in the study, which allowed to identify the needs that are not met by existing political education programs.

Words and expressions grouped by respective thematic categories within political education projects discussed were used as units of account. In total, 42 short- and mid-term projects were analysed (political education programs); of those, 26 were aimed at the national and 16 at the regional level. That is, a qualitative and quantitative analysis of implemented political education programs was carried out to determine the issues covered by these programs and which ones did not. In fact, this method evaluated the completeness of coverage of the problems of the political assembly in Ukraine. Most programs are organized by NGOs. A balance of programs offered by both political parties and NGOs in the context of their activities at the regional level is also favourable for the national level. There are no full-fledged political education programs for Donbas residents. The existing programs are mostly aimed at providing knowledge on civic education, education of public leaders instead of political education. Projects for IDPs are mostly related to provision of legal assistance, social integration and psychological rehabilitation and protection of rights of persons with disabilities. In this relation, there is a need to introduce more programs on political education that would be designed for the regional level. When developing projects for Donbas, a preference should be given to purely political education, as many of the existing projects deal with civic education and social integration of IDPs and ATO participants.

Speaking about the audience of the political education programs, it makes sense to involve city and village heads and assistant deputies into teaching the political leadership. In addition, education of public servants is performed mostly at the state higher educational institution of professional development, the National Academy of Public Administration under the President of Ukraine, and at the National Agency of Ukraine for Public Service. In order to ensure better communication and fruitful cooperation between representatives of elective offices and professional public servants, the target audience of the political education projects should involve public servants as well as active youth, party members and deputies of local councils.

In planning a format of education, one should pay more attention to organization of round tables, debates, discussion, interactive games, mock parliament and local council, establishment of a political party. Existing programs keep focus on seminars, trainings and traineeships. A useful form of education is organization of study tours abroad, which allows their participants to learn in practice about operation of the local council and adopt best international practices.

Most political education programs in Ukraine are short-term. They are usually limited to one-, two- or three-day courses of lectures, seminars or trainings. In developing new programs, their planned duration should be from several weeks to two months. An emphasis should be placed on regular systemic political education project, as practice of organizing ad-hoc trainings and

seminars leads to formation of fragmented and lopsided knowledge on political education.

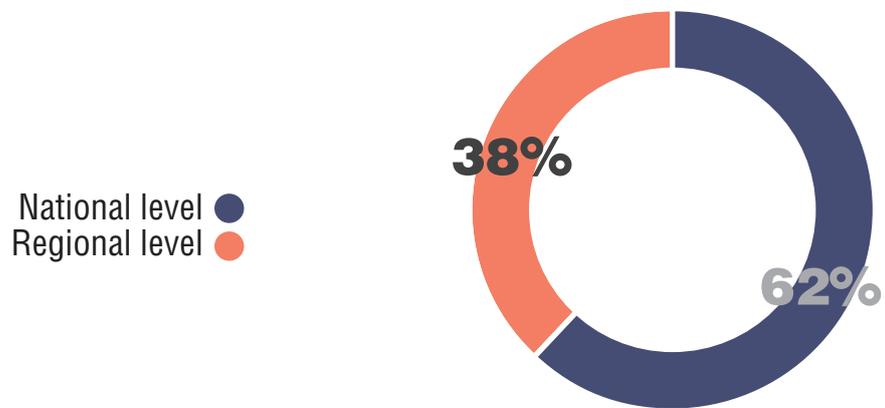
Speaking about the thematic content of the existing political education programs, the topics of the blocks are covered quite fully covering the local governance reform and decentralization, general theory of politics and activities of the political party, as well as media communications in politics are covered on the sufficient level. Little attention is paid to lobbying and fundraising in the political activity. After adoption of the Law about State Funding of Political Parties that came into force on July 1, 2016, this topic is gradually being introduced into the political education curriculum. However, an issue of finding funds to establish one's own party is of equal importance. In addition, the content of education should be enhanced in the part of teaching about different political ideologies (left, centrist, right) and peculiarities of voter communication.

Taking into consideration those needs when developing new political education programs will contribute to their higher efficiency and formation of political education as a separate area of knowledge.

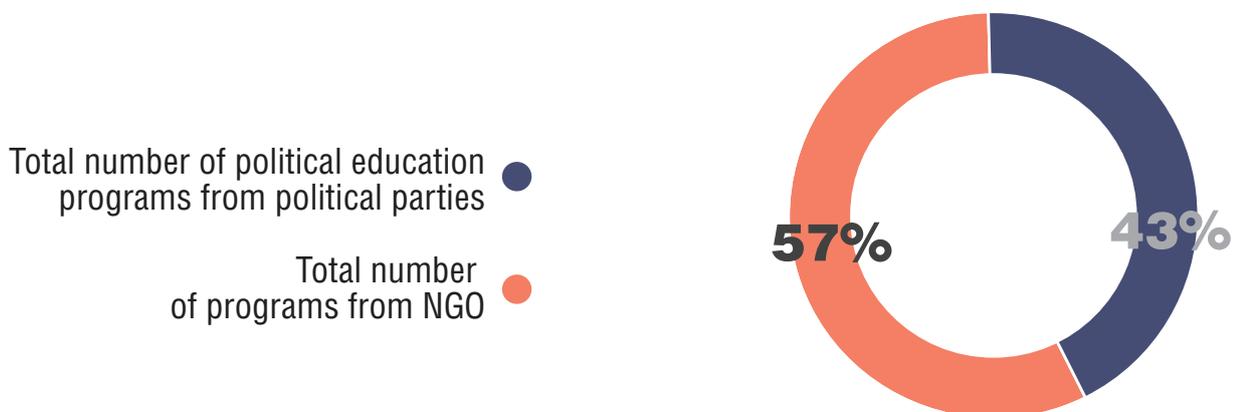
Annex

Visualization data on political education programs in Ukraine

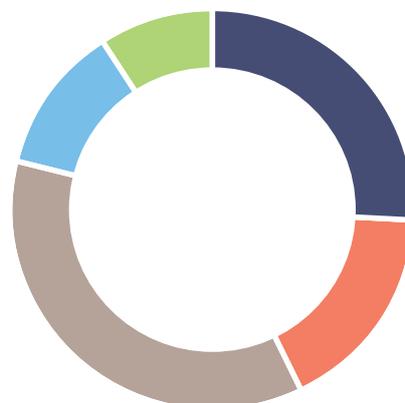
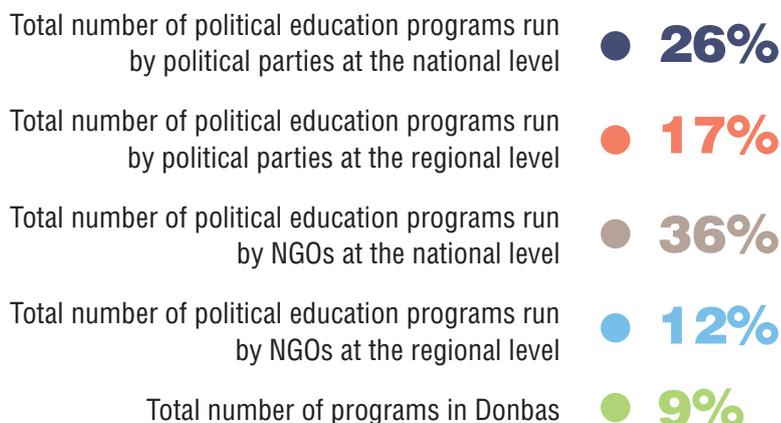
DISTRIBUTION OF POLITICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS



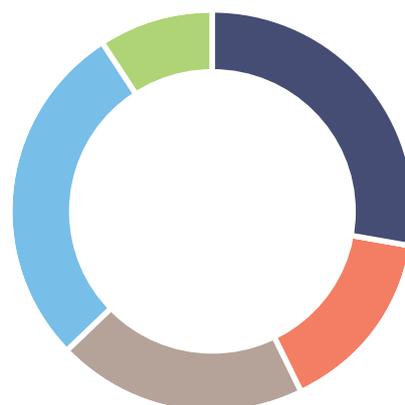
CORRELATION OF POLITICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS RUN BY POLITICAL PARTIES AND NGOs



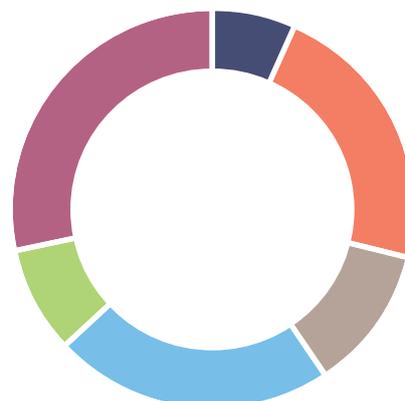
CORRELATION OF POLITICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS RUN BY POLITICAL PARTIES AND NGOs



TARGET AUDIENCE



FORMAT OF THE STUDY



DURATION OF THE PROGRAMS

- One day ● **17%**
- Two days ● **33%**
- Three days ● **25%**
- Several weeks ● **8%**
- Several months ● **17%**



TOPICS OF THE PROGRAMS

- Local governance and decentralisation reform, work of the deputy of local council ● **26%**
- General theory of politics and activities of political parties ● **15%**
- Media communications in politics ● **14%**
- Political ideologies and values in politics ● **10%**



TOPICS OF THE PROGRAMS

- Communications with the citizens ● **8%**
- Electoral technologies ● **7%**
- Public speaking ● **7%**
- Fundraising in political parties ● **6%**
- State financing of political parties ● **4%**
- Lobbying in politics ● **3%**



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