



Erasmus+ project
KA2 Capacity building in High Education



Universities-Communities: strengthening cooperation

The third mission of the medical University

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<https://unicom.community>



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National Pyrogov Memorial Medical University, Vinnytsya (VNMU) is located in the centre of Ukraine, in the Vinnytsya Region, namely in the city of Vinnytsya.

The dimension of the region from west to east is 196 km, and from north to south is 204 km.

Vinnytsya Region was formed in 1932.
The territory is 26.5 thousand sq km

The population is 1.56 million people, including 51.4% urban and 48.6% rural.

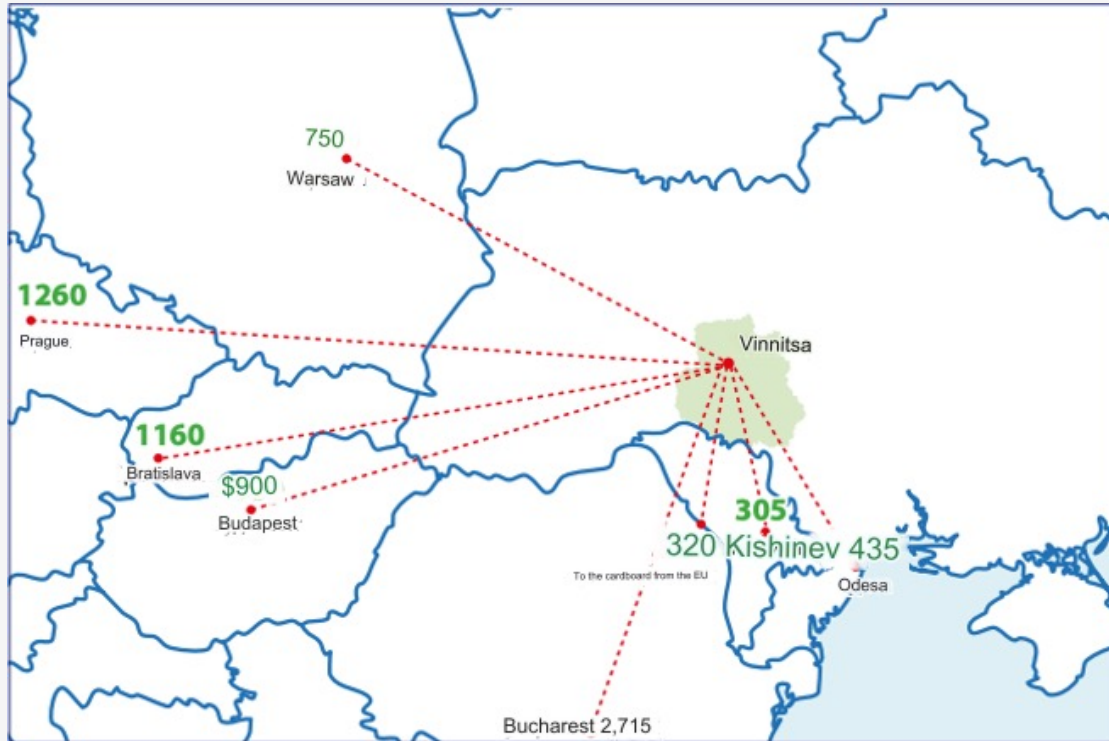
Number of students on II level 6454 persons (including 2094 international students), on III level - 239 persons (including 15 – foreign citizens);

Number of graduates per year - 1167 persons.

Overall, in the Vinnytsya region, VNMU is the only "classical" medical university **that is dually subordinated to the Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Health**



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The distance from Vinnitsa to European capitals:
to Warsaw – 750 km;
to Bratislava – 1160 km;
to Prague – 1260 km;
to Bucharest – 715 km;
to Budapest – 900 km;
to EU border – 320 km;
to Brussels - 1 989,3 km.

The distance from Vinnytsia to Kyiv (the capital of Ukraine) for automobile supplies is 267.2 km; by train – 229 km.



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Demographic trends

The demographic development of the Vinnytsia Region over the last 10 years is characterised by a tendency towards a gradual natural **decline in the number of the population.**

The relatively large distance from the front line determined the attractiveness of the city for displaced persons. **Vinnytsia became a humanitarian hub.** The first emigrants from the million-strong cities of Kharkiv and Kyiv, Kherson Oblast and Mykolaiv came to the Vinnytsia due to the search of shelter.

Vinnytsia, whose population at the beginning of 2022 was estimated by the State Statistics Service to be 369,700, has hosted **46,000 internally displaced persons** since the beginning of Russia's full-scale aggression against Ukraine.

In general, since the beginning of the war the **Vinnytsia Region** hosted about **200,000 displaced people** with a population of 1.5 million people.



<https://vezha.ua/yak-vinnytsya-stala-gumanitarnym-habom-u-chas-vijny/>



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How does the VNMU define the third mission?

In University “Mission and Vision Policy” there is the definition of the third mission:

“to bear social responsibility before society for the **quality of training** of higher education applicants, effective organisation of continuous **postgraduate education**, level of **scientific** developments, **implementation** of achievements of national and international medicine in medical and educational activities.”



WERE IS:

COMMUNITY HEALTH, PUBLIC HEALTH, POPULATION, WELL-BEING, STAKEHOLDERS, LOCAL COMMUNITY, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, COOPERATION, CHALLENGE, PERSONAL MEDICINE, SUSTANEBILITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION OR VARIETY etc ?



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Does your HEI have a Development Strategy?

[Development Concept of National Pirogov Memorial Medical University, Vinnytsya](https://www.vnmu.edu.ua/general-information/basic-documents/concept-of-development-of-VNMU-im--m-i--pirogov-for-2022-2027-year) for 2022-2027 is presented on the website of the university:
<https://www.vnmu.edu.ua/general-information/basic-documents/concept-of-development-of-VNMU-im--m-i--pirogov-for-2022-2027-year>

Does your HEI have the standards of conduct for ensuring non-discrimination and inclusion?

The Regulations on the organisation of inclusive education of persons with special educational needs at VNMU dated 29.08.2019 (https://www.vnmu.edu.ua/downloads/pdf/polog_inkl_navchan.pdf).

Policy and Conflict Resolution (including sexual harassment, discrimination and corruption) at VNMU is carried out following the requirements of the current legislation of Ukraine in the field of gender equality and combating discrimination and corruption)

Does your HEI have a Quality Assurance Strategy

[Regulations on the Quality Assurance System of Higher Education of VNMU](#)

[Regulations on monitoring and control of the quality of education at VNMU](#)

Does your HEI have an Internationalisation Strategy? **NO!**

Does your HEI have a strategy on its third mission? **No!**

At the same time, the above-mentioned document **does not contain the issues of cooperation with communities and the involvement of staff in public initiatives.**

What are the policies of your HEI towards the commercialization of the university products?

The policy of VNMU includes support for the commercialization of scientific research, **but this direction is in the process of development.**

Does your university have an Innovation Hub or a centre to support the commercialization of academic research? **NO!**



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The health care system of the Soviet Union = "Syemashka system»
=the health care system of the 1930s

- More hospitals, less technology
- 3-3.5% of GDP on medicine
- low salary of doctors
- corruption
- financing of beds and not according to the quality of treatment (the longer a person is treated, the more funds the hospital receives)

Ukrainian reality has changed, but changes in health care medical education are coming very slowly and with public resistance

WHAT ARE THE CONSEQUENCES: KEY FEATURES OF UKRAINIAN HEALTH





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KEY FEATURES OF UKRAINIAN HEALTH

According to the [Global Burden of Disease Study](#), the **expected healthy life expectancy in Ukraine in 2019 was 61.7 years.**

This **is the lowest** indicator in Europe.



The key health indicator: **Mortality rate for children** under 5-year-old has been **reaching 8.1** per 1,000 live births in 2020₆, but **still far from the EU 3.9.**



The World Bank. Available at: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SH.DYN.MORT?locations=UA>. Accessed 12 March 2022.



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KEY FEATURES OF UKRAINIAN HEALTH

Ukraine has the **4th highest tuberculosis incidence rate** among WHO EU Region countries, and the **second highest prevalence of HIV/TB coinfection (26%)**.

<https://www.euro.who.int/en/countries/ukraine/news/news/2021/3/world-tuberculosis-day-supporting-ukraine-in-scaling-up-tb-diagnosis-and-treatment>. Accessed 12 March 2022.

Ukraine has also **the second-largest HIV epidemic** in the WHO EU Region (37.5 per 100,000 in 2020), with **a treatment coverage of 57%**, lower than in EU (**82%**).

The COVID-19 epidemic situation shown a significant increase (555%) of cases between January-February 2022, with **low vaccination coverage (35%)**.

•European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

Operational Public Health Considerations for the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases in the Context of Russia's Aggression Towards Ukraine.

ECDC, Stockholm2022: 2022 (<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/prevention-control-infectious-diseases%E2%88%92Russia-aggression.pdf>. Accessed 12 March 2022)





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KEY FEATURES OF UKRAINIAN HEALTH

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND VACCINATION

Routine vaccination coverage has gradually increased since 2015, but remains suboptimal.

For example, **measles vaccination** coverage is 81.9%. It has been registered **the highest European number of cases** (the outbreak in 2017-2018).

Due to low vaccination coverage (84%), in October 2021 an outbreak of circulating vaccine-derived **poliovirus** type 2 was registered. Ukraine has been planning a catch-up polio vaccination campaign from 1st February 2022, which was **interrupted by the current war**.



•European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC)

Operational Public Health Considerations for the Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases in the Context of Russia's Aggression Towards Ukraine.

ECDC, Stockholm2022: 2022 (<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/sites/default/files/documents/prevention-control-infectious-diseases%E2%88%92Russia-aggression.pdf>. Accessed 12 March 2022)



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KEY FEATURES OF UKRAINIAN HEALTH

Approximately 33% of the Ukrainian population experience **mental illnesses** in their lifetime (especially internally displaced people), with **one of the highest suicide rates of the world**

WHO, European health for all database. <https://gateway.euro.who.int/en/datasets/european-health-for-all-database/>. Accessed 12 March, 2022

General **impact of war on mental health:**

War and crisis are significant public health concerns with immense mental health implications. **War-affected civilians are at a higher risk of developing mental health issues than military combatants.**

Bryant, RA, Schnurr, PP, and Pedlar, D, 5-Eyes Mental Health Research and Innovation Collaboration in Military and Veteran Mental Health. Addressing the mental health needs of civilian combatants in Ukraine. *Lancet Psychiatry*. (2022) 9:346–7. doi: 10.1016/S2215-0366(22)00097-9





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According to VNMU experts, **the opinion of the community** is taken into account through various types of surveys (direct communication with the patient, communication in social networks, through sociological surveys), which are conducted by the staff and students of the University with representatives of various levels of the local community.

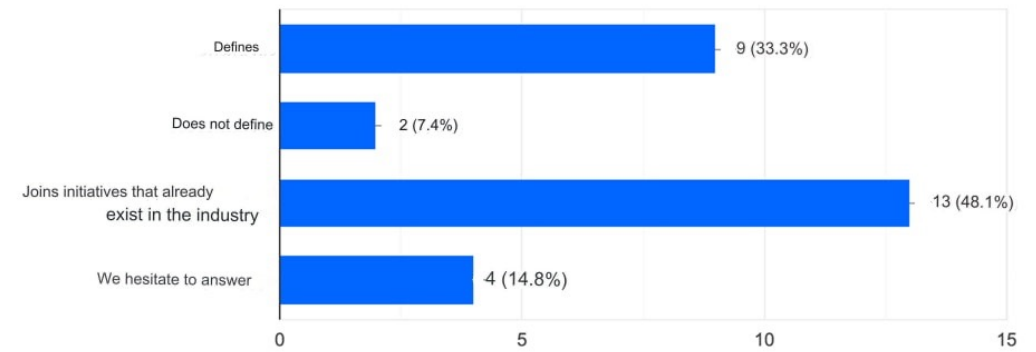
Due to the survey, the vast majority (48%) of respondents **simply join initiatives that have already proven themselves effectively.**

This confirms the common belief that the **medical field is very conservative** and often **overbureaucratized and overregulated.**

Socially important **changes in medicine require a lot of effort, time** and high professionalism.

Does your structural unit (department, department, laboratory, etc.) independently determine the modern societal global and local needs in order to implement the third mission of the University?

27 answers





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Is the notion “third mission of HEIs” defined at the national level?

At the national level (national glossary), there is no definition of the concept “third mission of HEI”.

We have no specific definition of a third mission at the regulatory level.

Does the state provide financial support to HEIs with active social involvement?

In Ukraine’ education, one of the main segments of the budget is science and innovation (2nd mission). **Socially-related activities** (health promotion, mental health, rehabilitation etc.) that are provided by HEI-s are funded by business/grantors within the projects.

Unfortunately, VNMU does not have rewards for socially important work.





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*We have some examples of financial support from City budget for University staff:
with the aim of countering the spread of acute respiratory disease COVID-19*

*Project **Vinnytsia smile city** due to the budget of the Civil initiatives*





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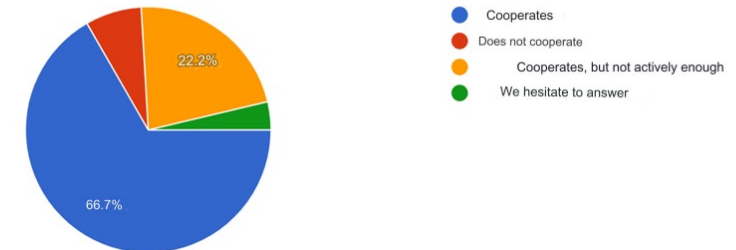
How does VNMU cooperate with communities at the local level?

According to the results of the survey conducted by the working group within the framework of the UNICOM project, **66.7% of the surveyed structural divisions of VNMU cooperate** to one degree or another with communities at the local level.

Cooperate, but not actively enough, according to respondents, 22.2%

Does your structural unit (department, department, laboratory, etc.) cooperate with communities at the local level?

27 answers





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**Among the proposed answers to this question, we received the following ones
(in order of ranking of the involvement of university departments):**

- 1.Consultation of patients on a free basis - 59,3%
- 2.Popularisation of scientific knowledge for the prevention of certain types of diseases - 51,9%
- 3.Public lectures, trainings, providing access to scientific publications - 51,9%
- 4.Promotion of a healthy lifestyle - 48,1%
- 5.Public activity (leadership or membership in a public organisation) - 40,7%
- 6.Volunteer activity (attraction of funds and resources for the benefit of the Community) - 22,2%
- 7.Teaching a training course (for other communities, except for students of VNMU) - 18,5%
- 8.Carrying out scientific research together with local partners (organisations) - 14,8%
- 9.Conducting "School of Health" - 11%
- Less than 10%:
- 10.Employment of graduates
- 11.Initiation of programs financed from the budget of territorial communities
- 12.Implementation of programs financed from the budget of communities
- 13.Participation in joint projects at the community level



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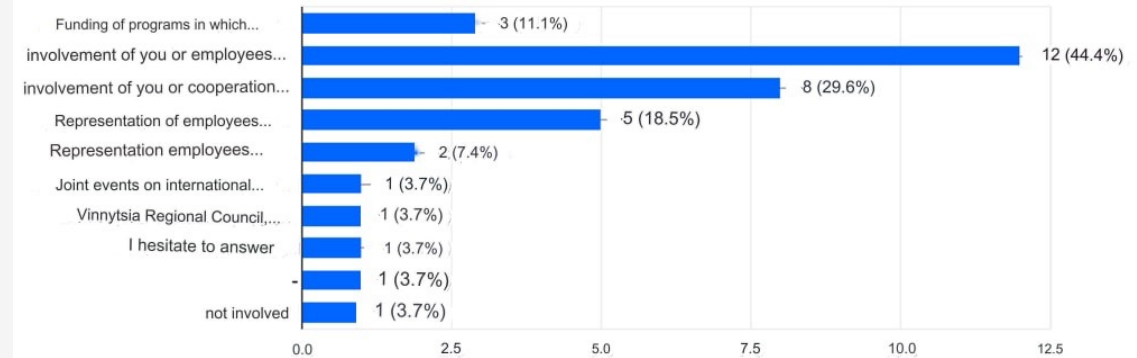
How are state and public authorities and representatives of stakeholders, business and the public sector involved in cooperation in the provision of the third mission activities?

Among the main answers to this question, the respondents indicated the following:

Involvement in expertise in the medical field of knowledge for the benefit of authorities (MAIN FORM OF COOPERATION ACCORDING TO SURVEY RESULTS);

- Involvement in expertise in the medical field of knowledge for the benefit of business and/or the public sector;
- Representation of the university in public bodies (public, supervisory board, etc.) of state and communal institutions;
- Representation of the university in local authorities;
- Joint events on international project activities, surveys of employers and stakeholders.
- Funding of programs in which the structural unit of the university participates;

Name the forms of involvement of state and public bodies, representatives of interested parties, business and the public sector in co...what) in ensuring the third mission of the University?
27 answers



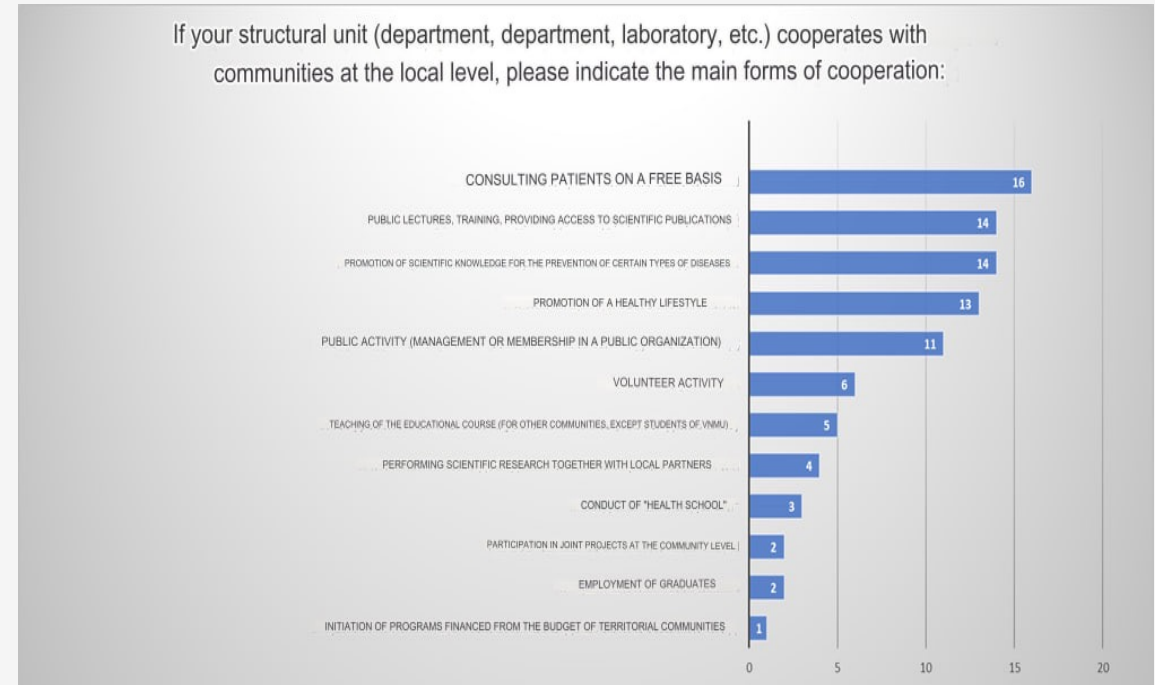


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According to the results of our survey, the main **stakeholders** with whom medical universities should work **for the effective implementation** of the **"third mission"** are (in descending order of importance):

- 1.International public organisations;
- 2.Medical institutions and hospitals;
- 3.Local public sector organisations;
- 4.Non-profit organisations (charity funds);
- 5.Public health institutions;
- 6.Patients and groups of patients, patient organisations;
- 7.Other universities;
- 8.Authorities;
- 9.Volunteers and volunteer movements;
- 10.Military organisations;
- 11.Mass media;
- 12.Deputies;
- 13.Parents of students;
- 14.Military commissions.





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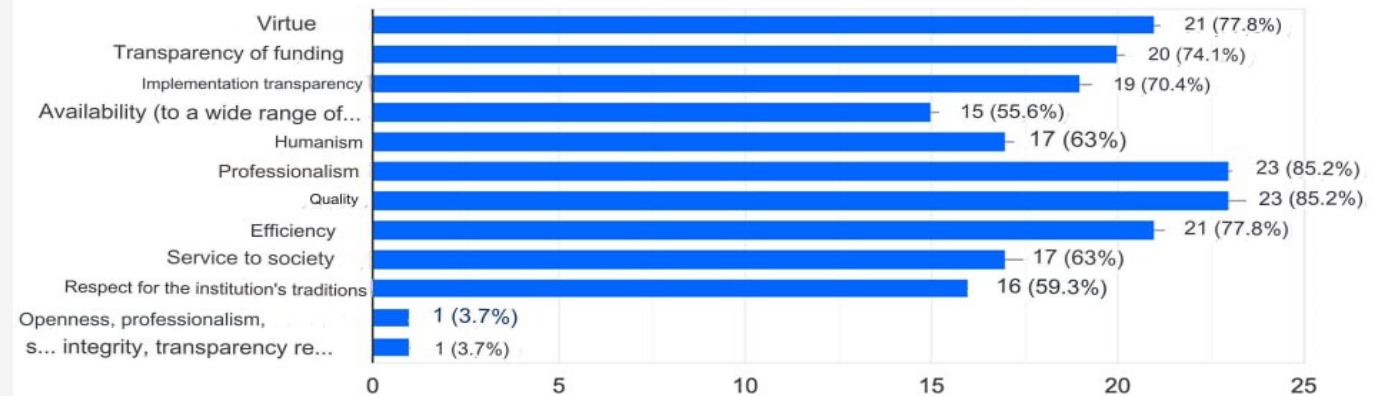
What societal values should the third mission of University correspond to?

According to the survey of both individual employees of VNMU and representatives of particular structural divisions, it was determined that the **third mission of the university should meet:** first of all, the criteria of **professionalism, quality and efficiency of execution**, as well as **integrity**.

Service to society, **transparency** of the implementation and **financing** of the third mission are also considered important.

Determine what values the third mission projects in your higher education institution (your structural division (department, department, laboratory, group, etc.)) should meet?

27 answers





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"Collection of funds for a car for the medical battalion from VNMU students"

What problem is considered: social cohesion, support of students fighting for the independence of Ukraine.

Unfortunately, there is a great need to support the soldiers who defend the country, so the student self-government initiated a set of social measures.

What has been done: since the project was launched in 2022, more than 5 charity events have been held with the aim of collecting 130,000 hryvnias for the purchase of a car for our student's medical battalion.

What is the impact: university social cohesion for victory.

The method of communication with the community in projects in which the university was involved: dissemination of information through the Telegram channel and the official Instagram page.





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Title of the project: "Tactical medicine during war"

The method of communication with the community in projects in which the University was involved: through the administration of organised contingents (hospitals, medical institutions and educational institutions).

What problem is considered: methods of evacuation, stopping critical bleeding in the area of mass war injuries.

What has been done: 850 medical workers were trained by Department of Disaster Medicine and Military Medicine of VNMU





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Why does your HEI consider the third mission to be important for VNMU?

Since the medical university trains specialists in the field of health care, the provision of medical services directly affects the health indicators of the community and determines the effectiveness of the entire activity of the university.

An example of the important consequences of the university's socially responsible work is:

- **improving the quality and length of people's lives** through the provision of high-quality medical services by the university's graduate doctors and its teachers;
- **reduction of indicators** of disability, premature, infant and maternal mortality, improvement of indicators of reproductive health of the population;
- **care for the psychological health of the population, overcoming post-traumatic syndrome in the conditions of war and military operations;**
- **prevention of diseases and increasing the working capacity** of the population;
- **saving people's lives** during disasters, emergencies and the consequences of military operations.



The university strives to be a part of the responsible society regarding the insurance of quality of education.



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During the research, our team asked what the "third mission" of the medical university should be in the context of the war. Here are some of the answers:

- **Psychological and physical rehabilitation** of military personnel, their family members, volunteers, and displaced persons.
- **Effective cooperation with international medical organisations.**
- **Quality, accessibility, humanity.**
- **Promotion of a healthy lifestyle** for the prevention of diseases, in particular infectious ones.

• In the opinion of our organisation, **the "third mission" of the medical university in the context of war should be aimed at supporting the community and the military located in the zone of active hostilities.** So, for example, VNMU can become a primary centre for the provision of psychological support, which consists in conducting educational training and implementing **psychoeducation of the community.** It is also worth focusing **on the humanitarian mission:** medical assistance to the population affected by the war; delivery of medicines to medical centres (if necessary). In addition, **leading research in the field of psychological health can be concentrated** on the basis of the institution, which in the future will help to predict the impact on the physical health not only of military personnel or victims of war, **but also on civilian residents of the community as a whole.**





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Improving interaction and communication between the scientific medical community, municipal authorities, business entities and other stakeholders.

- Assistance of university representatives to the wounded **and displaced persons** from the war zone in the city's medical facilities and medical facilities in the liberated territories.

- **Assistance of the Armed Forces.**

- Popularization of knowledge among the population regarding **pre-medical care.**

- **Creation of educational programs and courses** that would form theoretical and practical knowledge of providing medical aid in conditions of military conditions.

- Creation of educational and informational materials and introduction into the educational process based on the **military-medical experience** of students and employees of the university.

- Close and transparent interaction with the Military Committee.

- Practical training and rotations of medical workers in the conditions of real combat operations.

- **Creation of educational and practical courses (training) on the provision of first aid in the conditions of military operations for the population and mobilised persons, territorial defence, police, firefighters and other categories of the population.**





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Recommendations for implementation UNICOM PROJECT from focus group

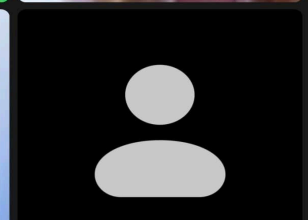
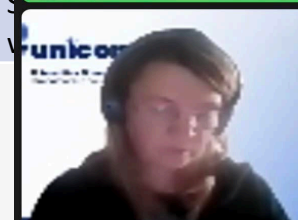
- Update institutional documents and implement the third mission to strategic documents
- To create the UNICOM Centre as a regional inter-university centre, on the basis of which to collect and summarise society's requests, plan and implement activities that would satisfy these requests.
- To engage students and employees who have experience valuable to the community and are ready to share it, to cooperate with representatives of the government, business and public organisations for the better implementation of the project.
- To hold a focus group that would represent the opinion of the students, in general the third mission should be student-oriented, as often the third mission is associated only with the external environment of universities. At the same time, the development of a wide range of student-oriented services (for example, employment advisory services, development of leadership skills, psychological assistance, motivational trainings, project activities, work with complaints and evaluation of the quality of educational services, etc.) should be a key indicator of the fulfilment of the third mission.
- To develop recommendations for universities regarding regulatory documents that will help standardise the implementation of the third mission.
- To develop a memorandum of cooperation with project stakeholders and form partnerships within the project.
- To analyse the main financing models (best practices) of the implementation of the third mission.
- To study the possibilities within the framework of the Unicom project of adopting the European experience in the field of public and global health and the example of the implementation of the third mission by medical universities



VNMU



Olga Drachuk, VNMU





THANKS A LOT FOR YOUR TIME

Stay health and do your third mission!



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