







University-Community in partnership for Ukraine's rebuilding

Iryna Sikorska, PhD

Tamila Gerasymchuk, PhD

Ukrainian Association of Professors and Researchers of European Integration



Academia-civil society partnership

Before 2014 social commitment of HEIs was underestimated and largely overshadowed by the mission of teaching and research

After the Revolution of Dignity, increased decentralization processes in HEIs' management resulted in raise of their social responsibility and social influence

The ongoing war in Ukraine and the dreadful impact it has been casting upon the country's social, economic and cultural spheres, has urged Ukrainian HEIs to reconsider and enhance their mission as knowledge providers, centers of expertise and social resilience facilitators.

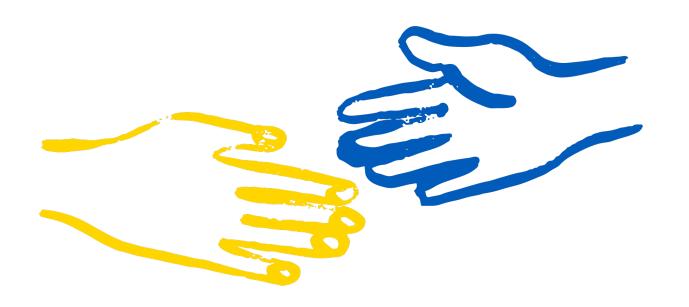


National level

Integrating knowledge transfer as well as an increased societal engagement has become part of what is typically referred to as the "Third Mission" that, in addition to teaching and research, has created new roles for universities as active players in regional development activities geared towards stimulating innovation-based growth and improving the quality of life for their communities.

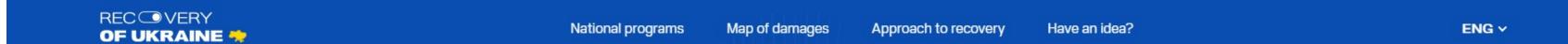
(National Higher Education Development Strategy 2022)





START

Ukraine Recovery Plan



Ukraine Recovery Plan

Ukraine Recovery Vision: "Strong European Ukraine is a magnet for international investments". Ukraine's Recovery is aimed to accelerate sustainable economic growth. The plan identifies a list of National programs to achieve key results.

270

EXPECTED RESULTS

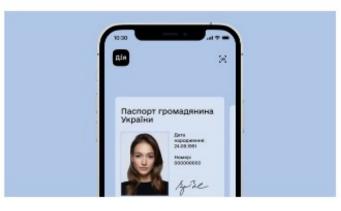


National Programs



Recovery pre-requisites: Strengthening institutional capacity

<0,1 bn USD



Recovery pre-requisites: Digital government

<0,1 bn USD



Strengthen defense and security

50 bn USD



Strive for EU integration

<1 bn USD</p>



Re-build clean and safe environment

20 bn USD



Energy independence and Green Deal

130 bn USD



Boost business environment

5 bn USD



Ensure competitive access to funding

75 bn USD

35 bn USD



Secure macro-financial stability

60 - 80 bn USD



Grow value adding sectors of economy

50 bn USD



Logistics de-bottleneck and integration with EU



Recovery and upgrade of housing and regions infrastructure

150 - 250 bn USD





Improve Education system

5 bn USD



Upgrade HealthCare system

5 bn USD

International dimension of the Ukraine recovery

Lugano Conference(URC 2022) initiated the principles of Ukraine recovery supported by the conference participants



URC 2023 –focus on the international support mobilization for economic and social stabilization of Ukraine for its postwar recovery, including immediate assistance in coping with urgent challenges and needs. Mechanisms of encouragement of private sector were discussed.



University – Community

Objectives of the partnership

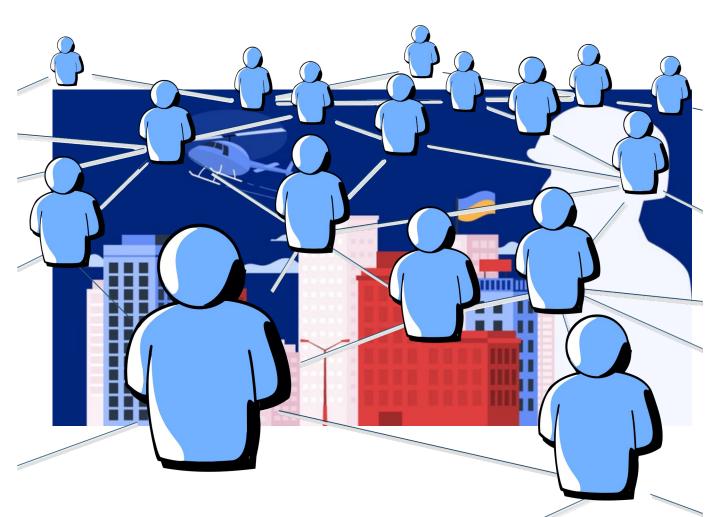
- □ Development of the academia, contributing to the community
- ☐ Enhancing education targeted at societal needs
- ☐ Cooperation with local business and engagement with the stakeholders
- ☐ Research and development: more focus on local needs
- □ Development of civil society, based on the principles of democracy, EU values

Benefits of the partnership

- University ranking
- □ Array of the possibilities for students
 and faculty professional development
- □ Formation of active citizenship
- Widening research horizons
- Fundraising
- Innovation and creativity
- □ Social responsibility under focus

UniCom partnership - benefits for community

- □ Partnership with universities contributes to the improvement of various spheres of life in the community and its development
- ☐ Access to expertise
- Research and innovation
- □ Education programs, tailor-made trainings and courses for community residents
- ☐ Promotion of entrepreneurship, increasing employment in the region
- ☐ Joint Infrastructure, development projects
- □ Cooperation between students, faculty and community residents





Reconstruction through partnership

Universities define the scope of their contribution in Ukraine recovery



1.

Generation, dissemination and application of knowledge needed for the reconstruction of Ukraine

2.

Creation of the innovative ecosystems aimed at solving urgent problems of the war and post-war period; provision of the support to innovative start-ups and entrepreneurial activities

3.

Public events (conferences, forums) involving stakeholders for the exchanging opinions and experiences, contributing to the development of civil society and democratic initiatives

4.

Conducting research aimed at studying the problems and needs of local community, joint search for solutions



Ukrainian Association of Professors and Researchers of European Integration

APREI (aprei.com.ua) was founded in 2015 with the aim to enhance cooperation between civil society and academic community for knowledge-transfer and the best practice exchange.

It has cooperated intensely with civil society entities through jointly implemented educational and research projects, engaging academia and CSO activists into mutually beneficial knowledge transfer.

Since the outbreak of the war, APREI has launched its own volunteering initiative, as well as a number of other projects to raise public awareness of the academia's social commitment and the role of higher education in achieving the postwar recovery objectives and reinforcing sustainable development in the long run.

Today our commitment is to enhance the role of educators as social actors.



Ukrainian Association of Professors and Researchers of European Integration

- □Contribution to the Europeanization of HE in Ukraine
- □Increased capacity of teaching and research of EU
- □Initiated academic-civil society sector cooperation
- □ Provided relevant academic and professional experience for junior scholars and young activists representing CSOs
- □Partnership with CSOs, Ukraine and beyond





Ukrainian Association of Professors and Researchers of European Integration

- □ 2016-2019 "Enhanced Visibility of European Integration Teaching and Research" 575385-EPP-1-2016-1-UA-EPPJMO-SUPPA
- □ 2018-2019 "EU-EaP Academy: Supporting New Generation of Scholars in European Studies" 599865-EPP-1-2018-1-UA-EPPJMO-PROJECT
- □ 2020-2024 "Rebuilding the Potential of EU Studies in the Conflict-affected Areas of Ukraine: Addressing Challenges and Creating Solutions"619892-EPP-1-2020-1-UA-EPPJMO-PROJECT
- □ 2020-2024 "EU–EaP future avenues: boosting joint initiatives of academia and civil society in Ukraine" 620395-EPP-1-2020-1-UA-EPPJMO-SUPPA
- □ 2023-2026 "Universities Communities: strengthening cooperation" Erasmus+: KA2 CBHE



Looking ahead

The partnership "UNIVERSITY - COMMUNITY" has an important role in the process of rebuilding Ukraine and for sustainable development of the country and improving the quality of life of Ukrainians after the tragic events of the war



Responsibility to the community for its development and improving the quality of life. Universities as drivers of change, implementing the EU norms and standards in economic and social spheres



It is important to monitor and scale the achievements of university-community cooperation. Socially oriented approaches through such cooperation should be highlighted in university strategies and educational programs



Universities can serve as regional educational centers for young and adult learners, implementing projects, and expanding cooperation in such important areas as inclusion, social cohesion, sustainability, entrepreneurship, ecology, and mental health



The involvement of European academic and civil society partners for the implementation of international best practices will strengthen such partnerships in the long run









Thank you for your attention

I STAND WITH UKRAINE #StandWithUkraine

