



**MINISTRY OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF DENMARK**



**Sweden
Sverige**



ANALYTICAL REPORT

**ON THE CURRENT SITUATION WITH
THE DIALOGUE, INTERACTION, AND
COOPERATION BETWEEN THE POLICE
AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANIZATIONS
IN LUHANSK OBLAST**

INTRODUCTION

In the spring of 2020, a study of the current situation with dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and civil society organizations (CSOs) was conducted in sixteen communities of Luhansk Oblast. The study targeted communities that are partners with the United Nations Recovery and Peacebuilding Programme in the areas of public security and social cohesion: Bilovodsk ATC, Krasnorichenske ATC, Lozno-Oleksandrivka ATC, Nyzhnia Duvanka ATC, Pryvillia ATC, Troitske ATC, Zolote, Kreminna, Lysychansk, Popasna, Sievierodonetsk, Shchastia, Milove township, Stanytsia Luhanska township, Novoaidar township, Triokhizbenka ATC. This document summarizes the results of the study, in particular, analyzes the current situation with the dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs in Luhansk Oblast.

This analytical report is one of the indispensable steps to ensure the mechanism of practical implementation of Article 11 (Interaction with the population on the basis of partnership) of the Law of Ukraine "On National Police": "Police activities are carried out in close cooperation with the population, local communities and public associations on the basis of partnership and are aimed to meet their needs".

Currently, the Police do not have sufficient information about the public associations are operating on its territory, their number, and the goals of their activities, which makes it impossible to meet the needs of the community. On the other hand, civil organizations lack awareness of why their needs are not unsatisfied and what is really needed to address the issues that concern them. Thus, there is a need for a constructive systemic dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and public associations. But it is impossible to achieve this goal without an in-depth analysis of the current situation with the dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs.

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY

GOAL OF THE STUDY: Analysis of the current situation with dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and civil society organizations in 16 target communities of Luhansk Oblast.

TASKS:

- 1.** Find out the vision of the Police and CSOs of the current level of cooperation and communication between the Police and CSOs in Luhansk Oblast, as well as their development prospects, and further monitoring of the situation with dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs;
- 2.** Analyze the findings of the questionnaire survey conducted among the Police and CSO representatives in Luhansk Oblast by comparing data;
- 3.** Establish the cause-and-effect correlation of the current situation with dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs;
- 4.** Analyze the possible patterns of the current situation with the dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs in terms of the territory and other factors;
- 5.** Carry out a SWOT analysis of the prospects of the Police cooperation with CSOs;
- 6.** Provide recommendations for improving the dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs.

JUSTIFICATION OF THE RESEARCH METHOD: a questionnaire through online forms (Google Forms application) was used for the purpose of this research.

The respondents personally filled in an online questionnaire form containing 15 questions for the Police representatives (general questions about the respondent and special questions concerning the experience of the Police cooperation with CSOs and prospects for its further development) and 27 questions for CSOs representatives (general questions about the respondent and the represented CSO, as well as special questions regarding the experience of cooperation with the Police and prospects for its further development). Some of the questions required a detailed answer, while others

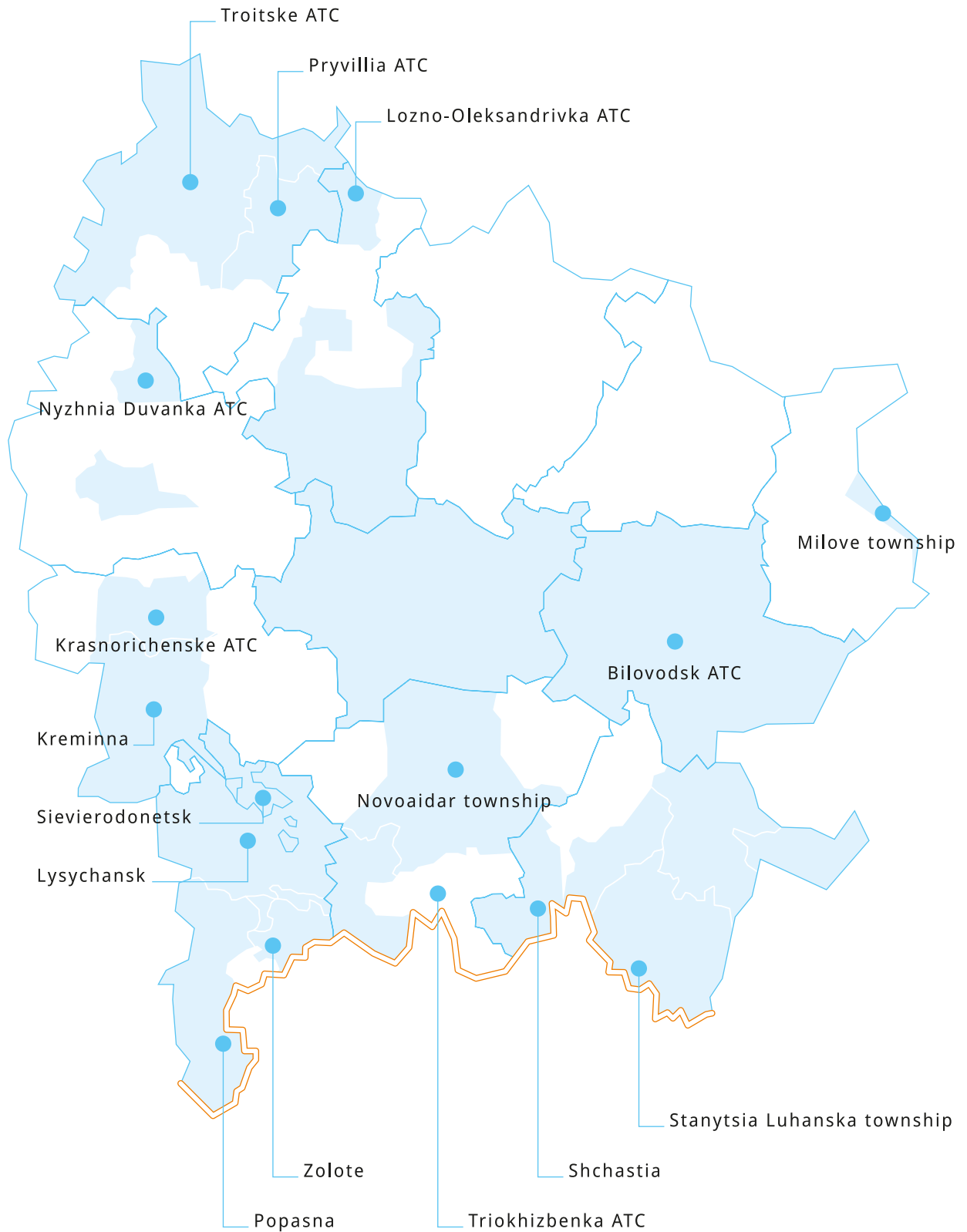
offered answer options allowing respondents to write their own answers in order to create maximum comfort for the respondent and expand the scope of answers. The structure of the questionnaires for the Police and CSO representatives was designed to collect sufficient information on existing experiences of cooperation between them, their impressions of such cooperation, priorities of both parties, common goals, reasons for lack of cooperation, opportunities to strengthen the cooperation between the Police and CSOs, as well as possible methods and means to further monitor the situation with the dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs.

INPUT DATA: The questionnaire survey of the Police and CSO representatives lasted for 2 weeks. From the side of the Police, the heads of the following preventive divisions were invited to take part in the survey: Bilovodsk, Kreminna, Biloukrainsk, Svatove, Lysychansk, Troitske, Popasna, Sievierodonetsk, Milove, Stanytsia Luhanska, Novoaidar Police Departments, as well as the Head of the Preventive Directorate of the Main Directorate of the National Police in Luhansk Oblast. From the part of CSOs, 170 representatives of the active CSOs operating in 16 target communities in Luhansk Oblast were invited to participate in the survey. In general, 12 Police representatives (100% of the respondents invited for the survey) and 52 CSO representatives (30.6% of the respondents invited for the survey) participated in the survey.

PERIOD: April 30 - May 28, 2020.

RESEARCH GEOGRAPHY: Bilovodsk ATC, Krasnorichenske ATC, Lozno-Oleksandrivka ATC, Nyzhnia Duvanka ATC, Pryvillia ATC, Troitske ATC, Zolote, Kreminna, Lysychansk, Popasna, Sievierodonetsk, Shchastia, Milove township, Stanytsia Luhanska township, Novoaidar township, Triokhizbenka ATC.

LUHANSK OBLAST



SECTION 3

ANALYSIS OF THE RESEARCH RESULTS

CAUSES AND CONSEQUENCES OF THE CURRENT SITUATION WITH THE DIALOGUE, INTERACTION AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE POLICE AND CSOs IN LUHANSK OBLAST

The analysis revealed that the majority of respondents evaluated the level of cooperation and communication between the Police and CSOs in Luhansk Oblast as above average. On the contrary, the quarter of CSO representatives and 8.3% of the Police representatives think that the level of cooperation and communication between the Police and CSOs in Luhansk Oblast is below average. It should be noted that both CSO and Police representatives understand that there are problems in cooperation and communication. Respondents from both parties named several difficulties in cooperation with each other, the majority of which was the result of communication problems in particular.

REASONS	CONTRIBUTING FACTORS	CONSEQUENCES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ineffective implementation of Community Policing principle at all levels of management of the National Police of Ukraine; ○ Insufficient communication between territorial Police units and the community; ○ Narrow circle of Police partners among CSOs; ○ Insufficient proactivity of the Police; ○ Insufficient proactivity of CSOs; ○ No specific forms of systematic involvement of CSOs in solving the security problems; ○ No strategy for cooperation with CSOs and or its implementation plan; ○ No specific means to monitor the situation with the dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Misunderstanding of each other's needs; ○ Lack of sufficient information about each other's activities; ○ Lack of time management skills. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Unmet needs of the community in security issues; ○ No vision of specific common ways to solve the security problems; ○ Part of the population does not feel completely safe; ○ Emerging distrust of the Police; ○ High workload of Police officers.

PATTERNS

1. In the course of the survey, it was found that the feeling of security, level of cooperation and level of communication are inseparably linked. Thus, 25% of the respondents from CSOs consider the level of communication with the Police to be below average, 23% whereof identified the level of the Police cooperation with CSOs as below average, and 13.5% of CSO representatives surveyed being dissatisfied with the level of communication and cooperation with the Police feel unsafe in the settlements where they live. At the same time, the level of readiness to cooperate with the Police is higher than the feeling of safety, the level of cooperation and communication, as 84.4% of surveyed CSO representatives rated their level of readiness to cooperate with the Police as high.
2. Geographical patterns. In the course of the CSOs survey results analysis, it was found that both in rural and in urban areas people are concerned with the same security problems. The level of communication and cooperation with the Police does not differ significantly depending on the distance of the settlement from the territorial Police unit. Nevertheless, certain territories require a closer look. Thus, CSO representatives that have experience of cooperation, feel safe and highly evaluate the level of cooperation and communication with the Police are from Shchastia (80% of surveyed evaluated the level of communication and cooperation with the Police as above average or high, 20% evaluated it as average), Kreminna (50% of surveyed evaluated the level of communication and cooperation with the Police as above average, 50% evaluated it as average), Stanytsia Luhanska township (67% of surveyed evaluated the level of communication and cooperation with the Police as above average or high, 33% evaluated it as average) and Bilovodsk ATC (33% of surveyed evaluated the level of communication and cooperation with the Police as above average, 67% evaluated it as average). At the same time, CSO representatives in Sievierodonetsk (0% of surveyed evaluated the level of communication and cooperation with the Police as above average or high, 57% evaluated it as average, while 43% evaluated it is below average) do not feel secure enough and evaluated the level of communication and cooperation as low.

CONCLUSIONS

According to the results of the survey, it was found that the level of cooperation and the level of communication between the Police and CSOs in Luhansk Oblast are evaluated as above average by the majority of the respondents. However, the urgent problem is that the quarter of the respondents, on the contrary, consider the level of cooperation and level of communication between the Police and CSOs in Luhansk Oblast to be below average. It should be noted that both CSO and Police representatives understand that there are problems in cooperation and communication. Respondents from both parties named several difficulties in cooperation with each other, the majority of which was the result of communication problems in particular.

Among the basic causes of the current state of the dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs, one should point out that the regional Police Departments fail to use Community Policing effectively, requiring constant interaction of law enforcement officers with the public to improve the safety at local levels. As far as this policing principle is based on continuous communication, whereat the Police and the community have a shared responsibility for security, it is important to realize that it is the communication problems that prevent the Police from effectively building the cooperation with CSOs today.

Among the difficulties in cooperation with the Police, CSO representatives named:

- insufficient information about the Police activities and planned measures (34.6%);
- lack of information about the needs of the Police (30.8%), lack of the Police proactivity (15.4%);
- lack of understanding of safety problems in the community by the Police (5.8%);
- lack of interest in cooperation on behalf of the Police (3.8%).

In their turn, Police respondents named the following the difficulties of cooperation:

- lack of time due to a high Police workload (75%);
- lack of sufficient information about CSOs and their goals (33.3%);

- lack of the civil organizations' proactivity (33.3%);
- lack of understanding of the Police service difficulties by the civil organizations (33.3%);
- lack of practical proposals from civil organizations to address security issues together (25%).

Having analyzed the responses from both parties, it is clear that the majority of difficulties in cooperation between the Police and CSOs arise from insufficient communication between them, as accurately noted by 32.7% of CSO respondents. It should be noted that the lack of time due to the high workload of Police officers significantly affects this situation. Moreover, it should be borne in mind that communication is a two-way process and requires the willingness, initiative and activity of both the Police and CSOs.

Thus, as it was found out while analyzing the current situation with the dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs in Luhansk Oblast, the Police and CSOs have common goals and interests; they are interested in cooperating with each other and ready to provide specific assistance to each other in the community safety issues. However, it will be possible to establish a constructive dialogue and strengthen the interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs only if the impact of such a negative factor as the lack of time resulting from the high workload of Police officers is reduced, as well as if effective communication between them is established. By establishing effective communication, the Police and CSOs shall:

- receive enough information about each other's activities;
- understand each other's needs and interests;
- increase the level of trust in each other (which, in particular, should increase the proactivity of both the Police and the community);
- specify their ideas;
- find mutual understanding and identify specific ways to achieve common goals.

RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE MAIN DIRECTORATE OF THE NATIONAL POLICE IN LUHANSK OBLAST:

- effectively implement the principle of Community Policing, requiring continuous interaction of law enforcement officers with the population to improve local safety and based on continuous communication, when the Police and the community are aware of the common responsibility for security;
- strengthen the communication of the Police with the community and ensure its systematization at the level of territorial Police Departments of the Main Directorate of the National Police in Luhansk Oblast. Communication strengthening shall be aimed at finding out the needs of the community and joint resolving the community's issues of concern;
- expand the number of partners among CSOs and determine the forms of their systematic engagement in the joint resolution of security issues;
- reduce the impact of such a negative factor as lack of time caused by heavy workload of Police officers on cooperation with CSOs (improve the skills of time management of the staff, redistribute the responsibilities, etc.);
- motivate the staff to proactively cooperate with CSOs;
- approve the strategy of the Police cooperation with CSOs and its implementation plan;
- identify the means of monitoring the situation with the dialogue, interaction and cooperation between the Police and CSOs;
- resolve the issue of empowering specific employees to establish and support the dialogue, interaction and cooperation with CSOs by changing the functional duties or introducing new full-time positions.



RECOMMENDATIONS TO CSOs IN LUHANSK OBLASTI:

- proactively cooperate with the Police;
- strengthen communication with the Police. Communication shall be focused on clear and comprehensive informing the Police about the CSO's goals and activity directions and on clarifying the issues and needs of the Police resulting in course of providing for safety of the community;
- specifically formulate their suggestions for improving safety in the community.

