
Ukraine's Independence Day: value of the state, unity and volunteering in times of war

Nationwide poll, conducted by "Democracy Initiatives" Fund by the name of Ilko Kucherov together with Razumkov's Fund department of sociology from August 8 to 15th 2024.

Face to face polls were conducted at Vinnytsia, Volyn, Dnipropetrovsk, Zhytomyr, Zakarpattia, Zaporizhia, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kyiv, Kirovograd, Lviv, Mykolaiv, Odesa, Poltava, Rivne, Sumy, Ternopil, Kharkiv, Kherson, Khmelnytskyi, Cherkasy, Chernihiv, Chernivtsi regions and the city of Kyiv (in Zaporizhzhia, Mykolaiv, Kharkiv and Kherson regions - only in those territories, controlled by the government of Ukraine and in which hostilities are not taking place).

Polls were completed with stratified multistage sampling and using random selection during first stages of sampling formation and quota method of selecting respondents during closing stage (when they were selected, based on their age and gender quotas). The structure of the sample population reflects the demographic structure of the adult population of the territories that were used for this poll by the beginning of 2022 (by age, gender and type of housing).

2017 respondents were polled, age 18 and older. Theoretical sampling error isn't higher than 2,3%. In the meantime. additional systematic correlations of the sampling could be caused by the consequences of the russian aggression in general and migration of the millions of citizens in particular.

Absolute majority of Ukrainians (88%) are proud of their citizenship. Third year in a row, the pride of one's citizenship is at an almost equally high level (2022 - 90,5%, 2023 - 88,5%, 2024 – 88%) - the highest result during sociology monitoring. Such a high level of pride is present amongst all age groups.

Regionally, the highest percentage of those, who're proud of their citizenship, were recorded in the Western (93%), Central (87%) and Southern (87%) macroregions. Such people are slightly less represented in the Ukrainian East (84%). But in the East, the number of people who are proud of their citizenship, rose from 76% to 84% in 2022. Financial situations don't have a significant impact on the pride of citizenship. Indeed, if amongst the poorest part of the population 86% are proud of it, then amongst the richest this number is higher, than overall in the country (94%).

If a referendum on the declaration of state independence of Ukraine was held today, the majority of Ukrainians (85%) would support independence.

For Ukrainian independence would vote both youth (85%) and the oldest generation, age 60 and older (83%) as well as both city dwellers (86%) and rural population (84,5%).

The highest number of those, who would support independence, are living in the West of our country (93%), but in the Center 87% would vote this way, in the East – 78%, in the South – 72%. Just 2% of the general population would be against, moreover, in the West there would be critically less than 1% and in the East – 4%.

Support for independence keeps its historical maximum for the last 23 years of sociological research. Only once it was even higher – 87,5% in August 2022.

In the meantime, we got less positive assumptions during the last year about the way in which Ukraine is developing: as of now, 40% of Ukrainians are thinking that things are going in the right direction (was 49% in 2023), while 37% are thinking that the chosen direction is the wrong one. Men slightly more often than women are evaluating the direction as right, but amongst the women there is more uncertainty.

Absolute majority of responders wish to build their future in Ukraine (86%) and the main bulk of them are demonstrating firm willingness to stay in Ukraine (59%). Such a wish prevails amongst the people with various levels of income and in all age groups. But with age the desire to stay in Ukraine grows. 74% of young people want to build a future in Ukraine, in the age group 30-39 years – already 81%, 40-49 – 87%, 50-59 – 90% and in the oldest group – 93%.

Around 50% of Ukrainians think that during the years of independence, as many positive things as it happened were negative. Such a tendency is common to all macroregions. At the same time, every fourth citizen (25%) thinks that positive prevailed, while for 17% – only negative.

Among the feelings that respondents have about Ukraine's future, unequivocally prevails **hope (61%)**, followed by **anxiety (40%)** and **optimism (33,5%)**. The most regional differences are about hope. So, it's rarely noted in Eastern macroregion (48,5%), followed by Western (56,5%) and Southern (60,5%), while Ukrainians living in Central Ukraine have the highest hopes – 71%. At the same time hopes about Ukrainian future and optimism are growing with the rise of respondent's personal income, while anxiety, to the contrary, is more common amongst the poorest strata of population.

76% of Ukrainians are sure that russians don't perceive Ukraine as a sovereign independent state. And these estimates are common amongst all socio-demographic groups, regardless of their age, gender, type of settlement, level of education and income.

Regionally, thought that russians don't perceive Ukraine as a sovereign independent state, still dominates in all macroregions, but numbers slightly differentiate. This belief is most common for Center (80,5%) and in West (78%) and more rarely mentioned in the South (72%) and the East (66%), although it keeps the absolute majority there too.

Most of Ukrainians (69%) are sure that during the time of full russian invasion, society became more unified, **but 24% think that this didn't happen**. The most of those, who don't see more unity, live in the South (32%), East (29%) or West (26%) and the least in the Centre (18%).

Absolute majority of Ukrainians (71%) since the beginning of the full-scale invasion contributed to volunteer help for the army, temporarily displaced persons or people, who suffered because of war. 34% helped financially, 15% provided all possible physical assistance and 22% helped both physically and with money. It's noteworthy that the share of those who helped financially is approximately the same amongst people of different ages (34-35%). On the contrary, 17% didn't help and have no plans to do it.

Regionally, in the West is a significantly higher percentage, then on average around the country, of those, who helped with physical work (25%), while the highest percentage of those, who helped financially, was amongst citizens in the South (40) and Center (36%).

Most of those, who after the full-scale invasion provided financial assistance for the army, temporarily displaced persons and people suffering from war, still continue to donate funds. Slightly less than half (47%) of those, who're donating from 2022, doing it in the same volumes as a year ago, when for 34% of respondents, amounts of their donations became less. At the same time, 9% of those who provided financial assistance after the invasion, now are donating more than a year ago. Only 7% of those who previously made donations, stopped to do it during the last year.

As the most common reason for the donations decreasing, most of the respondents named abating in their income and savings – 61% of those who previously were joining to provide assistance for the army, temporarily displaced persons and people suffering from war, but lately made less donations than a year ago. Second most common cause (for 35%) was corruption scandals in government organs that lowered respondent's motivations to donate their own money, when budget costs are spending uneffectively. Every fourth citizen (26%) amongst those, who started to donate less funds, told stories about fraud, window-dressed

as charity funds. 16% also noted that they started to trust less those people/organizations, for whom they made donations before.

Tables of answers distributions

How proud or not proud are you of being a Ukrainian citizen?

Age distribution

	Ukraine overall	18-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60 years and older
Not proud at all	2,4	1,6%	2,7%	2,4%	4,2%	1,5%
Rather not proud	5,9	5,3%	6,3%	7,6%	4,5%	5,5%
Rather proud	40,0	34,8%	41,8%	40,4%	41,4%	40,5%
Very proud	47,9	54,3%	46,0%	46,3%	46,2%	47,8%
Hard to answer	3,8	4,0%	3,2%	3,3%	3,6%	4,6%

Regional distribution

	Ukraine overall	West	Centre	South	East
Not proud at all	2,4	2,1%	1,8%	2,6%	4,2%
Rather not proud	5,9	2,8%	7,3%	6,4%	6,7%
Rather proud	40,0	40,3%	35,7 %	60,7%	36,6%
Very proud	47,9	52,3%	51,2 %	26,1%	47,8%
Hard to answer	3,8	2,4%	4,0%	4,3%	4,7%

Dynamics

	2002	2004	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2015	2016	2017	2021	2022	2023	2024
Not proud at all /rather not proud	18,1	24,7	19,6	18,9	19,1	22	11,1	13,5	15,6	16,8	18,6	5,4	7,8	8,3
Very/rather proud	41	37,7	45,1	50,5	49,5	42,7	60,7	67,3	60,1	62,5	72,4	90,4	88,5	87,9
Hard to answer	40,9	37,7	35,2	30,5	31,4	35,3	28,2	19,2	24,3	20,8	8,9	4,2	3,7	3,8

If a referendum on the declaration of state independence of Ukraine was held today, how would you vote on it?

Age distribution

	Ukraine overall	18-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60 years and older
For the Act of Independence	85,0	84,7%	87,1%	85,6%	85,3%	83,0%
Against the Act of Independence	2,0	0,9%	0,5%	2,2%	3,0%	3,1%
Would not participate in the referendum	7,6	7,8%	7,0%	7,9%	6,6%	8,4%
Hard to answer	5,3	6,5%	5,3%	4,3%	5,1%	5,5%

Regional distribution

	Ukraine overall	West	Centre	South	East
For the act of Independence	85,0	92,9%	86,9%	72,5%	78,1%
Against the Act of Independence	2,0	0,2%	2,1%	1,7%	4,2%
Would not participate in the referendum	7,6	4,3%	6,0%	15,9%	10,7%
Hard to answer	5,3	2,6%	5,0%	9,9%	7,0%

Dynamics

	August 2019	August 2020	August 2022	August 2023	August 2024
1. For the act of Independence	70,8	67,7	87,5	81,6	85,0
2. Against the Act of Independence	9,5	12,5	3,2	3,4	2,0
3. Would not participate in the referendum	7,6	9,5	5,5	7,2	7,6
4. Hard to answer	12,1	10,3	3,9	7,7	5,3

Regional dynamics (August 2020 – August 2024)

	Ukraine overall		West		Centre		South		East	
	2020	2024	2020	2024	2020	2024	2020	2024	2020	2024
1. For the Act of Independence	67,7	85,0	92,5	92,9	71,7	86,9	56,0	72,5%	45,0	78,1%
2. Against the Act of Independence	12,5	2,0	0,8	0,2	8,7	2,1	10,4	1,7%	29,6	4,2%

3. Would not participate in the referendum	9,5	7,6	3,3	4,3	10,1	6,0	11,6	15,9%	13,0	10,7%
4. Hard to answer	10,3	5,3	3,3	2,6	9,5	5,0	22,0	9,9%	12,4	7,0%

Speaking broadly, how do you think things in Ukraine are in the right or wrong way?

Age distribution

	Ukraine overall	18-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60 years and older
In the right way	39,8	40,9%	43,3%	41,2%	41,1%	35,0%
In the wrong way	37,1	35,0%	35,3%	36,6%	38,1%	39,3%
Hard to answer	23,1	24,1%	21,4%	22,2%	20,7%	25,7%

Regional distribution

	Ukraine overall	West	Centre	South	East
In the right way	39,8	39,6%	41,6%	35,9%	38,8%
In the wrong way	37,1	41,7%	35,6%	42,3%	31,1%
Hard to answer	23,1	18,8%	22,8%	21,8%	30,1%

Dynamics

	August 2019*	August 2020	August 2021	August 2022	December 2022	August 2023	August 2024
1. In the right way	50,5	19,1	23,3	42,2	58,9	48,8	39,8
2. In the wrong way	23,1	59,0	60,4	36,5	23,6	32,0	37,1
3. Hard to answer	26,5	22,0	16,3	21,3	17,5	19,2	23,1

* In August 2019, research was made by the Fund "Democratic Initiatives by the name of Ilko Kucheryv" together with Kyiv International institute of sociology. Others polls, the data of which are given in the dynamics, were made together with Razumkov Fund's sociological department

Would you want to build your future life in Ukraine?

Віковий розподіл

	Ukraine overall	18-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60 years and older
Yes, of course	59,4	41,7%	55,2%	56,6%	63,0%	72,0%
Rather yes	26,5	32,7%	26,0%	30,4%	27,1%	20,6%
Rather no	6,0	12,8%	7,5%	5,1%	3,9%	3,1%
Really no	2,3	3,7%	3,9%	1,9%	1,5%	1,0%
Hard to answer	5,7	9,0%	7,3%	6,0%	4,5%	3,3%

Regional distribution

	Ukraine overall	West	Centre	South	East
Yes, of course	59,4	58,9%	61,6%	49,6%	61,4%
Rather yes	26,5	29,1%	25,2%	32,5%	22,4%
Rather no	6,0	5,8%	5,3%	7,3%	7,0%
Really no	2,3	2,1%	1,7%	2,6%	4,0%
Hard to answer	5,7	4,1%	6,3%	8,1%	5,2%

What do you think about the years of Ukrainian independence, were there more positive or negative things?

Age distribution

	Ukraine overall	18-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60 years and older
More positive	24,8	28,6%	26,0%	25,7%	25,2%	20,9%
As much positive, as negative	50,2	45,0%	51,6%	49,5%	49,5%	52,8%
More negative	17,3	12,7%	13,1%	17,6%	19,8%	21,1%
Hard to answer	7,7	13,7%	9,2%	7,3%	5,4%	5,1%

Regional distribution

	Ukraine overall	West	Centre	South	East
More positive	24,8	30,0%	22,3 %	18,5%	26,9%
As much positive, as negative	50,2	51,0%	50,5 %	53,2%	47,0%
More negative	17,3	12,4%	18,2 %	20,2%	20,1%
Hard to answer	7,7	6,6%	9,1%	8,2%	6,0%

Dynamics

	August 2001	August 2011	August 2016	August 2019	August 2021	August 2023	August 2024
1. More positive	8,0	13,5	11,6	25,9	17,8	40,3	24,8
2. As much positive, as negative	37,0	45,8	40,8	45,7	46,3	39,8	50,2
3. More negative	48,0	31,4	41,5	23,3	29,1	12,4	17,3
4. Hard to answer	8,0	9,2	6,0	5,1	6,8	7,5	7,7

What feelings do you have, when thinking about Ukraine's future? MULTIPLE ANSWERS ARE ALLOWED

Age distribution

	Ukraine overall	18-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60 years and older
Optimism	33,5	43,9%	37,2%	38,8%	33,3%	21,8%
Indifference	1,4	0,3%	1,7%	2,4%	0,9%	1,5%
Joy	3,5	5,6%	4,4%	3,0%	2,1%	2,7%
Hopelessness	11,8	10,3%	11,2%	11,4%	13,3%	12,7%
Sureness	15,0	16,1%	17,0%	16,3%	17,2%	10,8%
Perplexity	19,7	16,8%	19,2%	19,0%	19,8%	22,1%
Satisfaction	2,4	3,4%	2,7%	3,5%	1,2%	1,7%
Pessimism	6,5	6,5%	6,3%	4,9%	6,3%	8,1%
Hope	61,4	60,7%	64,2%	65,6%	63,7%	55,7%
Anxiety	39,7	36,8%	37,5%	37,4%	38,0%	45,5%
Curiosity	14,9	19,9%	17,8%	16,0%	16,0%	8,8%
Fear	21,0	17,8%	21,2%	20,6%	17,5%	24,6%
Other	1,5	0,9%	0,7%	1,6%	2,1%	2,2%
Hard to answer	2,0	1,2%	2,2%	2,2%	1,8%	2,4%

Sidenote: the sum of answers are equal or more than 100%, because respondent could choose multiple variants

Regional distribution

	Ukraine overall	West	Centre	South	East
Optimism	33,5	33,6%	35,4%	32,6%	30,0%
Indifference	1,4	2,2%	0,6%	1,7%	2,0%
Joy	3,5	6,2%	2,6%	1,3%	3,0%
Hopelessness	11,8	10,3%	9,4%	20,2%	14,1%
Sureness	15,0	15,0%	16,5%	19,2%	9,4%
Perplexity	19,7	20,2%	16,9%	24,0%	22,6%
Satisfaction	2,4	3,7%	2,5%	2,1%	0,7%
Pessimism	6,5	8,1%	5,2%	4,7%	8,7%
Hope	61,4	56,5%	70,8%	60,5%	48,5%
Anxiety	39,7	39,1%	40,4%	44,2%	36,6%
Curiosity	14,9	14,8%	18,7%	9,0%	10,4%
Fear	21,0	22,1%	19,6%	24,8%	20,1%
Other	1,5	1,7%	0,5%	2,1%	3,0%
Hard to answer	2,0	2,4%	1,9%		2,7%

Sidenote: the sum of answers are equal or more than 100%, because respondent could choose multiple variants

In your view, do russians perceive Ukraine as a sovereign independent nation?

Age distribution

	Ukraine overall	18-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60 years and older
Yes	4,7	5,9%	3,6%	5,7%	7,2%	2,7%
Rather yes	9,3	10,9 %	10,9%	7,0%	9,0%	8,9%
Rather no	33,1	39,1 %	33,6%	31,6%	27,6%	33,3%
No	42,8	36,6 %	42,6%	45,7%	45,0%	43,2%
Hard to answer	10,2	7,5%	9,2%	10,0%	11,1%	11,8%

Regional distribution

	Ukraine overall	West	Centre	South	East
Yes	4,7	6,7%	3,4%	4,7%	4,7%
Rather yes	9,3	9,2%	6,1%	17,2%	11,4%
Rather no	33,1	36,3%	32,5%	35,6%	28,6%
No	42,8	41,6%	47,6%	36,5%	37,8%
Hard to answer	10,2	6,2%	10,4%	6,0%	17,4%

In your view, do Ukrainians became more united during the full-scale invasion?

Age distribution

	Ukraine overall	18-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60 years and older
Yes	29,7	28,6%	28,7%	30,0%	31,3%	29,8%
Rather yes	39,0	40,4%	41,6%	39,2%	34,3%	38,9%
Rather no	14,6	14,0%	13,9%	15,4%	14,8%	14,9%
No	9,3	10,2%	8,8%	9,2%	11,7%	7,9%
Hard to answer	7,4	6,8%	7,1%	6,2%	7,8%	8,4%

Regional distribution

	Ukraine overall	West	Centre	South	East
Yes	29,7	23,8%	35,5 %	21,8%	29,9%
Rather yes	39,0	43,8%	38,6 %	38,5%	33,8%
Rather no	14,6	18,2%	9,9%	20,5%	15,9%
No	9,3	7,7%	7,7%	12,0%	13,4%
Hard to answer	7,4	6,6%	8,3%	7,3%	7,0%

After the onset of the full-scale invasion, were you joining to provide volunteer help for the army/temporarily displaced persons/people suffering from war? ONLY ONE ANSWER

Age distribution

	Ukraine overall	18-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60 years and older
Yes, helped physically	14,7	16,2%	17,3%	16,3%	12,9%	12,0%
Yes, helped financially	34,3	34,0%	34,5%	33,7%	33,8%	35,1%
Yes, helped physically and financially	21,7	24,3%	25,1%	27,4%	24,6%	13,1%

No, but i'm planning to join physical helping	1,2	2,8%	1,2%	0,5%	0,9%	1,0%
No, but i'm planning to join helping financially	2,7	4,0%	2,7%	1,4%	2,4%	3,1%
No, but I'm planning to join physical and financial helping	3,0	2,5%	2,2%	2,7%	4,2%	3,3%
No, and don't have plans to join	17,3	11,2%	13,1%	13,3%	15,9%	27,1%
Hard to answer	4,9	5,0%	3,9%	4,6%	5,4%	5,3%

Regional distribution

	Ukraine overall	West	Centre	South	East
Yes, helped physically	14,7	24,7%	10,0%	10,6%	13,7%
Yes, helped financially	34,3	30,7%	36,2%	40,0%	31,8%
Yes, helped physically and financially	21,7	20,6%	25,2%	12,8%	21,4%
No, but i'm planning to join physical helping	1,2	0,4%	1,4%	0,9%	2,2%
No, but i'm planning to join helping financially	2,7	2,1%	3,9%	2,1%	1,5%
No, but I'm planning to join physical and financial helping	3,0	2,6%	3,5%	1,7%	3,0%
No, and don't have plans to join	17,3	11,6%	16,9%	24,7%	21,6%
Hard to answer	4,9	7,3%	2,8%	7,2%	4,7%

If you were joining the financial assistance for the army, temporarily displaced persons and people suffering from war, how did the amount of donations from you change during the last year? ONE ANSWER, % amongst those, who joined to financially help the army, temporarily displaced persons and people suffering from war

Age distribution

	Ukraine overall	18-29 years	30-39 years	40-49 years	50-59 years	60 years and older
During the last time, I'm donating more donations, than a year ago	9,4	10,6 %	9,4%	8,9%	8,2%	9,6%
During the last time, I'm donating roughly the same amount of donations, than a year ago	47,0	51,1 %	48,2%	46,7%	45,4%	44,3%
During the last time, I'm donating less money, than a year ago	33,9	30,3 %	33,1%	33,3%	37,1%	35,4%
During the last time, I stopped to do donations, however did them before	7,4	3,7%	6,1%	8,0%	7,7%	10,0%
Hard to answer	2,4	4,3%	3,3%	3,1%	1,5%	0,7%

Regional distribution

Регіональний розподіл

	Ukraine overall	West	Centre	South	East
During the last time, I'm donating more donations, than a year ago	9,4	6,6%	7,5%	9,7%	17,2%
During the last time, I'm donating roughly the same amount of donations, than a year ago	47,0	48,4%	50,2%	41,9%	40,5%
During the last time, I'm donating less money, than a year ago	33,9	33,3%	35,4%	33,9%	30,7%
During the last time, I stopped to do donations, however did them before	7,4	9,9%	4,6%	12,1%	8,4%
Hard to answer	2,4	1,8%	2,3%	2,4%	3,3%

If, during the last time, you're donating less money than a year ago, what are the main causes for it? MULTIPLE ANSWERS, % amongst those, who joined to financially help the army, temporarily displaced persons and people suffering from war, but during the last time are donating less, than a year ago

	Україна загалом
During this time, i've seen a lot of fraudsters, that collecting money as charity funds or volunteers	26,1
My level of income and savings lowered, making donations at the same level impossible for me	60,7
During the last time, I learned about corruption scandals in our government organs, what lowered my motivations to donate my own money, when budget funds are spending uneffectively	34,6
Because of some reasons, I started to trust less those people/organizations, for whom I made donations before	16,2
Other	2,5
Hard to answer	0,6

Sidenote: the sum of answers are equal or more than 100%, because respondent could choose multiple variants