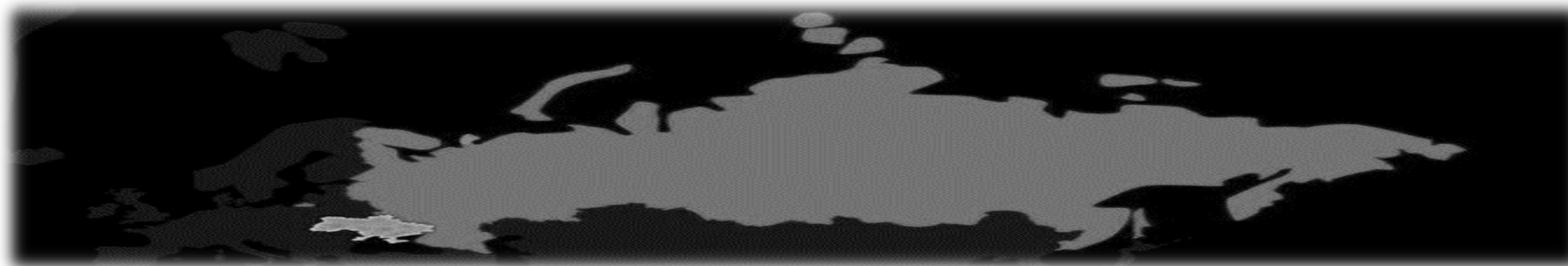


PRACTICES OF **THIRD MISSION** AT HEIs IN CONDITIONS OF WAR: experience of Ukraine



Olha Stoliaryk, PhD in Social Work

Associate Professor of Department Social Pedagogy And Social Work

Oksana Molderf,

Assistant Professor of Department of Intercultural Communication and Translation

Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ukraine

Research results

The Russian war against Ukraine affected functioning of higher education system in Ukraine. The activities of HEIs faced such challenges as:

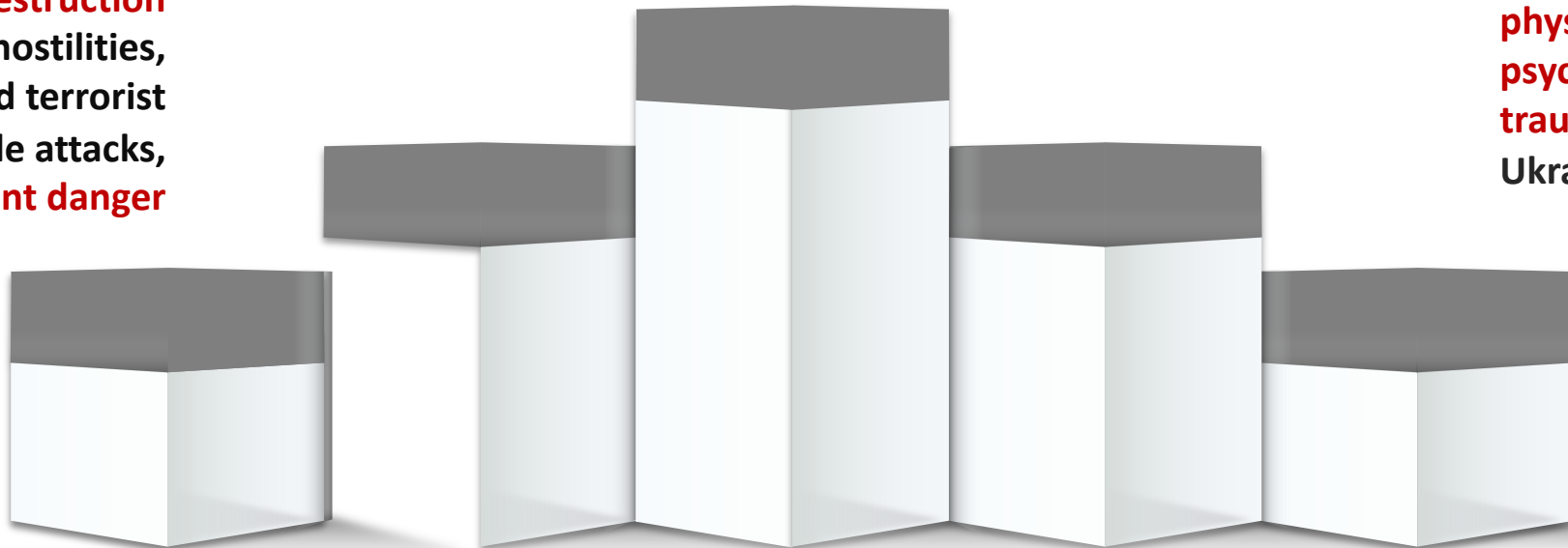
occupation of Ukrainian territories, which complicates the activities of higher education institutions located there

population migration, which affects the number of students of higher education and the number of scientific and teaching staff

complicated socio-economic situation, asymmetry of demand and supply in labor market

threat and destruction associated with hostilities, landmines and terrorist missile attacks, constant danger

physical and psychological traumatization of Ukrainian society

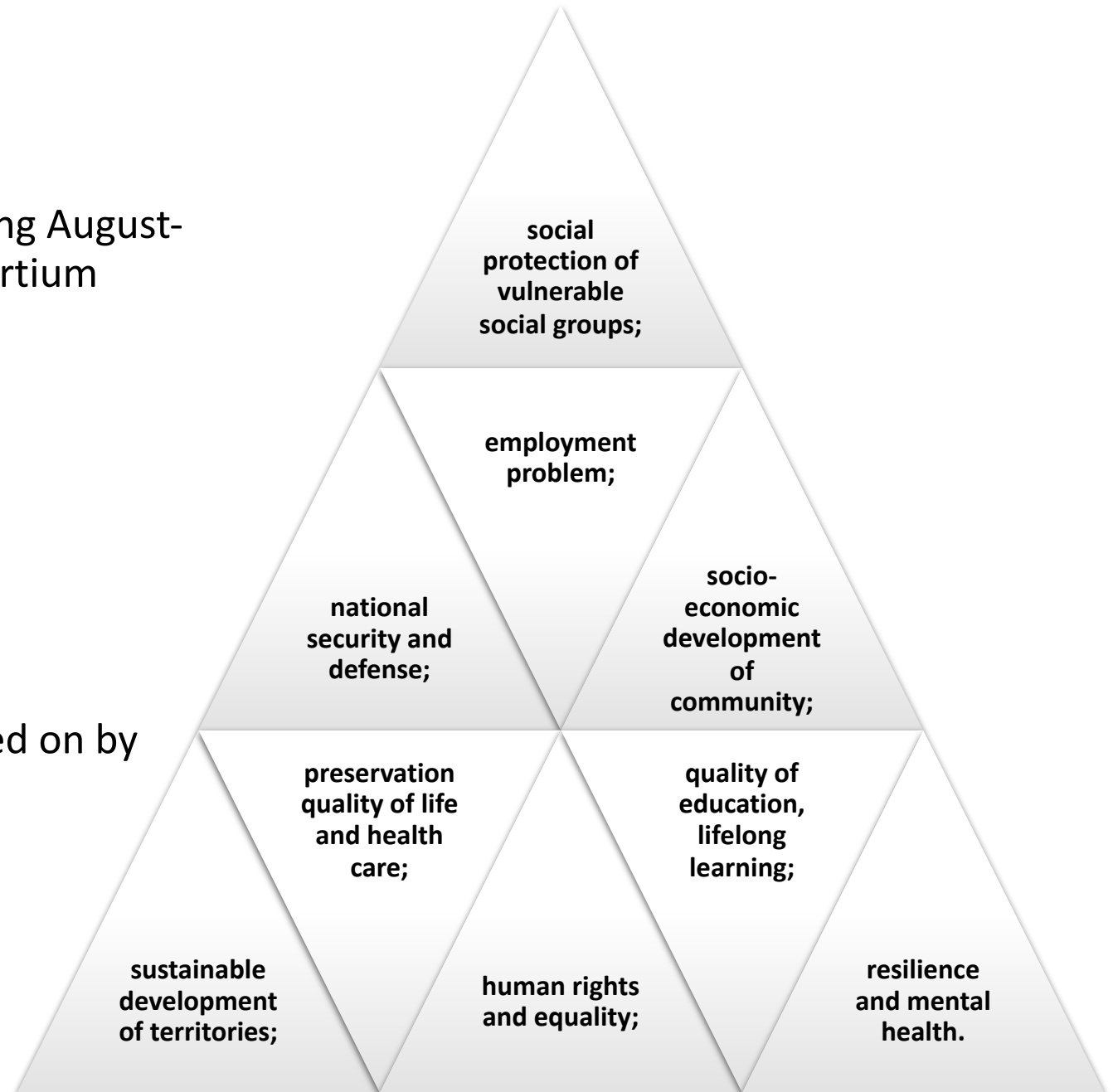


Research results

The analysis of research results conducted during August-September 2023 among HEIs-partners of consortium demonstrates that **HEIs activities depend on:**

- a) profile;
- b) structures;
- c) locations;
- d) amount of material and human resources.

The main priority needs, which are being worked on by Ukrainian HEIs, are following:



Research results

Examples dependence of prioritization community needs on location of HEIs:

- HEIs, which are located in territories where hostilities are active or in occupied territories (Donetsk, Kharkiv, Sumy, Zaporizhzhia regions) determine the priority needs of the third mission through issues of **national security**:
 - creating a **safe environment**,
 - **demining territories**,
 - protecting **human rights** and freedoms under the conditions of legal regime of martial law,
 - provision of **separate needs of Armed Forces of Ukraine**.
- HEIs, which are located far from active hostilities (Kyiv, Vinnytsia, Lviv regions):
 - **social protection of vulnerable social groups**,
 - **national stability** and unity of community,
 - preservation of **mental health** and rehabilitation consequences of military conflict,
 - promotion of **economic development** communities and commercialization of research,
 - preservation of **historical and cultural heritage** region,
 - **quality of life** and health protection.



SENSE OF RESPONSIBILITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

The results of conducted research demonstrate that HEIs feel responsible to community in which they are located for:

impact on state's
economic,
ecological and
social
development;

provision of
measures for
defense of
national security
community, city
and state;

use of funds from
state budget
aimed at
scientific
developments to
solve needs of
community;

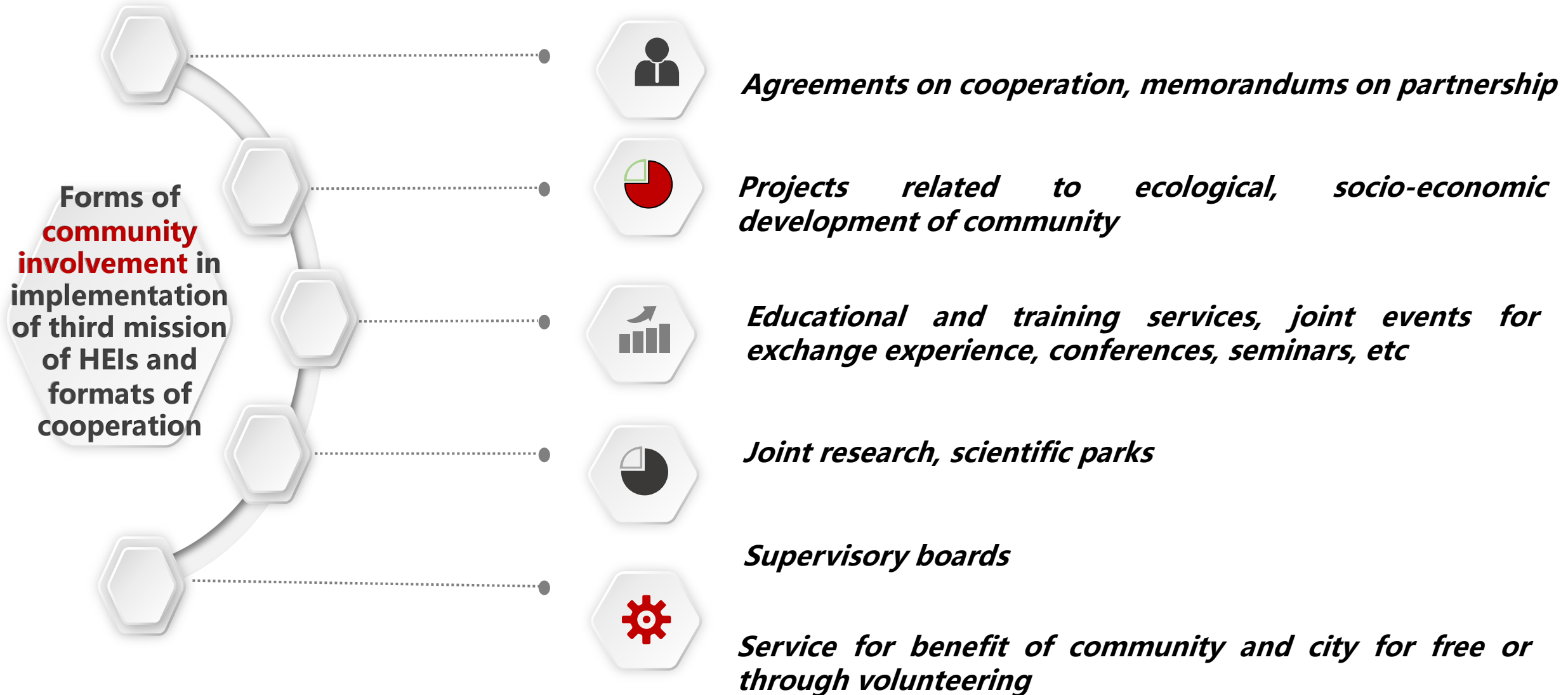
implementing
results of
research to solve
needs of
community,
conducting
expert research,
providing
consulting and
services at
request of
community;

implementation
of projects that
contribute to
environmental
and social
responsibility,
support of
human rights,
equality and non-
discrimination,
improvement of
life quality,
support of
intercultural
dialogue and
community
participation;

quality of
education,
ensuring a high
level of scientific
developments,
results of which
are implemented
in practice.

Research results

Cooperation of Ukrainian HEIs with communities includes following **key forms**:



Research results

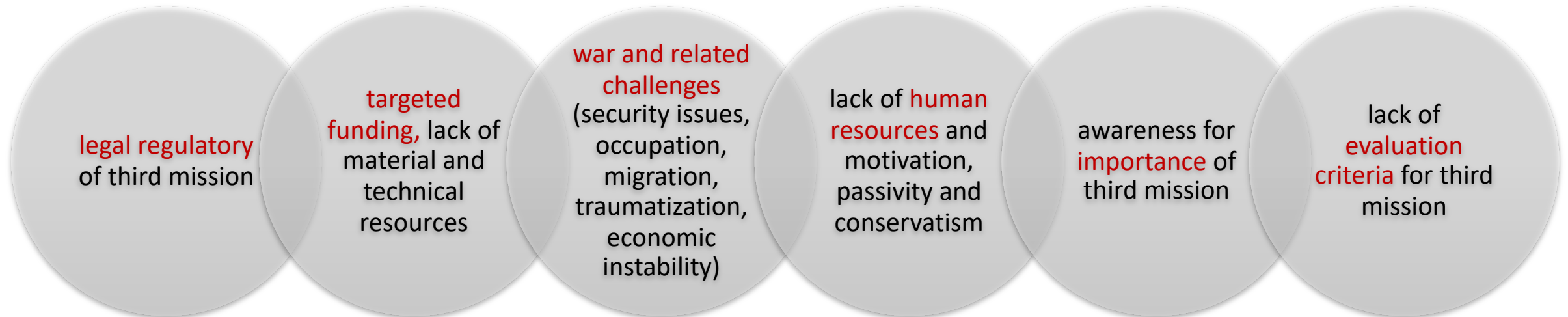
In research process, it was found that **consideration of community opinion** by the partner universities takes place through:



- Interviews and focus groups with recipients
- Research proposal and feedback from stakeholders
- Analysis of local context and data collection
- Joint activities and joint projects
- Feedback forms
- Community participation in supervisory boards
- Involvement of HEIs in meetings of regional city state administrations, city councils and councils of territorial communities, public commissions etc.

CHALLENGES FACED BY HEIs DURING IMPLEMENTATION OF THIRD MISSION

Analysis of results demonstrates presence of following war-related challenges for HEIs in Ukraine:



Research results

Key research findings from the partner university survey include:



LACK OF FUNDING FOR THIRD MISSION PROJECTS FROM THE STATE/PUBLIC BUDGET

In most cases, third mission practices are implemented through volunteerism and human resources. Sometimes funding is allocated from the budget of HEI. There are rare examples of project co-financing.



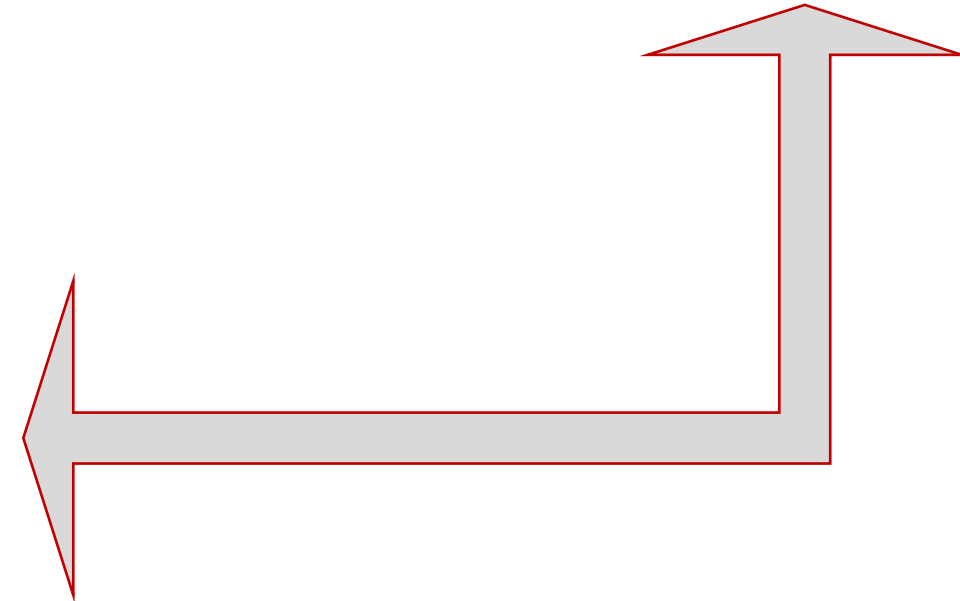
SUPPORT FOR EMPLOYEES WHO ARE INVOLVED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS ON THE THIRD MISSION

The results show that only a small proportion of HEIs practice financial rewards for the social activity of staff (bonuses, salary supplements). In most cases, practice of moral encouragement through thank-you letters, oral and written praise, certificates, etc. is introduced. A rating system is also practiced.



LACK OF LEGAL REGULATION OF THIRD MISSION IN UKRAINE

The results of study demonstrate that there is no regulatory and legal document that defines content, essence concept of third mission, its mechanisms and functions, evaluation criteria. At level of HEIs, there are development strategies and visions, which partially describe the tasks of the social mission, but they are not unified and differ significantly from each other.



Research results

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION AND EVALUATION OF CASES OF THE THIRD MISSION

According to experience of partner universities, the criteria for selecting cases of third mission for their further implementation are:

- 1) **Compliance with strategy** of HEI ;
- 2) **Sustainability** of project and scaling;
- 3) **Society orientation**;
- 4) **Entrepreneurship** and industrialization, **commercialization**;
- 5) **Research**;
- 6) **Partnership**;
- 7) **Compliance with project goals**;
- 8) **Effectiveness and influence**;
- 9) **Innovativeness**;
- 10) **Designing internal social development.**

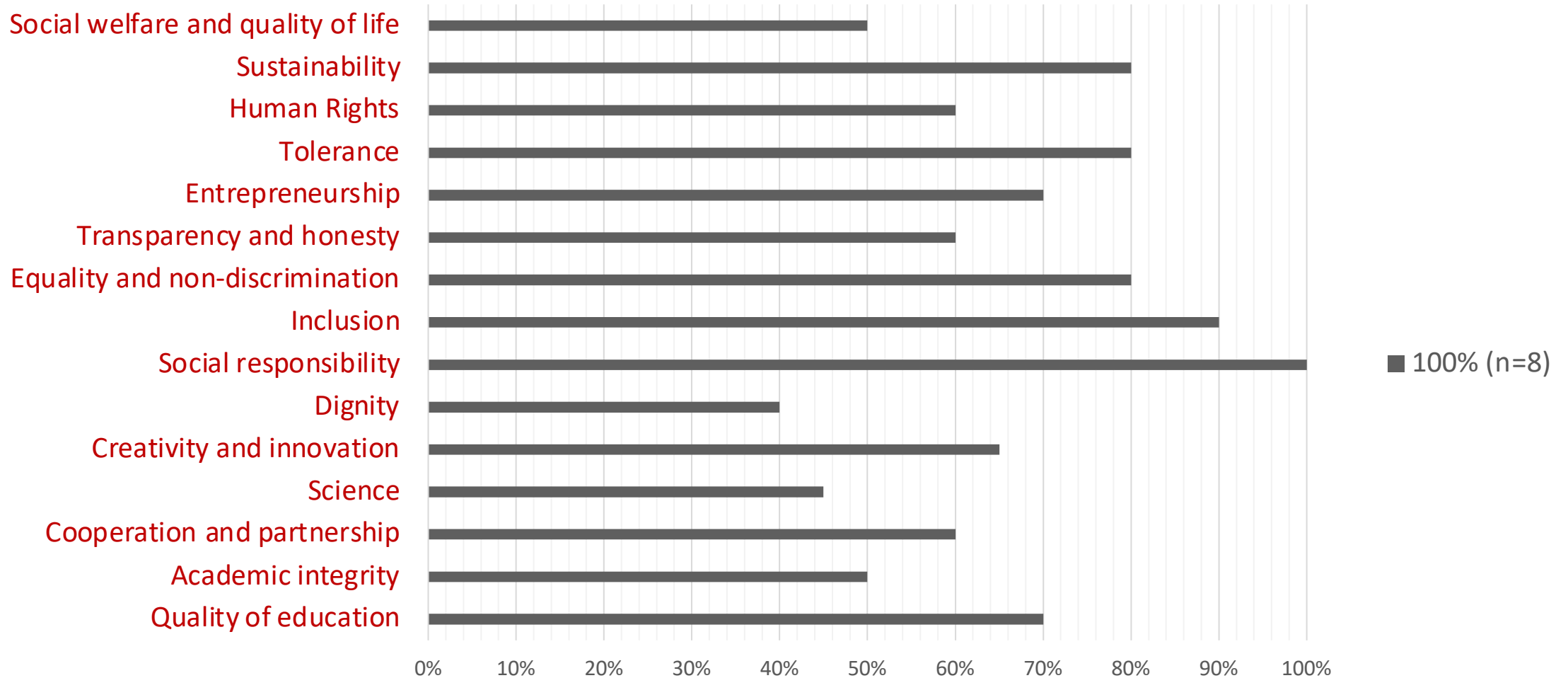
Research results

DEFINITION OF THE THIRD MISSION IN THE STRATEGIES OF HEIs:

- "... range of activities of university that **can be useful for society, community, a certain region or industry**, and in particular for those who interact with the university. Today, the university's mission is to serve society, be useful to society, meet public expectations and fulfill its "social responsibility..."
- "...The economic and social mission of university regarding its **contribution to the development of communities and society**, to become a center of public activity, a powerful information resource for the community and local self-government bodies..."
- "... third mission is part of the general mission of institution - to support sustainable and innovative development of Ukrainian universities for the growth of **their influence on social progress** and formation of a modern Ukrainian state in the European and world community..."
- "... **promoting socio-economic development of society**, generating changes necessary for the city, region, country and world, activities aimed at **ensuring environmental and social responsibility**, creating **innovative educational-scientific, information-communication and social infrastructure** by opening new specialties, introducing innovative educational programs with involvement of interested parties and taking into account needs of labor market..."
- "...In "Mission and vision policy" of university there is a definition of third mission: "to bear **social responsibility** before society for quality education, effective organization continuous postgraduate education, level of scientific development, implementation of university's achievements in practice..."
- "...We are still working on definition of this concept..."

RESULTS OF STUDY VALUES OF THIRD MISSION AMONG HEIs in UKRAINE

Ukrainian partner universities highlighted the following values of third mission:



Research results

Advantages of third mission according to researched HEIs



THANK YOU



FOR YOUR ATENTION!