**Press Release**

**PUBLIC OPINION ABOUT DECENTRALIZATION REFORM**

*Nationwide public opinion polling conducted by the Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation jointly with Kyiv International Institute of Sociology on August 16-28, 2018 in all regions of Ukraine with the exception of Crimea and the occupied territories in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. 2,041 respondents aged 18 and older were polled.*

*The statistical margin of error (with a probability of 0,95 and a design effect of 1,5) does not exceed: 3.3% for the indicators near 50%, 2,8% for indicators near 25% or 75%, 2,0% for indicators near 12% or 88%, 1.4% for indicators near 5% or 95%, 0,7% for indicators near to 1% or 99%.*

This polling was presented by the Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation as part of its project implemented under the USAID/ENGAGE activity, which is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and implemented by Pact. The contents of this polling are the sole responsibility of Pact and its implementing partners and do not necessary reflect the views of USAID or the United States Government.

*For comparison, the results of polling conducted by the Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation and the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology in August 2016 and June 2017 are also provided.*

* Over a year the level of awareness of Ukrainians with decentralization reform ***has somewhat declined***. 16% of the people understand what this reform is about (in June 2017 this figure was around 20%), some 60% heard something about this (in 2017 – 62%). Accordingly, the share of those who know absolutely nothing about decentralization grew from 18% to 23%. Residents from the Central regions know the most about the reform (a total of 83%), while residents in the East of Ukraine now the least about it (53%).
* Only 19% of the respondents said that they are well aware of the powers which local authorities possess, while 51% are partially aware of this issue, and 32% know practically nothing about this at all.
* Just as a year before, the ***support*** for the government’s measures regarding decentralization ***prevails*** over the negative attitudes of the people. In particular, 43% of the polled showed such support (in June 2017– 42%), while 22% showed a negative attitude towards the government’s activity in this sphere (in 2017 – this figure was 27%). Proponents of the decentralization reform prevail in all macro-regions of Ukraine, with the exception of the East (there the level of support for such reform is only 24%, while 29% declared a negative attitude). The highest support of the policy of decentralization was noted in western regions of Ukraine (53%).
* At the same time, the ***majority*** of Ukrainians, as earlier, do not ***feel the changes*** from the use of additional funds that were received by local budgets over the latest years – 61% of the population expressed such a position (in June 2017 - 55%). The share of those who feel changes for the better as a result of the increase in local budgets is fairly low (18%), and is only slightly higher than the share of those who feel changes for worse (14%). Besides that, in comparison to June 2017 these shares ***remained almost without change***. Herewith, there are certain regional differences, specifically in the West and the South the number of those who see positive changes is somewhat higher, while in the Center and the East the situation is the opposite – more people there see negative changes.
* Among those who noted positive changes, most frequently the improvement in the situation with ***landscaping and sanitary state near residential buildings*** (46%)was mentioned, while 22% noted the improvements in the work of the housing and communal services system and 21% - in the work of urban transport.
* Just as in 2016–2017, the majority of those who felt changes for worse pointed to the decline in the quality of ***medical services*** ­– 43%. Other areas, in which people noted a decline, were the care for socially vulnerable groups (35%) and providing jobs for citizens (28%). However, it’s worth mentioning that this year the above mentioned ***changes for worse got lower percentage*** than it was in the last year polling.
* Compared with the last year, public opinion regarding the capacity of the local government to take advantage of additional powers obtained as a result of decentralization almost did not change, and in the polls conducted last year and this year the same 44% of the polled (10% - fully confident, and 34% - mostly confident) were confident in such a capacity of the local authorities, while 26% of the polled in the current public opinion poll expressed considerable doubts about this and 29% expressed their doubts in polling conducted last year. The share of those who are convinced that the local authorities are unable to handle the new powers somewhat fell (from 17% to 12%). The most confident in the capacity of their local authorities to handle new powers are the residents of the West (“absolutely” or “predominantly confident” are 54% of those polled there), while the least confident are the people from the East of Ukraine (27%).
* Citizens foresee both positive and negative consequences of the decentralization reform. 23% of the people believe it will give them new opportunities to have an influence on the government (this indicator does not differ from that of last year), while 12% believe that thanks to this reform the quality of services will improve (the given indicator in the previous polling was 18%). At the same time, 23% fear that decentralization will lead to the emergence of local “princes”, while 22% – to the devastation of villages and rural settlements. However, mentioning the possibility of the emergence of uncontrolled local elites compared to the last year’s polling fell by 5%, while mentioning of possible de-population in certain regions increased by 6%. The greatest fears regarding “local princes” were identified in the Center (31%), while residents of the West saw the most possibilities of influencing the authorities (32%). Residents of the South noticeably more often referred to the possible devastation of settlements (33%).
* The awareness of citizens about the process of voluntary amalgamation of communities did not significantly change over a year. In particular, 12% of the polled are well aware of this process (in 2017 – 18%), heard something about it – 57% (in 2017 – 56%), while 26% know nothing about this (just as in 2017). The awareness about amalgamation of communities is the highest in the West (there 19% of the people are well aware of this process, while only 7–13% are aware of it in other regions of Ukraine). Generally speaking, the indicators of awareness regarding the processes of decentralization differ between the West, the East and the Center (accordingly 77%, 69% and 75%), while in the South this indicator is considerably lower (47%).
* In general, 39% of the population support the voluntary amalgamation of territorial communities, while 28% of the polled have a negative attitude towards this process. Meanwhile, one third of the polled are undecided on this issue.
* Among the residents of amalgamated communities, the opinion that this amalgamation didn’t affect their living conditions prevails. Such was the assessment of 50% of the polled in this group (at the same time, this indicator is ***notably lower*** compared to the last year when it was 63%). The share of those who felt an improvement in their living conditions is 37% in the current polling, while in last year’s polling this figure was only 11%. The percentage of those who felt their living conditions worsened is 10% (the year before this indicator was 12%).
* Just as a year before, 55% of Ukrainians are for the most part dissatisfied with the ability to have an influence on the local authorities. At the same time, this indicator is ***somewhat lower*** in comparison with last year (then it was 63%). However, such a decline was due to the increase in the number of those who could not make their decision on this issue, while the share of those satisfied remained ***practically unchanged*** (17% in the current polling and 16% in the previous polling a year before). The lowest number of those satisfied with their possibilities to influence the local authorities is in the East – 10%, while in the West 28% of the people are satisfied with their possibilities. At the same time, only 34% expressed their desire to take part in the management of their village, town or city in the event of the increase in the powers of the local authorities (in 2017, such was the opinion of 37% of the people), while 48% admitted that they are not ready for this (in 2017 – 50%).
* Among those who expressed their willingness to take part in the governance of their communities, the most popular instrument for this remained participation as voters in elections (46%, in 2017 – 42%). All other forms of participation in community affairs are much less popular: only 16% of the people mentioned participation in public hearings and in civil work on landscaping, while even less raised the issue of other measures. At the same time, there are certain regional differences on this issue: 54% of respondents in the South and 49% in the East are more ready to participate as voters in the elections of local bodies, while people in the West and the Center of Ukraine are somewhat less inclined to vote (40% and 44%, accordingly).

In the West of Ukraine, the number of people ready to participate in public hearings is somewhat higher (22% in comparison with 13-15% in other regions). Meanwhile, in the East the share of those who are not ready to participate in any kind of activities related to their community management is the highest and accounts for 39%.

**POLLING RESULTS**

**Are you aware of the initiatives of the government regarding the decentralization of power in Ukraine?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| Yes, I am well aware of this | 12.0 | 19.9 | 16.4 |
| I heard something about this | 54.1 | 61.9 | 59.6 |
| No, I am not aware of this  | 30.8 | 18,0 | 22.7 |
| Difficult to say | 3.1 | - | 1.3 |

**Do you support measures the government is taking within the decentralization of power reform?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| Definitely, yes | 9.5 | 7.5 | 8,6 |
| Rather yes | 21,9 | 34.5 | 34.4 |
| Rather no | 13.7 | 16.3 | 15.5 |
| Absolutely not | 9,3 | 10.4 | 6.3 |
| I know nothing about this | 27.4 | - | 24.9 |
| Difficult to say  | 18.3 | 31.4 | 10.4 |

**Do you know what powers the local authorities have in your town or village, meaning what issues they resolve on the local level and what decisions are made in the center?**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | *August 2018* |
| Yes, I am well aware of this | 10,3 |
| I know something about it | 51.5 |
| I know nothing at all | 32.1 |
| Difficult to say | 6.1 |

**Over 2015–2017, the revenues of local budgets significantly increased. Did you feel the results of the spending of such funds (improvement in the quality of services, landscaping and social assistance) compared to the previous years?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| Yes, I felt certain changes for the better | 16.2 | 16.5 | 18.2 |
| No, I did not see any changes  | 67.2 | 55.4 | 60.8 |
| I only saw changes for the worse | 8.4 | 16.4 | 13.9 |
| Difficult to say | 8.2 | 11.7 | 7.2 |

**If you felt changes for the better, what were they related to?** *(the number of responses is unlimited) % of those who saw changes for the better*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| Housing provision  | 1,2 | 4,4 | 2,3 |
| Quality of roads | - | 64,0 | - |
| Salaries of employees on the budget payroll (teachers, doctors, etc.) | 5,2 | 13.8 | 8.5 |
| Financial aid for those with low incomes | 7,3 | 10.0 | 8.0 |
| Creating conditions for business development  | 4.5 | 2.1 | 4.8 |
| Medical services | 3.3 | 3.7 | 11.1 |
| Law enforcement | 15.5 | 11.0 | 13.3 |
| Functioning of urban transport  | 23.0 | 20.6 | 20.6 |
| Fighting corruption in the local bodies | 4.5 | 3.4 | 4.9 |
| Improvement of the environment  | 4.2 | 3.6 | 4.5 |
| Ensuring security in cities in the event of attacks (by terrorists, other foreign countries, etc.) | 6.7 | 3.1 | 5.6 |
| School education  | 6.4 | 9.6 | 6.8 |
| Pre-school education | 6.7 | 7.0 | 5.4 |
| Dealing with traffic jams on the city streets  | 9.7 | 1,7 | 2.9 |
| Providing jobs and reducing unemployment  | 1.8 | 2.3 | 2.9 |
| Care for socially vulnerable groups (senior citizens and the disabled)  | 7.0 | 5.3 | 9.7 |
| Work of housing and communal services system | 23.3 | 23.3 | 21.6 |
| Improving conditions for leisure time  | 22.1 | 25.2 | 17.7 |
| Problems with buildings | 3.3 | 2.0 | 2.7 |
| Attracting investments to the city | 11.8 | 8.0 | 8.0 |
| Landscaping and sanitary conditions around buildings  | 57.3 | 29.6 | 45.6 |
| Other  | 18.2 | 6.6 | 14.8 |
| Difficult to say | 2.1 | - | 4.4 |

**If you felt changes for the worse, what were they related to?** *(the number of responses is unlimited) % of those who saw changes for the worse*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| Housing provision  | 15,2 | 14,7 | 4,0 |
| Quality of roads | - | 38,0 | - |
| Salaries of employees on the budget payroll (teachers, doctors, etc.) | 27,5 | 18,2 | 10,7 |
| Financial aid for those with low incomes | 41,5 | 34,7 | 21,9 |
| Creating conditions for business development  | 15,2 | 8,6 | 6,1 |
| Medical services | 63,2 | 52,6 | 42,8 |
| Law enforcement | 17,0 | 22,4 | 14,8 |
| Functioning of urban transport  | 8,8 | 13,0 | 13,3 |
| Fighting corruption in local bodies of power  | 46,2 | 37,7 | 19,6 |
| Improvement of the environment | 17,0 | 10,0 | 5,9 |
| Ensuring security in cities in the event of attacks (by terrorists, other foreign countries, etc.) | 9,9 | 13,4 | 4,1 |
| School education  | 20,5 | 12,4 | 12,1 |
| Pre-school education | 15,8 | 7,9 | 2,9 |
| Dealing with traffic jams on the city streets  | 7,6 | 9,5 | 3,5 |
| Providing jobs and reducing unemployment  | 56,7 | 39,2 | 27,7 |
| Care for socially vulnerable groups (senior citizens and the disabled)  | 52,6 | 44,1 | 35,3 |
| Work of housing and communal services system | 35,1 | 26,1 | 24,9 |
| Improving conditions for leisure time  | 3,5 | 2,5 | 4,1 |
| Problems with buildings  | 7,0 | 8,9 | 4,7 |
| Attracting investments to the city | 5,8 | 5,5 | 5,6 |
| Landscaping and sanitatry condition around buildings  | 14,6 | 12,4 | 17,8 |
| Other  | 4,1 | 5,4 | 3,8 |
| Difficult to say | 2,3 | - | 8,7 |

**In your opinion, are the local authorities in your village/town/city capable of dealing with matters having more powers and greater responsibilities in the event of decentralization?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| I am sure that our local government is totally capable of dealing with a greater amount of authority | 15,4 | 10,3 | 10,2 |
| I think that for the most part they can handle it | 36,8 | 31,6 | 34,5 |
| There are certain doubts that they can handle this task | 20,1 | 29,0 | 26,3 |
| I am sure that our local government will not be able to deal with a greater amount of power | 10,1 | 16,8 | 12,4 |
| Difficult to say | 17,6 | 12,3 | 16,5 |

**What will be the benefits of decentralization of power for citizens (meaning, transfer of many functions from the center to the region)?** *(note what you feel is necessary)*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| New windows of opportunity will be opened for citizens to have influence on the bodies of power | 20,6 | 24,0 | 22,8 |
| The destruction of towns, villages and certain cities will be accelerated | 14,7 | 15,9 | 21,7 |
| The quality of services will be improved for citizens | 21,0 | 17,7 | 12,1 |
| It will lead to the emergence of local “princes”  | 26,8 | 28,7 | 22,7 |
| Other  | 2,4 | 4,4 | 1,2 |
| Difficult to say | 34 | 24,8 | 31,6 |

**Are you aware of the process of voluntary amalgamation of communities, which is currently being conducted in Ukraine?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| Yes, I am well aware of it | 12,1 | 17,8 | 12,6 |
| I heard something about it | 46,4 | 56,2 | 57,2 |
| I know nothing about it  | 37,9 | 25,9 | 26,0 |
| Difficult to say | 3,6 | - | 4,1 |

**Do you support the process of voluntary amalgamation of communities?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| Definitely, yes | 7,8 | 6,7 | 8,6 |
| Rather yes | 22,7 | 31,6 | 30,9 |
| Rather no | 14,8 | 14,1 | 19,0 |
| Absolutely not | 13,2 | 11,8 | 9,1 |
| Difficult to say | 41,6 | 35,9 | 32,5 |

**Is your city/town or village taking part in the process of voluntary amalgamation?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| My city/town or village is already a part of the amalgamated community | 5,7 | 10,8 | 12,8 |
| Yes, my city/town or village is taking part in this process  | 13,5 | 16,6 | 18,8 |
| My city, town or village is not taking part in this process  | 18,3 | 16,7 | 22,7 |
| I don’t know  | 51,3 | 55,8 | 39,4 |
| Difficult to say | 11,1 | - | 6,2 |

**Did the process of amalgamation of communities have an influence on living conditions in your city/town or village?**

*% of those whose city/town or village is already a part of the amalgamated community*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| Living conditions improved  | 15,6 | 11,3 | 37,5\* |
| Living conditions have not changed | 66,4 | 62,8 | 49,6 |
| Living conditions became worse | 8,6 | 12,2 | 10,4\*\* |
| Difficult to say | 9,5 | 13,7 | 2.5 |

\*In the data of public opinion poll conducted in 2018 the shares of those who chose the option that “Living conditions definitely improved” and “Living conditions rather improved” were merged.

\*In the data of public opinion polls conducted in 2018 the shares of those who chose the option that “Living conditions most likely worsened” and “Living conditions definitely worsened” were merged.

**Are you satisfied with how much influence you can have on decisions of the local authorities in your city, town or village?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| Definitely, yes | 2,7 | 2,1 | 3,0 |
| Rather yes | 12 | 14,1 | 14,6 |
| Rather no | 34,2 | 30,9 | 32,3 |
| Absolutely not | 30,2 | 31,6 | 23,2 |
| Difficult to say | 20,9 | 21,3 | 26,9 |

**In the event of the expansion of powers of local authorities are you ready to participate in the managing of your city, town or village?**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| Definitely yes | 8,7 | 7,6 | 7,9 |
| Rather yes | 22,8 | 29,1 | 26,1 |
| Rather no | 28,0 | 27,4 | 28,6 |
| Absolutely not | 19,2 | 22,8 | 19,2 |
| Difficult to say | 21,3 | 13,2 | 18,2 |

**In what forms of participation of citizens in managing city, town or village are you ready to take part?** *(Note all appropriate options)*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *August 2016* | *June 2017* | *August 2018* |
| Elections to local bodies as a candidate | 4,5 | 13,0 | 8,6 |
| Elections to local bodies as a voter | 29,2 | 41,7 | 46,0 |
| Participation in public hearings | 17,1 | 18,9 | 16,3 |
| Participation in meetings of local bodies | 9,1 | 13,3 | 10,3 |
| Participation in non-government organizations engaged in issues of local self-government | 8,9 | 11,9 | 10,8 |
| Participation in the activities of civil councils under the bodies of power | 5,7 | 8,7 | 8,2 |
| Participation in street demonstrations, picketing and rallies | 6,9 | 7,1 | 7,2 |
| Participation in bodies of self-organization of the people (street and block committees) | 10,4 | 13,7 | 7,0 |
| Participation in civil work on landscaping | 24,0 | 15,4 | 16,6 |
| Participation as a volunteer in different forms of civil assistance (kindergartens, multi-child families, orphanages, etc.) | 10,4 | 7,7 | 6,2 |
| Provision of financial contributions for the needs of community  | 4,0 | 2,0 | 1,8 |
| Other  | 0,4 | 0,3 | 0,1 |
| I am not ready to participate in any of these forms of activity | 35,3 | 30,3 | 29,2 |
| Difficult to say | 11,4 | 8,3 | 6,8 |

**REGIONAL DIVISION**

**Do you know about the initiatives of the government regarding decentralization of power in Ukraine?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| Yes, I am well aware  | 22,9 | 9,7 | 20,0 | 14,0 |
| Heard something about it  | 55,6 | 67,4 | 63,5 | 39,1 |
| No, I am not aware  | 20,8 | 20,8 | 15,6 | 44,9 |
| Difficult to say  | 0,7 | 2,0 | 0,9 | 1,9 |

**Do you support measures the government is taking within the decentralization of power reform?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| Definitely, yes  | 14,4 | 5,9 | 7,3 | 6,2 |
| Rather yes  | 39,1 | 35,3 | 36,7 | 18,0 |
| Rather no | 10,0 | 15,1 | 21,0 | 17,1 |
| Absolutely not | 3,1 | 5,9 | 7,4 | 11,7 |
| I know nothing about this  | 24,2 | 27,0 | 15,3 | 39,1 |
| Difficult to say  | 9,3 | 10,8 | 12,2 | 7,9 |

**Do you know what powers the bodies of local self-government have in your city, town or village, meaning what issues they can resolve at the local level and which issues are resolved in the center?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| Yes, I am well aware  | 18,0 | 6,9 | 4,2 | 15,3 |
| I know somewhat  | 44,9 | 53,9 | 62,9 | 37,1 |
| I absolutely don’t know  | 30,5 | 32,2 | 29,4 | 40,3 |
| Difficult to say | 6,6 | 7,0 | 3,5 | 7,3 |

**Over the period 2015–2017 revenues of local budgets considerably grew. Did you see any results of the use of these funds (quality of services, landscaping, social assistance) compared to the previous years?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| Yes, I felt certain changes for the better  | 26,2 | 11,9 | 20,7 | 13,9 |
| No, I did not feel any changes  | 57,5 | 63,5 | 63,4 | 55,0 |
| I felt only changes for the worse  | 7,0 | 17,4 | 11,8 | 22,8 |
| Difficult to say  | 9,3 | 7,2 | 4,1 | 8,3 |

**If you felt changes for the better, then what were they related to? \*** *(the number of responses is unlimited) % of those who felt changes for the better*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* |
| Housing provision | 5,4 | 0,0 | 0,9 |
| Pay for work to those on the budget payroll (teachers, doctors, etc.)  | 10,6 | 12,2 | 4,9 |
| Financial assistance for low income category | 9,2 | 7,7 | 9,2 |
| Creation of conditions for business development  | 7,5 | 1,8 | 3,9 |
| Medical services  | 19,4 | 8,2 | 4,0 |
| Law enforcement  | 21,4 | 11,5 | 8,2 |
| Functioning of urban transport  | 15,8 | 28,2 | 25,5 |
| Fighting corruption in the local bodies  | 5,3 | 5,6 | 5,7 |
| Improvement of the environment  | 7,4 | 3,1 | 3,4 |
| Ensuring security in cities in the event of attacks (by terrorists, other foreign countries, etc.) | 8,9 | 3,9 | 3,3 |
| School education  | 11,5 | 1,2 | 5,5 |
| Pre-school education  | 8,8 | 2,1 | 4,2 |
| Dealing with traffic jams on the streets  | 4,6 | 3,5 | 1,1 |
| Providing jobs and reducing unemployment  | 2,9 | 4,3 | 2,7 |
| Care about the socially vulnerable groups (retirees and the disabled)  | 10,6 | 5,2 | 12,3 |
| Work of housing and communal services system | 14,8 | 21,7 | 33,3 |
| Improvement of conditions for leisure  | 11,4 | 30,3 | 16,1 |
| Problems with buildings  | 3,4 | 3,5 | 2,1 |
| Attracting investments to the city  | 10,7 | 7,9 | 6,3 |
| Landscaping, sanitary state near residential buildings  | 48,4 | 57,4 | 21,6 |
| Other  | 2,7 | 7,5 | 38,2 |
| Difficult to say | 7,6 | 5,7 | 0,6 |

\*Distribution for the Eastern region is not included due to the low sub-sample regarding the above issues

**In your opinion, are the local authorities in your village/town/city capable of dealing with matters having more powers and greater responsibilities in the event of decentralization?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| I am certain that our local government can deal with issues having greater powers  | 19,6 | 6,3 | 7,3 | 6,8 |
| I think they can for the most part deal with this  | 34,8 | 33,5 | 43,4 | 19,8 |
| There are significant doubts whether they can deal with this  | 17,5 | 29,8 | 29,2 | 29,8 |
| I am certain that the local government will not be able to deal with this  | 10,1 | 13,4 | 10,6 | 18,1 |
| Difficult to say  | 18,1 | 16,9 | 9,5 | 25,5 |

**What will be the benefits of decentralization of power for citizens (meaning, transfer of many functions from the center to the region)?** *(note what you feel is necessary)*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| New windows of opportunity will be opened for citizens to have influence on the bodies of power | 31,7 | 22,4 | 17,7 | 15,2 |
| The devastation of towns, villages and certain cities will be accelerated | 15,1 | 18,6 | 32,9 | 22,0 |
| The quality of services will be improved for citizens | 12,4 | 11,2 | 13,4 | 11,1 |
| It will lead to the emergence of local “princes”  | 20,2 | 31,4 | 16,9 | 15,5 |
| Other  | 0,1 | 1,4 | 2,5 | 0,7 |
| Difficult to say | 34,5 | 28,0 | 27,3 | 43,2 |

**Are you aware of the process of voluntary amalgamation of communities currently under way in Ukraine?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| Yes, I am well aware  | 19,5 | 7,7 | 12,7 | 11,1 |
| I heard something about it  | 57,7 | 61,4 | 62,3 | 35,7 |
| I know nothing about it  | 18,4 | 26,6 | 21,9 | 48,2 |
| Difficult to say | 4,4 | 4,3 | 3,1 | 5,0 |

**Do you support the process of voluntary amalgamation of communities?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| Definitely, yes  | 17,0 | 4,9 | 7,0 | 3,9 |
| Rather yes  | 40,5 | 34,1 | 25,6 | 12,4 |
| Rather no | 12,1 | 15,8 | 29,1 | 22,2 |
| Absolutely not  | 6,5 | 7,0 | 9,5 | 19,6 |
| Difficult to say  | 23,9 | 38,2 | 28,8 | 41,9 |

**Is your city/ town or village taking part in the process of voluntary amalgamation?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| My city/town or village is part of the amalgamated community  | 26,7 | 9,0 | 8,6 | 2,2 |
| Yes, my city/ town or village is taking part in this process  | 15,3 | 14,8 | 29,3 | 16,8 |
| My city, town or village is not taking part in this process | 26,2 | 25,3 | 14,2 | 24,9 |
| I don’t know  | 28,1 | 41,3 | 42,3 | 52,3 |
| Difficult to say | 3,6 | 9,6 | 5,6 | 3,9 |

**Are you satisfied with how much influence you can have on decisions of the local authorities in your city, town or village?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| Definitely, yes  | 6,5 | 2,4 | 1,5 | 0,0 |
| Rather yes  | 21,5 | 12,4 | 12,5 | 10,4 |
| Rather no | 25,8 | 36,3 | 34,7 | 30,2 |
| Absolutely not  | 21,8 | 23,0 | 22,5 | 28,2 |
| Difficult to say  | 24,4 | 25,8 | 28,8 | 31,2 |

**In the event of the expansion of powers of local authorities are you ready to participate in the managing of your city, town or village?**

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| Definitely, yes  | 12,6 | 7,0 | 4,9 | 6,5 |
| Rather yes  | 30,3 | 24,9 | 26,4 | 20,4 |
| Rather no | 24,7 | 27,0 | 36,5 | 25,6 |
| Absolutely not  | 17,8 | 19,2 | 17,5 | 25,3 |
| Difficult to say  | 14,6 | 22,0 | 14,6 | 22,2 |

**In what forms of participation of citizens in managing city, town or village are you ready to take part?** *(Note all appropriate options)*

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | *West* | *Center* | *South* | *East* |
| Elections to local bodies as a candidate | 11,8 | 8,4 | 6,6 | 5,9 |
| Elections to local bodies as a voter | 40,0 | 43,8 | 53,9 | 48,9 |
| Participation in public hearings  | 21,7 | 15,3 | 13,6 | 12,9 |
| Participation in meetings of local bodies | 12,8 | 9,8 | 8,8 | 9,4 |
| Participation in non-government organizations engaged in the issues of local self-government  | 13,4 | 6,9 | 14,6 | 8,0 |
| Participation in the activities of civil councils under the bodies of power  | 11,8 | 6,8 | 7,0 | 6,6 |
| Participation in street demonstrations, picketing and rallies  | 14,2 | 5,9 | 3,8 | 3,0 |
| Participation in bodies of self-organization of the people (building, street and block committees)  | 8,6 | 7,2 | 5,3 | 6,8 |
| Participation in civil work on landscaping  | 18,1 | 16,3 | 18,1 | 11,8 |
| Participation as a volunteer in different forms of civil assistance (kindergartens, multi-children families, orphanages, etc.)  | 11,4 | 5,4 | 4,7 | 0,7 |
| Provision of financial contributions for the needs of the community  | 2,9 | 1,9 | 0,9 | 0,8 |
| Other  | 0,0 | 0,1 | 0,4 | 0,0 |
| I am not ready to take part in any of these forms of activity  | 31,4 | 28,8 | 21,9 | 39,4 |
| Difficult to say  | 5,6 | 9,9 | 5,2 | 3,8 |