MOST OF UKRAINIANS (53.5%) DEFINE THE CONFLICT IN DONBAS AS RUSSIAN AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE USING LOCAL PROXIES - ILLEGAL MILITIA.

What is your opinion about definition of the conflict in Donbas?

Above: comparison of results of the representative nationwide opinion polls conducted by DIF and Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (November 2019) and by DIF and Razumkov Center (May 2021).

Source: Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation • Created with Datawrapper
THERE IS AN ONGOING WAR BETWEEN UKRAINE AND RUSSIA: AS BELIEVED FROM EAST (48%) – TO WEST (91%)

Do you agree with the statement that Ukraine is in war with Russia?

08.2020  05.2021

Above: comparison of results of the representative nationwide opinion polls conducted by DIF and Center for Political Sociology (August 2020) and by DIF and Razumkov Center (May 2021).

Source: Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation • Created with Datawrapper
CONSTITUENTS OF THE “SERVANT OF PEOPLE”, “EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY AND BAT’KIV SCHYNA ARE UNANIMOUS ABOUT RUSSIA’S ROLE IN THE CONFLICT

Do you agree with the statement that Ukraine is in war with Russia?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Don’t know/Refused to answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Servant of the People&quot; party voters</td>
<td>84.7</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Opposition Platform - For Life&quot; party voters</td>
<td>34.7</td>
<td>46.7</td>
<td>18.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;European Solidarity&quot; party voters</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>7.2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Batkivshchyna&quot; party voters</td>
<td>74.7</td>
<td>9.4</td>
<td>15.9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Above: Representative nationwide poll conducted by the Democratic Initiatives Foundation in cooperation with the sociologic service of Razumkov Center from 14th to 19th of May 2021 across all regions except Crimea and Donetsk/Lugansk occupied territories. 2020 respondents over 18 years of age have been surveyed. The theoretical sample error is no more than 2.3%

Chart: ДІФ • Source: ДІФ • Created with Datawrapper
Do you think that Ukraine should continue peace talks and consider compromises and concession to achieve peace in Donbas? (One answer)

- Peace should be achieved by any means, peace justifies any compromise and concession
- Compromises and concessions can be made to achieve peace but not every compromise is acceptable
- Peace in Donbas can be achieved as a result of a victory of either side
- Don’t know


Source: Iko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation • Created with Datawrapper
In your opinion, what are the most efficient ways and means of achieving lasting peace in Donbas? (one answer)

- By means of direct negotiations with LPR and DPR recognizing them as legitimate authorities in the certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (12.9)
- By means of negotiations and concessions to Russia accepting autonomy of Donbas and forsaking recovery of the Crimea (7.1)
- By means of negotiations accepting annexation of the Crimea in exchange of full de-occupation of Donbas (3.2)
- By means of continuous diplomatic pressure on Russia and its proxies, enhancing all possible sanctions (20.3)
- By means of increasing economic and military capabilities of Ukraine and full isolation of the occupied territories (19.3)
- By means of comprehensive preparation to the liberation of the occupied territories (12.9)
- Other (3.7)
- Don't know (20.5)

Representative nationwide research conducted by the Democratic Initiatives Foundation in cooperation with the sociologic service of Razumkov Center from 14th to 19th of May 2021 across all regions except Crimea and Donetsk/Lugansk occupied territories. 2020 respondents over 18 years of age have been surveyed. The theoretical sample error is no more than 2.3%.

Source: Ilio Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation • Created with Datawrapper
In your opinion, what is most politically acceptable option of the future of the “DPR” and “LPR”

(one answer)

- These territories returned to Ukraine on the pre-war conditions: 54.6%
- These territories returned to Ukraine but given more independence from Kyiv: 13.1%
- These territories are given autonomous status: 13.3%
- These territories become independent states: 2.6%
- These territories are incorporated by Russia: 3.1%
- Don't know: 13.3%

*The research was conducted by Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation together with sociological service at the Razumkov Center from May 14 to 19, 2021 in all regions of Ukraine except the Crimea and the occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. 2020 respondents aged 18 and older were interviewed. The theoretical sampling error does not exceed 2.3%.*

Chart: DIF • Source: DIF • Created with Datawrapper
In your opinion, what are acceptable compromises to stop the war in Donbas?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Option</th>
<th>Acceptable</th>
<th>Unacceptable</th>
<th>Difficult to answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amending Constitution of Ukraine to grant &quot;special status&quot; to the certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions</td>
<td>25.8</td>
<td>58.8</td>
<td>15.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approval of legislation on neutral or non-bloc status of Ukraine</td>
<td>30.2</td>
<td>50.4</td>
<td>19.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amending Constitution of Ukraine to grant Russian language status of official language</td>
<td>31.5</td>
<td>55.7</td>
<td>12.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Granting full amnesty to people who fought against the Ukrainian army</td>
<td>15.0</td>
<td>66.0</td>
<td>19.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permitting local elections in Donbas on conditions demanded by people who fought against the Ukrainian army</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>17.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permitting establishment of &quot;local militia&quot;, courts and prosecution offices exclusively by local residents</td>
<td>20.4</td>
<td>60.8</td>
<td>18.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Permitting special political and economic relations between the certain areas of Donetsk and Luhansk regions and Russia</td>
<td>15.5</td>
<td>64.1</td>
<td>20.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conducting direct negotiations with the so-called leader of the self-proclaimed LPR and DPR</td>
<td>32.7</td>
<td>49.8</td>
<td>17.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lifting blockade of transport routes and trade with the LPR and DPR</td>
<td>26.2</td>
<td>51.2</td>
<td>22.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The research was conducted by Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation together with sociological service at the Razumkov Center from May 14 to 19, 2021 in all regions of Ukraine except the Crimea and the occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. 2020 respondents aged 18 and older were interviewed. The theoretical sampling error does not exceed 2.3%.

Chart: DIF • Source: DIF • Created with Datawrapper
Do you support efforts made by President Zelenskyi to resolve conflict in Donbas?

- Somewhat support: 25.2%
- Strongly support: 13%
- Somewhat oppose: 10%
- Strongly oppose: 9.2%
- I don't know anything about president's efforts: 27.7%
- Difficult to answer: 14.8%

The research was conducted by Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation together with sociological service at the Razumkov Center from May 14 to 19, 2021 in all regions of Ukraine except the Crimea and the occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. 2020 respondents aged 18 and older were interviewed. The theoretical sampling error does not exceed 2.3%.

Chart: DIF • Source: DIF • Created with Datawrapper
RUSSIA’S ROLE IN THE CONFLICT

In your opinion, what is Russian role in the conflict in the east of Ukraine (respondent can choose several answers)

Above: comparison of results of the representative nationwide opinion polls conducted by DIF and Center for Political Sociology (August 2020) and by DIF and Razumkov Center (May 2021).

Source: Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation • Created with Datawrapper
In your opinion, who are the residents, Ukrainian citizens that remained in the occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhans'k regions? (one answer)

- 07.2020
- 05.2021

- Hostages of circumstances
- Hostages of militia
- People who do not care about their citizenship
- Passive proponents of USSR and ideology of "Russian world"
- Traitors who backed Russian aggression
- Other
- Don't know/Refused to answer

Above: comparison of results of the representative nationwide opinion polls conducted by DIF and Razumkov Center (July 2020; May 2021).

Source: Ilko Kucheriv Democratic Initiatives Foundation • Created with Datawrapper
East and South: dynamics and frustration simultaneously

- Perception of the conflict as Russian aggression increases, and the narrative about “internal conflict” is losing ground.
- Meanwhile, many respondents in the eastern regions avoid giving concrete definition of Russian role in the conflict.
- Also, since 2019 more people in the eastern regions have become proponents of achieving peace by means of big concessions to Russia (from 18% to 33% over 1.5 years)
- At the same time, support for the “non-bloc status” has fallen (from 60% to 50%) among residents of the eastern regions as well as backing for direct negotiations with Russian proxies or "L/DPR" (from 64% to 49%)
CONTACTS WITH THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES (TOT)

- Opening the checkpoint – first-hand priority!!!
- Ukrainians continue to see the TOT residents as hostages of the circumstances (40%) or the militiamen (9%). This opinion is held across all macro regions.
- Before 2019, the public lacked unanimity about policy toward TOT. Ukrainians were supportive of keeping ties with the TOT in one way or another.
- Today, a more people think that TOT should be isolated which can be an outcome of COVID pandemic, closure of the checkpoints, and cutting of the social ties.