

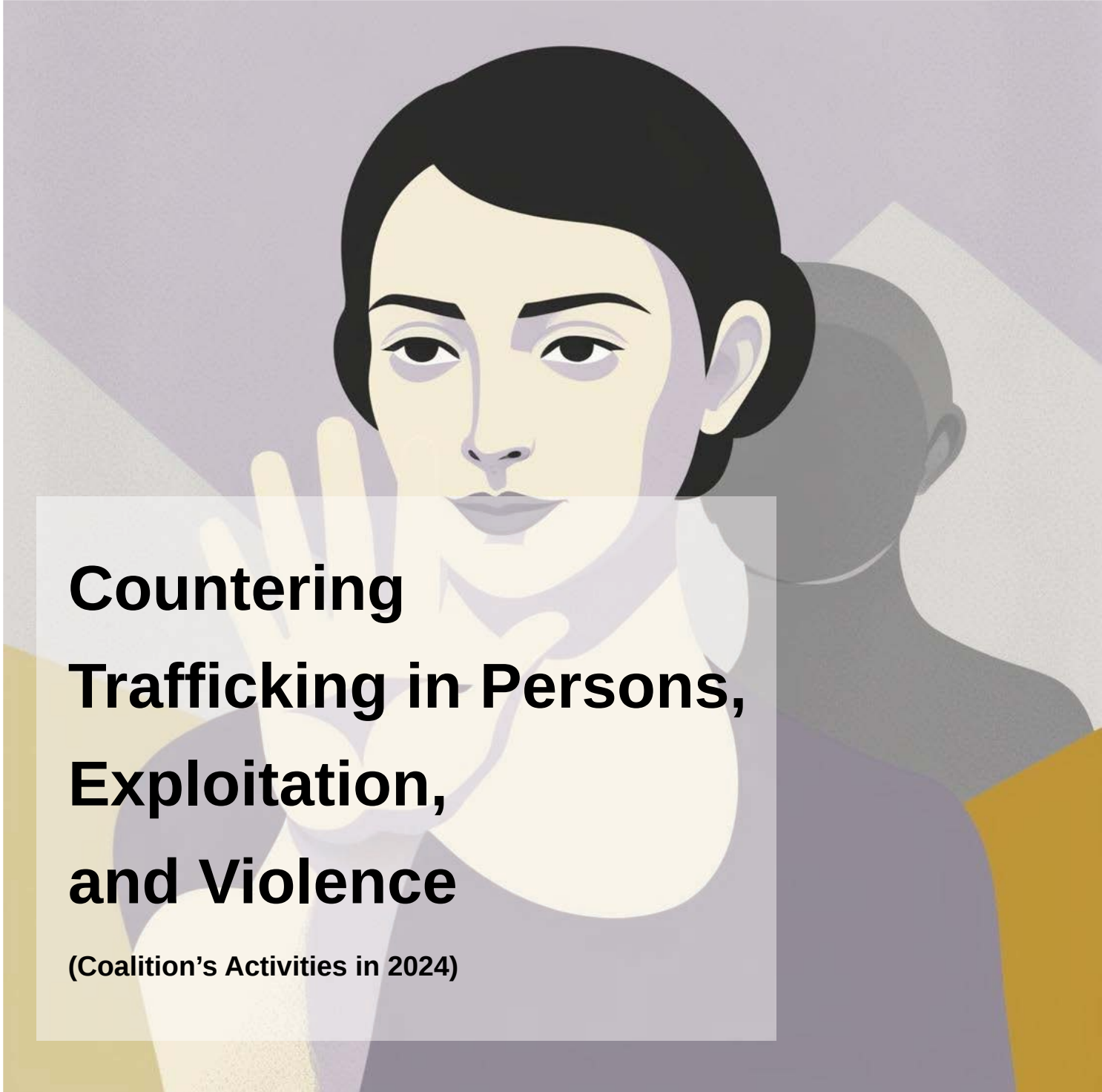


COUNTER-
TRAFFICKING
NGO COALITION

The Counter-trafficking NGO Coalition is a public association formally registered in 2011 that currently encompasses 22 member organizations implementing large-scale social projects in Ukraine in close cooperation with government agencies and international organizations.

MONITORING BULLETIN

#13/2024



Countering Trafficking in Persons, Exploitation, and Violence

(Coalition's Activities in 2024)

The Coalition has been active in counter-trafficking for over 20 years, carrying out activities in such areas as advocacy, awareness raising, professional training & skill-building for NRM actors’ personnel, identifying and supporting survivors of trafficking and exploitation. Preventive activities have always been an essential counter-trafficking component, aimed at not only raising public awareness, but also supporting the most vulnerable groups.

They become especially relevant in the context of war with economic crises, mass displacements, disruption of social connections, emotional stress, etc. increasing Ukrainian citizens’ vulnerability to trafficking in persons and exploitation. At the same time, these factors also result in the growing numbers of women and children experiencing violence. The number of conflict-related violence survivors has been constantly increasing as well due to the ongoing armed conflict. Individuals that have experienced violence-related trauma are at a higher risk of exposure to trafficking and exploitation.

We have decided that this issue will focus on comprehensive coverage of activities aimed at countering trafficking in persons, exploitation, and various forms of violence, as well as assisting war-affected populations, such as residents of de-occupied communities and communities near the areas of active hostilities, internally displaced persons, veterans, military servants’ family members, persons missing due to special circumstances, captive civilians. Subsequently, the Coalition is planning to expand its activities in those areas, based on an integral approach to addressing social issues.

We express our sincere gratitude to everyone supporting our projects and initiatives. We hope that together we can turn things around.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ASC	administrative service centre
CO	charitable organization
CRSV	conflict-related sexual violence
CSO	civil society organization
FLA	free legal aid
FLAC	free legal aid centre
GBV	gender-based violence
GRETA	Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings
IDP	internally displaced person
LSG	local self-government bodies
MD NP	Main Department of the National Police
MIA	Ministry of Internal Affairs
NGO	non-governmental organization
NRM	National Referral Mechanism
OMA	oblast military administration
PHCC	primary healthcare centre
PHRO	public human rights organization
SEV	sexual exploitation and violence
SSU	Security Service of Ukraine
UN	United Nations
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
VoT	victim of trafficking

I. PROJECT-BASED ACTIVITIES

96 projects countering trafficking in persons, exploitation, and violence while supporting people affected by the war, were implemented by the civil society organizations comprising the Coalition in 2024. Nearly half of those were of complex nature, envisaging simultaneous activities in multiple areas. Those projects were aimed at assisting survivors and building up a social service provision system, while the remaining ones were aimed at prevention and assistance in a specific area, i.e. enhancement of the counter-trafficking National Referral Mechanism, development of the gender-based and domestic violence response system, countering violence against children, introduction of child-friendly justice methods, psychosocial support of conflict-related violence (including CRSV) survivors, etc.

Given the armed invasion and its socioeconomic impact, a considerable portion of the member organizations' projects was related to support of the war-affected populations, including internally displaced persons, which is an essential aspect of trafficking in persons, exploitation, and violence prevention. According to the Coalition's consolidated deliverables for 2023, IDPs accounted for 26% of the total survivors of trafficking and exploitation. The Coalition has never carried out a comprehensive study of domestic and gender-based violence in Ukraine, but its member organizations detect frequent violence cases in households of internally displaced persons and among frontline area residents. Assistance projects targeting war-affected people also encompassed such population groups as veterans, military servants' family members, persons missing due to special circumstances, and captive civilians. Taking this activity area into account, the largest number of projects was implemented in the central and southeastern regions of Ukraine, more severely affected by the armed conflict, such as Chernihiv (11), Cherkasy (11), Kharkiv (11), Zaporizhzhia (10), Poltava (10), Kherson (9), Vinnytsia (9), and Odesa (8) Oblasts.

44 COMPREHENSIVE PROJECTS

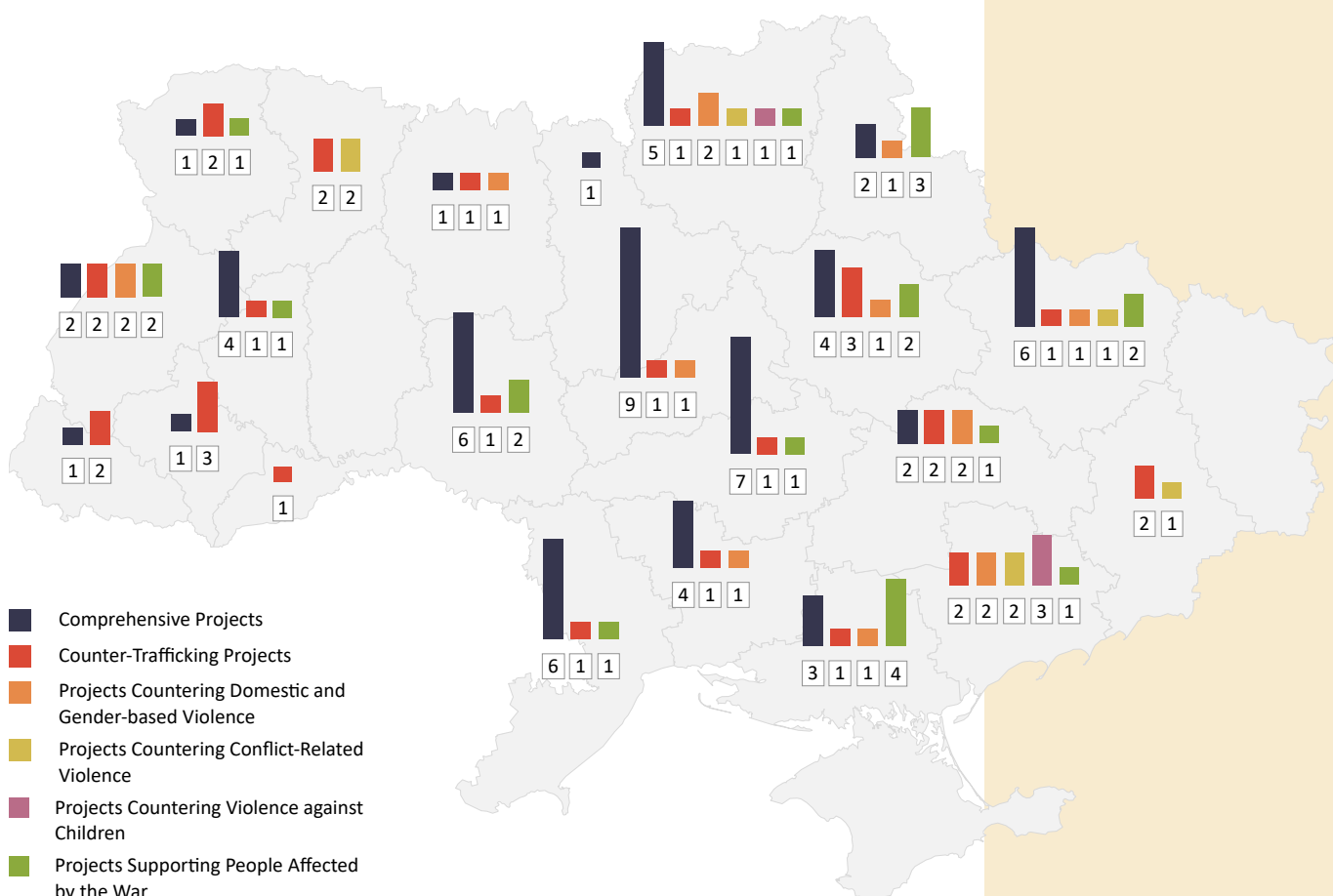
20 PROJECTS SUPPORTING PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THE WAR

11 COUNTER-TRAFFICKING PROJECTS

11 PROJECTS COUNTERING DOMESTIC AND GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

6 PROJECTS COUNTERING CONFLICT-RELATED VIOLENCE

4 PROJECTS COUNTERING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN



82 PARTNERS
SUPPORTED PROJECTS BY
COALITION MEMBER NGOS

75 PROJECTS
IMPLEMENTED

21 PROJECTS
ONGOING

The Public Monitoring of Counter-Trafficking Policy in Ukraine in 2023 was the biggest project implemented this year that covered 20 oblasts. Its primary objectives included an independent progress research for counter-trafficking activities provided for in the existing oblast programmes, as well as elaboration of recommendations for further implementation of advocacy initiatives at the regional and nationwide levels.

This was followed by activities under the comprehensive response projects to protect survivors of trafficking in persons, exploitation, gender-based and conflict-related violence, that were implemented in 12 oblasts.

The project titled “I Know. I Can. I Practice: Strengthening Women’s Initiatives for Prevention and Countering Gender-based Violence in Territorial Communities during the Armed Conflict” was implemented in three oblasts.

Overall, 16 projects were carried out in multiple oblasts at once this year. For instance, NGO “Faith.Hope.Love” supports assistance mobile teams for survivors of domestic violence operating in Vinnytsia, Zakarpattia, Kirovohrad, Mykolaiv, and Odesa Oblasts, as well as Vilna spaces functioning in Odesa, Izmail, Mykolaiv, and Kherson. NGO “Spring of Hope. Ukraine” carried out projects in Vinnytsia, Zhytomyr, Kyiv, Kirovohrad, Poltava, Sumy, Kharkiv, Cherkasy, and Chernihiv Oblasts; NGO “Oblasny Zinochy Informatsiny Tsentr” in Zhytomyr, Kirovohrad Oblasts, Kryvyi Rih, and Poltava cities; CO “Light of Hope” in Poltava, Dnipropetrovsk, Sumy, Kherson, and Kharkiv oblasts; NGO “Clear Paper” in Kharkiv and Kirovohrad Oblasts, NGO “Alliance for Civil Rights” in Donetsk and Zaporizhzhia Oblasts.

The Coalition member NGOs’ projects were supported by over 80 partners including international organizations, charitable foundations, community associations, governments from Austria, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Denmark, Spain, South Korea, Germany, Norway, Sweden, the USA, Finland, and European Union.

In 2024, the Coalition member organizations carried out both short- and long-term projects. Almost one third of them had implementation periods of over a year. 21 projects are to be continued in 2025.

II. ADVOCACY

Seeking to contribute extensively to better national policies aimed at countering trafficking in persons, exploitation, and violence, while ensuring barrier-free access to social aid and protection, the Coalition is constantly monitoring the activities of executive authorities and local self-government bodies, advocating legislative changes and defends the rights of survivors of trafficking in persons, exploitation, and violence, as well as of those belonging to vulnerable population groups. 395 advocacy activities were carried out this year.

Contribution to better legal framework

Although Ukraine currently has a rather potent legal framework to counter trafficking in persons, exploitation, and violence, a considerable portion of it needs to be updated and revised. That's why the Coalition's Expert Board is permanently engaged in the analysis of applicable laws, drawing up suggestions for their improvement and providing expert support to the Counter-Trafficking National Coordinator.

With that, Mr. Victor Valchuk, an Expert Board member, prepared a proposal package in March 2024 to amend existing counter-trafficking legal and normative acts, specifically:

- The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Approval of the Procedure for Interaction of Actors in the Field of Counter-Trafficking"
- The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Approval of the Procedure for Establishing the Victim of Trafficking Status"

Besides, the Ministry of Social Policy involved him into discussion, study, and subsequent expert assessment of a number of draft legal amendments:

- The Draft Law of Ukraine "On Amending the Law of Ukraine 'On Countering Trafficking in Persons' as to Improve Particular Provisions Regulating Counter-Trafficking Issues"
- The Draft Law of Ukraine "On Amending the Law of Ukraine 'On Countering Trafficking in Persons' as to Remove Provisions That Contribute or May Contribute to Corruption Offences"
- The draft Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Amending Certain Resolutions of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine as regards Providing Services to Victims of Trafficking"
- The draft Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Amending the Procedure for Establishing the Victim of Trafficking Status."

The following four documents were drawn up and submitted to the Ministry of Social Policy for review as part of the Coalition's legislative initiatives in 2024:

- Methodological Guidelines for Applying Victim of Trafficking Identification Criteria / Indicators, along with two annexes: VoT Identification Criteria/ Indicators and Trafficking Situation Verification Checklist
- Administrative Service Information Card for Establishing the Victim of Trafficking Status
- Administrative Service Technological Card for Establishing Victim of Trafficking Status
- Guidelines for Released Persons Confined due to the Russian Federation's Armed Aggression against Ukraine and Subject to Trafficking in Persons.

CO "100% Life Cherkasy" has prepared recommendations for the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine as regards amending the following three state standards:

- Public social service standard of crisis and emergency intervention for survivors of domestic violence and/or gender-based violence

372 REGIONAL AND
LOCAL LEVEL ACTIVITIES

18 NATIONWIDE LEVEL
ACTIVITIES

9 INTERNATIONAL LEVEL
ACTIVITIES

- Public social service standard of psychosocial rehabilitation of survivors of domestic violence and/or gender-based violence
- Public social service standard of providing shelter for survivors of domestic violence and/or gender-based violence.

In addition, a number of positive developments at the regional and local levels was achieved in 2024 due to the Coalition member NGOs' advocacy activities, such as:

- Counter-Trafficking Action Plan 2024 in Cherkasy Oblast was adopted, programmes or action plans to counter trafficking in persons, domestic and gender-based violence were approved across 12 communities, counter-trafficking chapters were included into 3 existing social protection programmes
- 2024–2025 Counter-Trafficking Action Plan for the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast Comprehensive Social Protection Programme for 2022–2026 was approved
- 2021–2025 Poltava Oblast Comprehensive Social Protection Programme was amended to distinguish the counter-trafficking area with funding determined
- 5 new programmes for IDP integration, social adaptation and protection were adopted in Lviv Oblast along with amendments introduced to corresponding chapters of 2 existing programmes
- Funding of counter-trafficking activities in Zakarpattia Oblast was increased in 2024.

Advocacy of Survivors' & Vulnerable Groups' Rights

Advocacy of rights and interests of those who have survived trafficking in persons, exploitation and violence as to improve their access to required services is an essential component of the Coalition member NGOs' activities. Notwithstanding the fact that free healthcare services, psychological support, legal aid, and employment assistance are guaranteed to them pursuant to the applicable laws, the Coalition's experience shows these guarantees are rarely implemented in practice. Alas, many communities lack services and specialists capable to provide comprehensive support of such persons.

Providing Psychological Support to Survivors of Gender-Based and Sexual Violence in Zhytomyr Oblast

NGO "Women's Informative Consulting Center" carried out a series of advocacy actions to secure more psychologist positions at healthcare institutions of Zhytomyr Oblast so that female survivors of GBV, SEV, and CRSV can receive free services. A severe shortage of such specialists in communities had been an issue for many years. Having studied the issue with two female gynaecologists engaged as experts, the organization started lobbying reassignment of psychologists trained for teaching to healthcare staff positions, thus allowing to significantly increase the number of psychologists at community-based PHCCs. The organization's efforts have resulted in the Zhytomyr OMA Healthcare Department issuing a relevant order that significantly expands the accessibility of psychological assistance to women who survived violence and exploitation.

The Coalition member organizations are working relentlessly to improve the situation. A certain progress was made in 2024, with specialized services created in a number of communities, the documents regulating their functioning being approved and provision of certain assistance types being ensured.

For instance, advocacy efforts of NGO "Women's Informative Consulting Center" and the NGO "Promin Dnipro" helped make psychosocial services more accessible to survivors of gender-based and sexual violence, with specialized assistance services created in eight communities of Dnipropetrovsk Oblast through the NGO expert support and the number of

psychologists working at healthcare institutions increased in Zhytomyr Oblast.

The Coalition member organizations carried out a total of 169 advocacy activities aimed to ensure unimpeded access to assistance by survivors of gender-based and domestic violence, including design and application of efficient GBV response algorithms, alignment of psychosocial support service operation with international care and assistance standards, enhancing cooperation among the actors operating in this sector, fostering a mechanism of social service procurement for survivors from local budgets, etc.

This year, the Coalition member NGOs also focused on protection of rights and interests of vulnerable population groups that emerged due to the armed aggression against Ukraine. Internally displaced persons are the most numerous of those groups. With the economic situation in Ukraine getting worse, their vulnerability to trafficking in persons and exploitation is increasing. The number of IDPs who have applied for assistance to civil society organizations increased by 20% in 2023 as compared to previous years. This can be explained by the fact that some major challenges associated with integration of internally displaced persons into their host communities remain unresolved. For instance, the study of female IDPs' needs carried out by NGO "Centre Women's Perspectives" in 2024 shows that finding a job that matches their educational background, healthcare and accommodation remain among the most widespread ones. The organization has managed to achieve some progress in solving them as part of their advocacy project: 4,500 women involved in decision-making as regards meeting their needs, IDP integration and protection programmes approved, arrangements for regular health check-ups at the city clinic made, 10 female teachers employed, 14 female IDPs included to the list of people entitled to the public housing.

Overall, the Coalition member NGOs carried out 94 advocacy activities in 2024, aimed at better social protection of those affected by the war, including implementation of efficient mechanisms for assessment of the relevant challenges faced by IDPs and quality monitoring of provided services, enhancement of psychosocial support system for frontline community residents, survivors of conflict-related violence, families of military servants and prisoners of war, implementation of local AFU veteran support programmes, arrangements for barrier-free mobility for people with disabilities and specialized mobile teams, etc. NGO "Egida-Zaporizhzhia" carried out a large-scale advocacy campaign to protect the rights of family members to persons gone missing due to special circumstances, forcibly imprisoned during hostilities.

Monitoring and Research

Public control over the implementation of the counter-trafficking policies in Ukraine is another important aspect of the Coalition's advocacy activities, with annual monitoring of the activities of executive authorities and local self-government bodies being conducted. Not only such research allows for an independent unbiased assessment of the counter-trafficking situation and identification of existing challenges, but also it helps improve this situation through implementing relevant recommendations.

The Coalition also carries out counter-trafficking studies as requested by the US Department of State, UNODC, GRETA, and other international institutions. In January 2024, as requested by the US Department of State Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, the Coalition experts prepared analytical data as regards the current counter-trafficking situation in Ukraine, especially in such areas as prevention of trafficking in persons, protection of and assistance to its survivors, persecution and punishment of the individuals who have committed crimes. These data were used to prepare the 2024 Trafficking in Persons Report being the most complete overview of the governments' efforts in this area around the world.

"Find. Never Forget," an Advocacy Campaign Supporting Families of Missing People

A large-scale campaign protecting the rights of missing people's family members was carried out as part of "We're not Alone. the Help is Near" project implemented by NGO "Egida-Zaporizhzhia". In April 2024, Antonina Shostak, the organization's leader, attended the UkrInform Media Agency to participate in a public presentation of the analytical monitoring report "Why were illegally imprisoned civilians left without a comprehensive social protection by the Government?" she had helped prepare as an expert. Besides, supported by the Partnership Fund for Resilient Ukraine, the organization prepared and carried out a meeting between families of civilian hostages and missing people and members of the Eastern Regional Centre of the Coordination Headquarters for the Treatment of Prisoners of War, the MIA Office for People Gone Missing due to Special Circumstances, SSU officers in Zaporizhzhia Oblast, Zaporizhzhia Oblast Prosecutor's Office, Zaporizhzhia Oblast MD NP, Zaporizhzhia OMA Social Protection Dept. and Veteran Policy Division, ICRC, and Mykhailo Volkov, representative of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights. The final Forum for the Missing People's Sake took place in July 2024, where the documentary film shot by NGO "Egida-Zaporizhzhia" was demonstrated and a Telegram chat bot, designed in cooperation with the Zaporizhzhia Oblast MD NP Missing People Searching Centre, was presented.

Enhancing Collaboration

The Coalition member NGOs pay special attention to tighter collaboration and cross-sectoral cooperation that enables promotion of changes, enhancement of support mechanisms targeting vulnerable populations and survivors of trafficking in persons, exploitation, and violence. Workshops, round table discussions, conferences, etc. attended by representatives of government agencies, non-government actors, and international institutions engaged in humanitarian response in counter-trafficking and counter-violence areas are important experience-sharing and coordination platforms. This year, for instance, the Coalition members took part in a number of nationwide-level and international-level events as follows:

- A Coalition expert Viktor Valchuk participated in several working meetings with Ms. Uliana Tokareva, Deputy Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine, where major concerns associated with implementation of the national counter-trafficking policy were discussed, and further steps towards its improvement were agreed upon.
- A working meeting took place in March 2024, attended by Oksana Vasyliaka, Legal Aid Coordination Centre First Deputy Chair, Iryna Khondohii, Chair of the Western Cross-Regional Centre for Free Legal Assistance, and Maryna Pasiechnyk, the Coalition Board member, where prior cooperation experience and possible areas of further collaboration were discussed, especially as regards organizing counter-trafficking training sessions for FLAC representatives.
- In May 2024, the Coalition Chair Natalia Kulikova and the Coalition member, lawyer Antonina Shostak, alongside representatives of other civil society organizations, participated in a working meeting at the Council of Europe Office with GRETA experts monitoring implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Persons in the countries that have ratified it. The meeting discussed concerns and challenges associated with counter-trafficking action in Ukraine and possible methods of their resolution.
- In July 2024, the Coalition members participated in the UNODC-organized international conference, Constructive Dialogue on Trafficking in Persons 2024, in Vienna, with over 400 delegates from 94 countries invited. The Coalition representatives emphasized that the issue of trafficking in persons had aggravated significantly since the beginning of the full-scale armed invasion of Ukraine, while highlighting numerous facts of forced deportation and exploitation of Ukrainian children by the aggressor country, and calling on the international community to prioritize their repatriation.
- In July 2024, a Coalition member, NGO “Centre Women’s Perspectives”, organized a large four-day practical conference, Istanbul Convention: Two Years since Ratified. Localization in Regions at Wartime, which was held in the city of Lviv. The conference was attended by Rosa Logar, the Istanbul Convention Co-author and Co-founder of the Women Against Violence Europe Network, Nadiia Stefaniv, Supreme Court Judge and the President of the All-Ukrainian Female Judges Association, female psychotherapists, lawyers, female officers of the National Police, prosecutors, legal assistants. Its panel discussions were focused on the outcomes of the Istanbul Convention implementation in Ukraine, protection mechanisms for gender-based violence survivors and impact of the war on their efficiency, existing practices across various regions of Ukraine, as well as challenges faced by the law-enforcement and judicial systems, by the bar community in the context of timely response and comprehensive assistance to domestic violence survivors.
- In April 2024, the Coalition representatives joined the working meeting at the Prosecutor General’s Office with representatives of the government and law-enforcement authorities, as well as Ukrainian and international civil society organizations, where they discussed further cooperation in prevention and identification of trafficking episodes, ensuring protection of rights of and comprehensive assistance to survivors.

The Coalition organizations are also working to strengthen cooperation and interactions at the regional level:

- Multiple working meetings were held throughout the year with representatives of oblast prosecutor's offices (Kirovohrad, Khmelnytskyi, Zaporizhzhia, Rivne, Cherkasy, Chernihiv), the Prosecutor's Office of Autonomous Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol city, that gave a new impetus for further collaboration in countering trafficking in persons and conflict-related violence.
- Two Coalition member NGOs, CO "100% Life Cherkasy" and NGO "Chernihiv public committee of human rights protection", were incorporated into task forces at oblast prosecutor's offices in 2024.
- This year, NGO KRC "Successful Women" and Survivor Relief Centre associates, designed efficient algorithms of aiding survivors of CRSV, trafficking in persons, domestic violence, and gender-based violence, currently used by the police, non-governmental organizations, and other interaction actors.

Overall, Coalition member organizations took nearly 400 advocacy actions aimed to improve situation with countering trafficking in persons, exploitation, and gender-based violence, protect human rights and enhance access to high-quality psychosocial services for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence, sexual violence and exploitation, conflict-related sexual violence, as well as for those affected by the war, veterans, military servants' family members, IDPs, and other population groups. Some of the initiatives are currently under review and hopefully will be implemented next year.

Collaboration with Law-Enforcement Authorities of Chernihiv Oblast

NGO "Chernihiv public committee of human rights protection" has established close collaboration with oblast-based law-enforcement authorities. In 2024, the organization's representatives were incorporated into the counter-violence task force at the Chernihiv Oblast Prosecutor's Office in 2024. Such streamlined collaboration helps engage the Prosecutor's Office associates in the organization's activities, including community-based ones, having positive impact on enforcement of the laws against domestic and gender-based violence. Specifically, relevant coordinators and compliance officers were assigned and offender correction programmes were approved. The organization also cooperates with the oblast courts of justice as to increase access to justice and ensure violence survivors' security. NGO "Chernihiv public committee of human rights protection" initiated involvement of raion court judges in coordination boards, resulting in the increase of court rulings for offenders to undergo appropriate correction programmes. Besides, in 2024, the organization's lawyers and psychologist were engaged in a criminal proceeding as regards sexual violence against two children, thus launching implementation of the initiative to engage psychologists in criminal proceedings that concern children, whereas neither investigators nor prosecutors were aware of such a practice at the moment. This collaboration between the organization's specialists and the prosecutor helped successfully protect the children's rights and interests and bring the offender to justice.

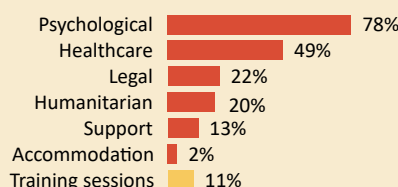
ASSISTANCE PROVIDED TO:

600+
SURVIVORS OF
TRAFFICKING AND
EXPLOITATION

7,900+
SURVIVORS OF DOMESTIC
AND GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE

1,800+
SURVIVORS OF
CONFLICT-RELATED
VIOLENCE

TYPES OF ASSISTANCE:



6 SHELTERS

III. ASSISTANCE TO SURVIVORS OF TRAFFICKING, EXPLOITATION, AND VIOLENCE

The Coalition member NGOs provide comprehensive range of rehabilitation services to people who survived exploitation and violence. Psychological assistance was the most sought-after type among the survivors, opted for by over two thirds of those who contacted the organization. Coalition specialists also provide social support and legal assistance, including through representing the survivors' interests before government institutions and courts. It is thanks to the partners' and local communities' support and donations that beneficiaries can access temporary accommodation services at organization-based centres as well as in a form of housing rent reimbursement. In addition, they can undergo medical check-ups and treatment, obtain required medicines. The baseline rehabilitation service kit is complemented by therapy sessions, training sessions, and courses, especially aimed at enhancing beneficiaries' economic potential. Starting 2022, these services became available to those affected by the war as well, including internally displaced persons experiencing mental crisis or difficult life circumstances. The Coalition member organizations provided assistance to a total of 50,000 people over 2024¹.

Help Centres

Four member organizations have active help centres that provide survivors of trafficking in persons, exploitation, and violence as well as people in difficult life circumstances with temporary accommodation and a rehabilitation service package comprising healthcare assistance, mental health support, social support, residency registration, document recovery assistance, legal aid, assistance in employment or starting a business; plus they offer food products, hygiene items, and basic necessities.

	Women who have survived violence or exploitation, including those with underage children	Merezhka Women's Crisis Centre CO "100% Life Cherckasy"	The Centre offers up to 6-month accommodation and a full package of rehabilitation services.
	Women who have survived domestic violence, including those with underage children	Sophia Rehabilitation Centre NGO "Faith.Hope.Love"	The Centre offers accommodation and comprehensive rehabilitation assistance.
	Women who have survived violence, including those with underage children	Shelter for Women CO "Light of Hope"	The Shelter offers temporary accommodation services and comprehensive rehabilitation assistance.
	Men in difficult life circumstances, IDP	Rehabilitation Centre for Homeless and Released from Places of Detention CO "100% Life Cherckasy"	The Centre provides a comprehensive range of reintegration services for vulnerable population groups and assistance in finding relatives.
	Men and women in difficult life circumstances	Centre for Adaptation of Homeless and Released from Places of Detention CO "Light of Hope"	The Centre offers comprehensive assistance aimed at social reintegration of people facing difficult life circumstances.
	Internally displaced persons aged above 60 y.o.	Retritment Home CO "Caritas Ivano-Frankivsk"	The facility offers assisted living and residential care social services.

¹ Project terms and conditions forbid NGOs from disclosure of the exact quantity of their beneficiaries

Apart from the centres that offer accommodation services, there is an extensive network of centres, hubs, and spaces belonging to the Coalition member organizations that substantially expand survivors' access to assistance and provide psychosocial support during the war. These centres offer the following:

- psychological assistance (individual and group therapy, thematical teatimes with psychologists, processing traumatic experience, self-care skill building, hippotherapy, peer support groups)
- creative and art therapy sessions (serial drawing, neurographics, dance movement therapy, workshops)
- personal development training sessions (self-defence, self-advocacy, cybersecurity, effective communication, conflict resolution, healthy relationships, integrational activities, informal education, life skills)
- professional growth and micro-entrepreneurship training sessions (career guidance, communication techniques, financial literacy, legal and accounting aspects of micro-business operations, business planning)
- legal aid
- first aid
- humanitarian aid
- case management
- awareness-raising activities to prevent trafficking in persons
- awareness-raising activities to prevent domestic and gender-based violence (non-violent communication basics, GBV/SEA prevention).

23 CENTRES

36,000+
PEOPLE BENEFITTED FROM
THE CENTRES' SERVICES

Vilna, a Friendly Space for Women and Girls NGO "Faith.Hope.Love"	At the centres, women can benefit from mental health support services, access certain specialized services, and undergo the complete prevention cycle. 	• Odesa • Izmail • Mykolaiv • Kherson
Your Coast, a Safe Space for Women and Girls NGO "Centre Women's Perspectives"	The centre operates as a safe space offering psychological assistance or to be included into development programmes. 	• Stryi
Safe Space for Women and Girls NGO KRC "Successful Women"	The centre is created to support women, contribute to their professional and personal growth, including capability to counter gender-based violence. 	• Kherson
Affected Population Support & Protection Resource Hub NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine"	The centre is created to provide cross-sectoral support to local residents and IDPs as to improve their well-being, physical, and mental health. 	• Vinnytsia
Vinnytsia Residents' Safety Centre NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine"	The centre is intended to create a safe environment for city residents and IDPs, while helping them integrate into communities. It carries out collaborative activities with representatives of law-enforcement authorities and local authorities. 	• Vinnytsia

Support and Initiative Space NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine"	The centres are created to assist vulnerable population groups, including those affected by the war, and to expand local initiatives aiming at their support. 	• Romny • Pervomaiskyi • Pryluky
Mental Hub Community-based Support Centres CO "Light of Hope"	The Centre is functioning to provide mental health support to veterans, military servants' families, IDPs, violence survivors, and relief specialists in the conflict zone. 	• Poltava • Barvinkove • Lozova
Psychosocial Assistance Centre for Children, Families, and Youth CO "Caritas Ivano-Frankivsk"	The Centre is created to help families overcome difficult life circumstances and improve parents' and children's psychosocial competences. 	• Ivano-Frankivsk
Hubs for Children and Parents NGO KRC "Successful Women"	These centres provide assistance to families affected by the war, tailored to their individual needs. They also host training sessions on child development and socialization, landmine safety awareness, etc. 	• Kherson • Bilozerka • Chornobaivka • Dariivka
The Coalition member organizations also act as bases of operation for specialized centres where experienced human rights activists and lawyers can be consulted with.		
The House of Women's Rights NGO "Centre Women's Perspectives"	The centre is designed to offer the women who have survived violence a greater extent of legal aid than the public FLA system can provide. It supports the network of female lawyers and psychotherapists, offering legal support ranging from primary counselling to divorce proceedings follow-up.	• Lviv
Community Justice Centre NGO "Chernihiv public committee of human rights protection"	The centre is a platform for judiciary, FLA system, executive authorities and local self-government bodies to combine efforts addressing legal challenges. It provides primary and secondary legal aid, performs mediation and facilitation of community-centred processes.	• Chernihiv

Another two Coalition member NGOs, NGO "Faith.Hope.Love" and NGO KRC "Successful Women", support operation of Survivor Relief Centres in Odesa and Kherson. These Centres were created at the initiative of the Vice Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration to provide assistance to those affected by the war. Moreover, the Coalition expert Aliona Ihnatieva is the Resident Coordinator of the Chernivtsi City Survivor Relief Centre. Three more organizations, CO "100% Life Cherkasy", CO "Caritas Ivano-Frankivsk", and CO "Light of Hope", offer psychosocial services and carry out preventive activities at Resilience Centres that function as part of the All-Ukrainian Mental Health Programme "How Are You?".

These centres streamline access to assistance and expand the range of individuals who can get psychosocial services free of charge, a reasonable step considering population's heightened vulnerability due to the extensive armed conflict. It should be noted, however, that a basic set of rehabilitation services for survivors of trafficking in persons, exploitation, and violence (support, psychological, legal, humanitarian aid, assistance in economic capacity building) is provided by all the Coalition member organizations, regardless of availability of specialized centres.

Mobile Response Teams

Mobile response teams have been active since 2022 on the base of Coalition member organizations. Their operation in communities located in close proximity to the areas of active hostilities, where residents have lost access to many essential services, is extremely important. These teams are currently backed up by three civil society organizations.

37 MOBILE
RESPONSE TEAMS

Multidisciplinary Teams NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine"	Triangle Generagon Humanitaire, Dorijka Consortium, the USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, Mercy Corps, the United Kingdom Government	Social worker, psychologist, legal advisor	Mental health support, legal advice, art therapy activities for children, distribution of child development kits.
Distribution Teams NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine"	Triangle Generagon Humanitaire, Dorijka Consortium, the USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, Mercy Corps, the United Kingdom Government		Distribution of food and hygiene kits in the areas where basic necessities supply is disrupted.
Medical Teams CO "Light of Hope"	Humanitarian Fund for Ukraine, Med Global Ukraine	Family doctor, nurse, psychologist, social worker	Health check-ups, prescriptions, treatment of anxiety and depressive conditions, document recovery, applying for benefits.
Mobile Response Teams NGO KRC "Successful Women"	UNICEF, the USAID Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance, the Government of Norway	Case manager, psychologist	Provision of assistance tailored to a person's individual needs, improvement of living conditions, specialized assistance for children with disabilities, etc.

Besides, NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine" has a mobile team that assists IDPs at their compact accommodation sites in Vinnytsia Oblast.

The teams operating under NGO "Faith.Hope.Love" focus on emergency response to the cases of violence and provide assistance according to their survivors' individual needs. Those are made up of case managers, social workers, psychologists, and medics. They provide mental health support, first aid, counselling, in appealing to law-enforcement authorities and filing applications.

NGO "Centre Women's Perspectives" mobile teams provide psychological and legal assistance to women in crisis situations, including violence survivors.

38,500+
PEOPLE BENEFITTED
FROM ASSISTANCE

Zakarpattia Oblast 3 NGO "Faith.Hope.Love"	Kirovohrad Oblast 3 NGO "Faith.Hope.Love"	Chernihiv Oblast 1 NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine"	Sumy Oblast 3 NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine" 1 CO "Light of Hope"
Lviv Oblast 3 NGO "Centre Women's Perspectives"	Vinnytsia Oblast 3 NGO "Faith.Hope.Love" 1 NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine"	Dnipropetrovsk Oblast 1 CO "Light of Hope"	Kharkiv Oblast 2 NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine" 3 CO "Light of Hope"
Odesa Oblast 7 NGO "Faith.Hope.Love"	Mykolaiv Oblast 2 NGO "Faith.Hope.Love"	Kherson Oblast 4 NGO KRC "Successful Women"	teams providing support to domestic violence survivors teams providing support to those affected by the war teams providing support to IDPs

3,400+
PEOPLE RECEIVED
COMPREHENSIVE
INDIVIDUAL AID

700+
PEOPLE OBTAINED
SELF-EMPLOYMENT
EQUIPMENT

Comprehensive Individual Aid

As part of the reintegration programme run by the International Organization for Migration Mission in Ukraine, the Coalition member NGOs' beneficiaries who survived trafficking in persons or exploitation, gender-based or conflict-related violence had a chance to get comprehensive individual aid. This refers to a personalized assistance intended to help resolve hardships in their lives, while taking into account their individual needs as to offer the survivors the resources required to overcome the crisis. Such an approach, based on each beneficiary's needs and preferences, meets current standards of humanitarian aid provision and the Coalition's practical experience confirms its efficiency.

When offering comprehensive humanitarian aid, they study each case thoroughly, defining a set of tools to be applied for overcoming the existing hardships in the optimal way. It should be pointed out that over 20% of survivors each year are willing to obtain professional equipment, materials and tools for self-employment or starting their own business as individual aid.

Hotlines

Ha Multiple hotlines are operated by the Coalition member NGOs, whose specialists offer mental health support and advice on various matters.

The National Counter-Trafficking and Migrant Advice Hotline has been functioning since 2006, supported by the IOM Mission in Ukraine on the basis of the NGO "TMGK "Vidrodzhennia Natsii". Its objective is to prevent trafficking in persons by providing relevant information on safe migration rules. The hotline specialists consult in such matters as host countries' migration laws, required documents, opening visas, self-protection from situations of trafficking in persons and exploitation, international protection of Ukrainian citizens, contacts of consular offices and organizations that defend migrants' rights, etc. Another aspect of hotline operation is identification of survivors of trafficking and providing them with complete information regarding their rights and opportunities, the procedure for establishing the VoT status, receiving aid and local support services, as well as their referral to other Coalition member organizations and NRM actors.

24H hotlines for women who survived domestic and gender-based violence function on the basis of CO "100% Life Cherkasy" and CO "Light of Hope". They provide mental health support, recommendations on the action algorithm for getting out of a violence situation, and information of available relief services. Emergency

intervention can also be made if necessary. It should be noted that both organizations have shelters able to accept a woman together with her children. For that purpose, CO "Light of Hope" offers the social taxi service.

As part of the Countering Violence against Children during Martial Law Project, being implemented by NGO "Egida-Zaporizhzhia" with the support of World Childhood Foundation, there is a hotline to report violence, including sexual violence, against children. The organization has also a legal support hotline for family members of prisoners of war and those gone missing under special circumstances.

Social taxi

Social taxi is a unique service by CO "Light of Hope" for women and children who have suffered domestic violence. It implies that women in crisis situations are provided with a rapid transportation to get to a shelter of a nearest safe place. A psychologist comes along when the taxi is called. When a child experiences domestic violence, including by witnessing it, the crisis intervention involves teddy therapy. Upanchyk Teddy Bear toy designed by Ukrainian psychologist Oksana Hrytsiuta helps a child feel safe and supported: the teddy bear's hands hug a child giving them a sense of protection, there is a secret pocket beneath its left hand to fill the little heart with positive emotions and a backpack for dreams behind. Teddy therapy is a recognized psychotherapeutic method that helps reduce anxiety rapidly. This service is available in Poltava Oblast 24/7 totally free of charge.

IV. AWARENESS-RAISING CAMPAIGNS AND OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

Awareness-Raising Campaigns

The Coalition holds several large-scale awareness-raising campaigns, namely a series of preventive activities using multiple communication channels. These campaigns are usually timed to memorable dates relating to countering trafficking in persons, exploitation and violence as to remind Ukrainians about the risks of becoming a victim of such crimes and support survivors. Depending on the situation, some extra campaigns with more specific key messages can be designed and carried out throughout the year. 6 big awareness-raising campaigns were held by the Coalition member NGOs in 2024.

6

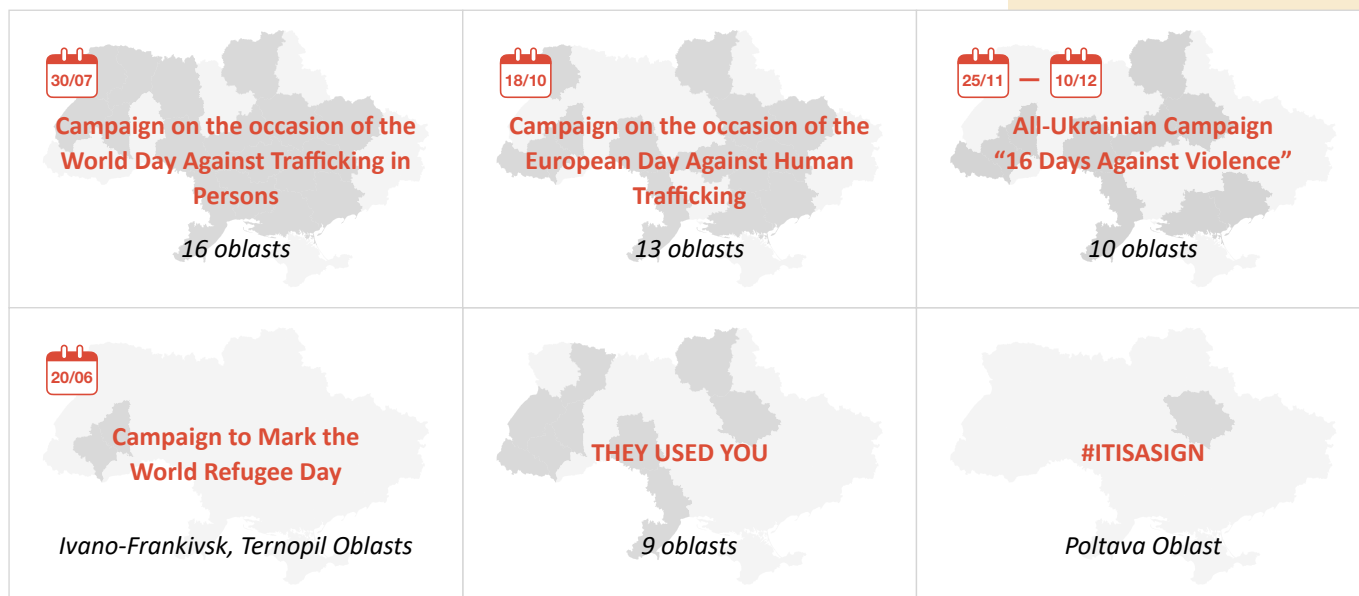
AWARENESS-RAISING
CAMPAIGNS

1.3M

PERSONS COVERED

183,000+

MATERIALS DISSEMINATED



Outreach Campaigns Timed to Memorable Counter-Trafficking Dates

Outreach campaigns timed to memorable counter-trafficking and counter-violence dates, such as the World Day Against Trafficking in Persons, the European Day Against Human Trafficking, and the All-Ukrainian Campaign "16 Days Against Violence," which also includes commemoration of the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery on December 2, were held nearly in every region of Ukraine. They combined awareness-raising (spreading information through mass media and the Internet, dissemination of brochures, leaflets, and other materials among population, professionals working at information & consulting sites, hall tests to evaluate awareness of trafficking issues) and advocacy (round table discussions, meetings, conferences, NRM actor sessions) activities.

Mass actions took place in the oblasts where situation allowed, such as marathons and safe employment quests, interactive events "Truth or Fake About Trafficking" and "Slavery-free World is Our Common Goal!," actions "CounterAct Trafficking in Persons", "Together Against Trafficking", "Born to Be Free", etc. Organization staff conducted awareness-raising activities at educational institutions and cultural centres. In Ternopil, NGO "TMGK "Vidrodzhennia Natsii" in cooperation with National Police officers and NRM actors' staff conducted awareness-raising activities on safe displacement and employment rules at the Central Railway Station. In Odesa Oblast, a traditional flash mob "March for Freedom" was held on the occasion of the European Day Against Human Trafficking.

To mark the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery, the Coalition launched the 24 Voices Against Slavery online campaign to bring together all of its organizations and experts for mass dissemination of awareness-raising messages and videos on trafficking in persons. The Coalition representatives called on the online community

to follow their example and civil society organizations to engage in protection of survivors. As part of the All-Ukrainian Campaign “16 Days Against Violence,” Coalition representatives also took part in organizing and carrying out the actions “We Are for Violence-free World,” “Acting for survivors,” the awareness-raising game “To Be a Woman,” flash mob “Looking for Supportive Words,” etc. Timed to this global initiative, the Supporting Her Campaign was launched, initiating a large-scale training programme for community activists, aimed at getting them ready for independent work to prevent gender-based violence, as well as a series of outreach sessions and social awareness exhibitions.

Campaign to Mark the World Refugee Day

Ways of Hope Craft Fair

The Ways of Hope Craft Fair is an event for internally displaced people who became winners of self-employment and micro-entrepreneurship grant programmes implemented by CO “Caritas Ivano-Frankivsk” with the partners’ support to present their products. The purpose of the event is to support displaced people in pursuing their ideas, mastering new skills and occupations. Not only could the guests of the fair purchase high-quality craft goods and get inspired by the success of those who had already started their own business, but also benefit from valuable advices on employment and management of a micro-business.

Arrangements on the occasion of World Refugee Day, joined by Coalition organizations from Ternopil and Ivano-Frankivsk Oblasts, were aimed at promoting rights protection and integrating internally displaced people into host communities. NGO “TMGK “Vidrodzhennia Natsii” participated in the action “My Past, Present, and Future,” organized by the IDP Council at the Ternopil OMA, where they presented such installations as the Safe Displacement Path, the Tree of Dreams, the Backpack, and carried out outreach

effort by distributing leaflets, posters, stickers, and brochures with information on the types of assistance offered by the organization to IDPs. World Refugee Day in Ivano-Frankivsk was commemorated with the Ways of Hope Craft Fair.

They Used You

This large-scale 6-month outreach campaign was aimed at raising Ukrainians’ awareness of modern slavery and promoting safe migration rules. Coalition representatives helped organize and carry out the campaign across nine cities of Ukraine, i.e. Vinnytsia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, Odesa, Poltava, Rivne, Ternopil, Uzhhorod, and Chernihiv. Campaign activities included external branding and internal social ads placement on public transport, as well as informing passengers by NGO staff and leaflet dissemination. The campaign was accompanied by awareness-raising activities, press conferences, radio and TV appearances of the Coalition representatives. Due to the campaign, hundreds of thousands people learned about real-life stories of exploitation and trafficking in persons, how to protect themselves and where to ask for help.

#ItisaSign

#ItisaSign campaign, designed and implemented in Poltava Oblast by CO “Light of Hope”, was aimed at countering domestic and gender-based violence. It included placement of billboards and citylights, making a video to convey information about the issue of domestic violence, and hotlines that could be used to ask for help. This year’s campaign was made special due to availability of the social taxi service for women and children, ensured by a civil society organization. Promotion of that service was the campaign’s core objective. In addition, booklets “Five Signs of Healthy Relationships” and “Security Plan,” as well as posters and leaflets featuring contact details of the Shelter for Women and of the social taxi were distributed. Those contact details appeared as transparent stickers on mirrors in women’s public toilets. Branded clothes were made for the project personnel featuring a special sign, a secret gesture a woman should make to indicate that she is in danger.

Awareness-Raising Activities

Outreach activities are held not only as apart of campaigns, but as systematic all-year-round effort to raise people's awareness of the issues related to trafficking in persons, exploitation, domestic and gender-based violence, including during community visits, at organization-based centres, educational institutions, IDP collection centres, employment centres, etc. Coalition member organizations' mobile response teams carry out outreach sessions as well. For instance, mobile response teams managed by NGO "Faith.Hope.Love" made a number of visits to Roma settlements of Khust territorial community in 2024 to address emergency calls related to domestic violence cases. Not only did they provide assistance according to the survivors' needs, but also took preventive action that targeted local members of Roma national minority through sharing information about the services available to survivors of domestic and gender-based violence, explaining them their rights and distributing respective outreach materials. This is an extremely important initiative because gender-based violence is a taboo topic in the patriarchal Roma culture, so women who are frequently exposed to it do not realize the problem, nor are they aware of their rights.

Besides, the Coalition member NGOs carried out street activities to counter trafficking in persons and domestic violence in 2024. CO "100% Life Cherkasy" organized an interactive event for children "Colour Your Safety Rule" at a park. Through the process of colouring a symbolic character (a puppy) with coloured sand, the children familiarized themselves with the five basic rules of safe trips, while the organization's social workers actively engaged in conversations with their parents and other visitors on possible trafficking risks. NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine" arranged an awareness-raising exhibition "The Point Is," aimed to highlight the problem of domestic violence. The exhibited posters demonstrated everyday household items that can be used as violence tools. This event was primarily intended to make those who see domestic violence as something trivial, do not identify themselves with its survivors and do not try to stand up for their rights to recognize and reflect on the matter.

The most extensive effort to prevent trafficking in persons and exploitation is targeting young students. Such focus is due to the fact that this very group is among the most vulnerable ones to the said offence. Not only are young people more prone to accepting risky offers, but also pose a significant interest for human traffickers due to their age. Through the use of interactive formats, such as educative games or quests, organizations' specialists seek for them to develop sustainable safe behavioural skills prior to the start of their professional career. The NGOs are also proactively working to prevent gender-based violence among youth, aiming to foster non-violent behaviour culture. NGO "Chernihiv public committee of human rights protection" organizes training sessions for youth under a common title "Young Activist's School of Countering Gender-Based Violence," preparing them for outreach activities at educational institutions in the peer-to-peer format.

The Coalition specialists have experience in conducting violence prevention outreach events for younger audience too. For instance, NGO "Faith.Hope.Love" has carried out a series of domestic violence prevention activities for secondary school students, children who grow up in family-type children's homes and foster families, internally displaced children. Using such educative games as "Who Are Among Us?" and "Safety Circle," the specialists taught them to recognize abusers' characteristic traits and behaviour, help understand what to do in risky situations and where to seek help from. The sessions included elements of art therapy that let children express their underlying thoughts and feelings, while open dialogue format enabled them to recount their perceptions of domestic violence and actual cases they have faced in their lives.

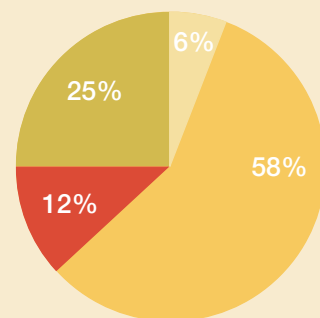
The next largest group reached out by the trafficking and exploitation prevention activities is unemployed people. According to the statistical analysis of cases handled by the Coalition organizations in 2023, this category amounted to nearly 45% of the total quantity of survivors who sought help. The Coalition member NGO specialists

ІНФОРМАЦІЙНІ ЗАХОДИ З ПРОТИДІЇ ТОРГІВЛІ ЛЮДЬМИ

1117 ЗАХОДІВ

28513 ОСІБ
ВЗЯЛИ УЧАСТЬ У ЗАХОДАХ

АВДИТОРІЯ:



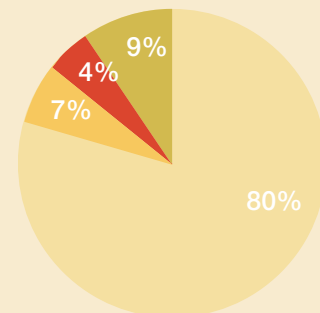
- Загальне населення
- Діти та учнівська молодь
- Внутрішньо переміщені особи
- Безробітні

ІНФОРМАЦІЙНІ ЗАХОДИ З ПРОТИДІЇ НАСИЛЬСТВУ

510 ЗАХОДІВ

77286 ОСІБ
ВЗЯЛИ УЧАСТЬ У ЗАХОДАХ

АВДИТОРІЯ:



- Загальне населення
- Діти та учнівська молодь
- Внутрішньо переміщені особи
- Безробітні

have established close collaboration with official employment centres, using them as bases for outreach sessions and training sessions on safe employment at a regular basis, featuring business advisors, lawyers, and psychologists. Trainees learn about job assessment techniques, employer's and employee's respective rights and obligations, risks posed by informal employment, and how to identify dubious offers using real-life examples. Over 1,500 unemployed people also attended training sessions on countering domestic and gender-based violence in 2024. This is highly meaningful because extended unemployment is often a cause of violent behaviour symptoms.

Training sessions on countering trafficking in persons and gender-based violence are also regularly held at compact settlements for IDPs, another highly vulnerable population group. Financial challenges and stress caused by forced displacement lead to frequent cases of violence within households of internally displaced people. IDPs are also the second biggest group at risk by the number of exposures to situations of trafficking in persons and exploitation, detected by the Coalition over the last decade. Counter-trafficking and exploitation prevention activities for internally displaced people were carried out by specialists of 14 member organizations, namely CO "100% Life Cherkasy", NGO "Vesta", NGO "TMGK "Vidrodzhennia Natsii", NGO "Faith.Hope.Love", NGO "Volyn Perspectives", NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine", NGO "Women's informative consulting center", NGO "Centre Women's Perspectives", CO "Caritas Ivano-Frankivsk", MF "Liubystok", NGO "Promin Dnipro", CO "Light of Hope", NGO "Center for supporting civic initiatives "Chaika", and NGO "Chernihiv public committee of human rights protection". Those reached out to over 7,000 internally displaced people.

V. PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

The Coalition member organizations systematically train associates of NRM actors and specialists engaged in countering trafficking in persons, exploitation, and violence. Participants of such training sessions improve their knowledge about legal framework, roles of government institutions and local self-government bodies in countering trafficking in persons, exploitation, and violence, while enhancing their interaction skills to provide comprehensive assistance to survivors. The learning process uses the most recent data and various techniques, practical exercises, simulation games, case method, etc. In 2024, the Coalition training sessions were attended by nearly 6,000 specialists.

5,896
SPECIALISTS UNDERGONE
TRAINING OFFERED BY
COALITION MEMBER NGOS

 460 NATIONAL POLICE OFFICERS AND PROSECUTORS	 565 HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONALS	 1002 EDUCATORS
 680 PSYCHOLOGISTS	 399 CHILDREN'S SERVICE SPECIALISTS	 177 OFFICERS OF THE STATE BORDER GUARD SERVICE
 80 FLA SYSTEM PERSONNEL	 61 EMPLOYMENT CENTRE SPECIALISTS	 691 SOCIAL WORKERS

In response to the current situation, recent legislative changes, newly established institutions and structures, the Coalition specialists are constantly updating training curricula and cover additional categories of specialists.

Counter-Trafficking Training Sessions

In 2024, counter-trafficking training sessions by the Coalition member organizations were attended by over 2,500 specialists, including persons in charge of the VoT status assigning procedure, specialists from the State Labour Service departments, children's services, social service centres, employment centres, social protection departments, National Social Service offices, social workers, practicing psychologists, social teachers, educators, healthcare professionals, officers from respective local officers of the National Police, State Border Guard Service, and State Migration Service, IDP board members.

This year's training sessions covered new categories of specialists, most importantly FLA system personnel who will provide legal aid to survivors of trafficking pursuant to the recent legislative changes. Additionally, despite critical shortage of counter-trafficking specialists in communities, CO "Caritas Ivano-Frankivsk" conducted a series of training sessions on VoT identification and referral for clerks and ASC employees, the two categories that interact directly with citizens in villages and small towns, but hadn't attended such training sessions before. The training sessions were carried out in the following six communities of Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast: Bilshivtsi, Deliatyn, Solotvyn, Dzvyniach, and Voinyliv.

Training Sessions for FLA System Staff

Given restructuring of the free legal assistance system and amendments to applicable laws, whereby survivors of trafficking now belong to subjects entitled to free-of-charge secondary legal aid, NGO "TMGK "Vidrodzhennia Natsii" was the first in Ukraine to hold two three-day counter-trafficking training sessions for FLA system representatives in February through March 2024. These training sessions were attended by members of the Western Cross-Regional Centre for Free Legal Assistance from Volyn, Zakarpattia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Lviv, Rivne, Ternopil, and Chernivtsi Oblasts. Female representatives of the Kyiv City Legal Aid Coordination Centre also joined the training sessions. Training objectives included capacity building in identifying and assisting survivors of trafficking and exploitation, overview of the National Referral Mechanism functioning principles. The training was done in small groups using practical cases and included assimilation of the learned identification skills. Similar counter-trafficking training sessions were conducted later on for specialists of the Northern and Northeastern Cross-Regional Centres for Free Legal Assistance by NGO "Spring of Hope. Ukraine" and Coalition expert Viktor Valchuk.

2521

ФАХІВЕЦЬ ПРОЙШОВ
ТРЕНІНГИ З ПРОТИДІЇ
ТОРГІВЛІ ЛЮДЬМИ

1679

ФАХІВЦІВ ПРОЙШЛИ
ТРЕНІНГИ З ПРОТИДІЇ
ДОМАШНЬОМУ ТА
ГЕНДЕРНО ЗУМОВЛЕНОМУ
НАСИЛЬСТВУ

The training curricula include such matters as:

- міжнародне та національне законодавство в сфері протидії торгівлі людьми
- international and national legislation on counter-trafficking
- NRM functioning principles and procedure
- identification and referral of survivors of trafficking
- direct and indirect indicators that suggest a person is a survivor of trafficking in persons
- algorithm of actions upon finding signs of probable trafficking situations
- procedure sequence for establishing the VoT status

The training process includes not only theoretical modules, but also practical exercises to practice identification skills, coordination among actors, drawing up rehabilitation schedules, and following the procedure of VoT status establishment using real-life modelling method. 8 new simulation exercises for NRM actors were designed this year by NGO “Clear Paper”.

Training Sessions on Countering Domestic and Gender-Based Violence, Sexual Violence and Exploitation

Training sessions conducted by the Coalition member organizations on countering domestic and gender-based violence as well as providing psychosocial support to survivors of sexual violence and exploitation, were attended by over 1,600 specialists in 2024. This year, training of healthcare professionals was intensified significantly to provide adequate assistance to women who survived violence and sexual exploitation. Specifically, the training sessions were completed by family doctors, nurses, paramedics, gynaecologists, obstetricians, as well as practicing psychologists and psychotherapists. These training sessions were conducted by the following three organizations: NGO “Centre Women’s Perspectives”, CO “Caritas Ivano-Frankivsk”, NGO “Women’s informative consulting center”. The latter also designed an online course on specifics of aiding women who survived sexual violence for medics and psychologists, which was completed by nearly 600 specialists. Besides, the organization prepared and issued a manual on providing assistance to survivors of gender-based violence titled “Gender-based Violence: Mental Health and Psychosocial Support.”

Other specialists that attended the training on countering domestic and gender-based violence include ones from social service centres, structural units for social protection, as well as social workers, specialists of mobile response teams, and law-enforcement officers.

The training sessions were focused on the following topics:

- legal status of actors operating in the area of countering domestic and gender-based violence
- algorithm of response to domestic and gender-based violence
- assistance standards for survivors of domestic and gender-based violence
- specifics of communication with survivors of domestic and gender-based violence
- psychosocial support of sexual violence survivors
- specifics of providing medical care to the women who survived sexual violence and exploitation, etc.

In addition to training sessions on countering domestic violence, NGO “Faith.Hope.Love”, in cooperation with the Odesa State University of Internal Affairs and the MD NP in Odesa Oblast, designed methodical and practical guidelines “How Police Officers Should Respond to Domestic Violence Cases in Combatants’ Households” to be used by police officers in practice and for cadet training.

Coalition experts Olena Morhun and Viktor Valchuk designed Methodological Guidelines for Awareness-Raising Activities to Counter Gender-based Violence within Territorial Communities to be used by personnel of NRM actors involved in action against gender-based violence and community activists.

412

SPECIALISTS UNDERGONE TRAINING ON SPECIFICS OF COMMUNICATION WITH PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THE WAR

Training Sessions on Specifics of Communication with People Experiencing Mental Trauma due to the War

Conflict-related mental trauma is a relatively new phenomenon for the Ukrainian society. Dealing with people that have survived occupation, imprisonment, rape, were victims or witnesses of war crimes, military servants and veterans as well as their families can be a considerable challenge for many specialists. Building on many years of experience in countering exploitation and violence, assisting people experiencing trauma, the Coalition organizations have already joined efforts to carry out appropriate training for the staff of newly established specialized agencies and specialists engaged in providing assistance to survivors.

At the moment, specialized training sessions on communication with people affected by the armed conflict one way or another are conducted by three organizations, namely NGO “Egida-Zaporizhzhia”, NGO “Center for supporting civic initiatives “Chaika”, NGO “Faith.Hope.Love”, and the Coalition expert Nataliia Zaikina. These training sessions are designed for different categories of specialists, but they all share the focus on psychological aspects of relief activities.

NGO “Center for supporting civic initiatives “Chaika”	Training on interactions among actors when responding to CRSV cases and specifics of communication with their survivors	• psychologists, psychotherapists • mobile response team members • social service providers • law-enforcement officers • LSG representatives
NGO “Egida-Zaporizhzhia”	Do No Harm, training on specifics of communication with families of people gone missing	• law-enforcement officers • associates of the Centre for Searching People Gone Missing due to Special Circumstances • FLA system staff • social service providers and other actors
NGO “Faith.Hope.Love”	Training sessions on psychological aspects of communication with veterans	• cadets of the Odesa State University of Internal Affairs
Nataliia Zaikina, Coalition expert	Intensive training on communication with victims and witnesses of war crimes, including children of various ages	• coordinators of the Support Organization Units for Victims and Witnesses of War Crimes • coordinators of the Coordination Centre for the Support of Victims and Witnesses of War Crimes
Nataliia Zaikina, Coalition expert	Training sessions on communication with military officers returned from captivity and illegally imprisoned civilians due to the armed aggression	• psychologists • social service professionals

NGO “Faith.Hope.Love” also conducted training sessions for social service providers themed “Conflict-Related Sexual Violence: Provision of Comprehensive Assistance” and together with Odesa State University of Internal Affairs designed Guidelines on Organizing Assistance for CRSV Survivors.

1,075

SPECIALISTS UNDERGONE
TRAINING ON COUNTERING
VIOLENCE AGAINST
CHILDREN

Training Sessions on Countering Violence against Children

In 2024, the Coalition member NGOs put extra emphasis on the training sessions related to identification, referral of and assistance to children who survived violence or exploitation. These training sessions targeted specialists that work directly with children and can be the first to notice signs of violence committed against them, such as teachers, social educators, school psychologists, top management of educational institutions, frontline workers of children's services, juvenile police officers, community police officers. NGO "Chernihiv public committee of human rights protection" also conducted training sessions on identification and referral of children who survived violence or exploitation for educational security officers, introduced to Ukrainian schools not so long ago. Besides, the same organization offered a specialized training for MD NP officers in Chernihiv Oblast on applying child-friendly justice techniques.

Overall, more than 1,000 specialists engaged in education, response, investigation, medical and psychosocial assistance, completed training sessions on countering violence against children, including domestic violence, sexual violence, bullying, cyberbullying, and organizing preventive activities at educational institutions in 2024.

The training curriculum includes such matters as:

- forms and manifestations of violence against children
- identifying violence cases through changes in behaviour and mentality of a child
- algorithms of response to violence against children
- specifics of communication with children who have experienced violence, especially sexual violence
- legal commitments in case an episode of violence against children is identified
- international standards of children's rights protection
- national laws that prevent domestic violence and bullying
- criminal liability for abuse and violence against a child
- preventing strategies, arrangement and maintenance of safe educational environment
- responsibilities of educational process actors as regards bullying prevention at educational institutions, etc.

Additionally, Coalition experts Viktor Valchuk, Antonina Shostak, in cooperation with Volodymyr Kukin, Deputy Director of Zaporizhzhia City Centre of Social Services, designed Methodological Guidelines for Dealing with Children Who Survived Sexual Violence.

Currently, as part of the projects aimed to counter violence against children, in cooperation with the Coalition expert Aliona Ihnatieva, NGO "Egida-Zaporizhzhia" is implementing a large-scale training campaign to increase educators' capacity in identification of and response to episodes of sexual violence against children, which will continue into 2025.

THE COALITION WAS SET UP IN 2011 AND CONSISTS OF 22 MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

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