

# HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION

in Donetsk and Luhansk regions  
*April–June 2016*



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# MONITORING IN THE TERRITORIES OF THE LUHANSK AND DONETSK OBLASTS CONTROLLED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE

## 1. INTRODUCTION

From March 28 to April 2, 2016 and from June 20 to June 26, 2016 the joint trips of the Russian and Ukrainian representatives of non-governmental organizations (members of the Human Rights Center “Memorial” and Kharkiv Human Rights Group) to the ATO zone in the Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts in the territories controlled by the Ukrainian government took place.

The purpose of the trips was visiting the territories which were involved in the military conflict in the east of Ukraine in order to study various aspects of observance of human rights in the built-up areas in the zone of armed conflict.

The monitoring group studied the issues as follows:

- the safety of accommodation in the visited territories (coming under fire, conducting military operations);
- the conditions of ensuring teaching process at schools;
- the possibility of receiving medical care for the civilian population in the regions damaged as a result of military operations or in the regions situated in the conflict zone;
- the situation with social security (payments of pensions, grants, subsidies, other social payments) in the settlements which were or are in the ATO zone;
- the problem of ruins and damage caused to residential and other buildings and constructions;
- the problem with crossing the lines of delimitation between territories controlled and uncontrolled by the Ukrainian government;

- the requirements and possibilities of obtaining legal aid by inhabitants of the specified territories.

During monitoring trips participants of the mission visited Siverskodonetsk, Lysychansk, Stanitsa of Luhansk and Kondrashovka, Triokhizbenka, Zolote, Popasna, Novozvanivka, Troitsk in the Luhansk Oblast and Sviatohorsk, Kramatorsk, Slovyansk, Bakhmut, Toretsk, Novhorodske, Verkhniotoretske, Myronivske, Humanitarian and Logistic Center “Zaitsevo”, Novhorodske, Verkhniotoretske, Avdiyivka, Krasnohorivka, Maryinka, Mariupol, checkpoint Hnutovo, Pavlopol, Chermalyk in Donetsk Oblast.

In 2014 and 2015, the representatives of Human Rights Center Memorial and KhRG visited some of these built-up areas and described their state<sup>1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> “The situation of the civilian population in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions”

[https://www.austausch.org/files/DRA/Publikationen/01\\_Donbas\\_journal\\_2015-01-%20rus.pdf](https://www.austausch.org/files/DRA/Publikationen/01_Donbas_journal_2015-01-%20rus.pdf)

[https://www.austausch.org/files/DRA/Publikationen/01\\_Donbas\\_journal\\_03-2015%20-%20rus.pdf](https://www.austausch.org/files/DRA/Publikationen/01_Donbas_journal_03-2015%20-%20rus.pdf)

“Report on the human rights mission in the Donetsk and Luhansk Oblasts”

<http://khp.org/index.php?id=1420025888>

Report on monitoring trips to the Town of Slovyansk, Donetsk Oblast, Ukraine, which took place on July 15 and 17, 2014 and October 17, 2014

<http://ccl.org.ua/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/slavyansk-10.11-1-11.pdf>

“The situation of the civilian population in the Donetsk and Lugansk Oblasts”

[http://memohrc.org/sites/default/files/\\_oezdki\\_28-09\\_3-10-4.pdf](http://memohrc.org/sites/default/files/_oezdki_28-09_3-10-4.pdf);

<http://khp.org/files/docs/1475715375.pdf>.

## 2. ACCESS FOR REPRESENTATIVES OF MONITORING GROUP TO THE BUILT-UP AREAS IN THE TERRITORY UNDER CONTROL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF UKRAINE IN ATO ZONE

Although practically all participants of the project were repeatedly coming out to the territories under control of the Ukrainian government in ATO zone, every participant obtained accreditation of the Security Service of Ukraine (hereinafter SSU) during these monitoring trips.

For accreditation they needed to undergo simple procedure of giving a notice of the contingent of the groups and providing copies of the papers.

The answer from the SSU with confirmation of accreditation came the next day after submission of documents, at the same time there were no refusal cases neither for Ukrainian, nor for the Russian participants of the trips.

Just before each trip the letter with the planned route of the trip of monitoring group was sent in a notifying order to the ATO press center.

On the eve of the trip the press center issued to each accredited participant the standard press card that helped to pass numerous checkpoints.

During both trips there were practically no instances of hindering the work of the group of monitors or preventing visits according to the itinerary.

There were only two instances of travel bans imposed on the monitoring group on its way to the Village of Granitne and suburban area of the urban settlement Verkhniotoretske.

The participants of trips — members of the Human Rights Center “Memorial” and Kharkiv Human Rights Group — express their gratitude to service of accreditation of the SSU and to the press center of ATO for effective accreditation and assistance in implementation of monitoring trips.

## 3. ACCOMMODATION OF MILITARY IN SETTLEMENTS ALONG THE DEMARCATION LINE: GENERAL SITUATION AND MAIN PROBLEMS

The settlements visited by monitors can be divided into two groups: those which continue to be exposed periodically or continuously to firings, and those where military operations and firings stopped in 2014 or in February 2015.

The second group of settlements include Slovyansk, Kramatorsk, Siverskodonetsk, Bakhmut, Mariupol, Volnovakha; the living conditions of local population here do not significantly differ from those in other areas of Ukraine.

The proximity of the demarcation line determines the greater number of checkpoints through which one is supposed to pass when driving to these settlements by motor transport; however, there is no additional control for those going by train; our trip to these settlements went off without restrictions and examination.

Significantly different is the situation in settlements which are in close proximity to the demarcation line and exposed to firings. Firings were either irregular as, for example, in the Stanitsa of Luhansk, Triokhizbenka, Popasna, Toretsk, or regular, as in Maryinka, Krasnohorivka, and Avdiyivka.

The inhabitants were tired of firings, constant tension, risk, and for the inhabitants of such territories a paramount task is peace-making and termination of firings. It will bring back peaceful life, normal functioning of all institutes of local government, restoration of productions creating jobs, normal work of preschool and school institutions, policlinics and hospitals, proper functioning of infrastructure of the settlement with uninterrupted supply of gas, water, electricity, heat, possibility of arrival and departure without limits.

Actually, the members of the Ukrainian-Russian monitoring group studied those problems which influenced observance of the rights of inhabitants of these settlements near the demarcation line.

In the **Stanitsa of Luhansk**, which is 12 kilometers away from Luhansk controlled by separatists, there were no deficiency or lack of products in grocery shops; on the contrary, they were supplied with a view not only to locals, but also to those who crossed the demarcation line coming on foot from the uncontrolled territory. There was no shortage of supply.

Also there were no problems with delivery of construction materials. According to the head of regional settlement administration, they failed to deliver coal last winter, but they delivered firewood for heating instead.



*Stanitsia of Luhanska. In/Out Checkpoint*

The settlers gradually come back to the stanitsa; the group of monitors in Stanitsia saw five people returning on the day of its visit. Nevertheless, many inhabitants are still afraid to come back to the stanitsa being concerned about the renewal of firings.

The most serious problem according to both ordinary residents of the Stanitsia, and representatives of local administration is the fact that Ukrainian armed units had not been withdrawn from the Stanitsa yet. Earlier the strength of the contingent had been bigger, but now about 30 servicemen accommodate in the building of settlement administration.

The Main Street is blocked by the checkpoint located near the building of village rada, there is no through passage on it. Moreover, in the center of the settlement the military had put the poster with inscription: “No road. Mines!”. “What a shame!” the head of regional settlement administration said. “They warn about mines in residential quarters!” Because of it different divisions of settlement administration are scattered around the settlement which seriously complicates their work. Just imagine that locals, in particular, old men cannot move through the center of the Stanitsa as it needs to be bypassed on the perimeter, closed and protected by the military.

The problem of accommodation of the military was also noted in other visited settlements. For example, in the village of **Triokhizbenka** the position of the Ukrainian forces was established beyond the village outskirts, on the heights which are higher than the central part of the village.

The positions of separatists across the river are also on the heights. Now within the framework of implementation of the Minsk agreements both parties took away heavy armament, but from November 2014 to February 2015 the

village was a hot spot.

From summer of 2014 to summer of 2015 certain military units were deployed directly in the village. For example, the volunteer battalion of the AFU Aidar held a position on the premises of schoolhouse and kindergarten, and it left it only at the end of July 2015.

The combat emplacements were built around the village and behind the village. According to the villagers, it happened that the Ukrainian military delivered fire across the river from the very village aiming at territory controlled by the separatists. Moreover, the Ukrainian APCs and tanks were positions among the houses of inhabitants of Triokhizbenka.



*Lopaskino. The place of non-authorized crossing to the occupied territory*



*Avdiyivka. Lermontov street. Movement without escort is prohibited*

In **Krasnohorivka**, in the fall of 2015, on the territory of school no. 4 there were three tanks, and the servicemen stayed in the school.

Now weapons and military equipment, as well as servicemen have left the territory, the building of the school has been repaired, and the school is functioning.

The premises in the school in the **Village of Pavlopol** were taken by the AFU representatives when there were monitors. The school territory was fenced around with barbed wire, the passage for villages was closed.

In the House of Culture located in the center of the **Village of Chermalyk** the gale-force wind demolished a roof; there are no budgetary funds for repair, and the humanitarian aid cannot be received from the international organizations because the servicemen had occupied the basement area without permit: they had opened the lock and settled there. Subsequently the soldiers who arrived on rotation also stayed in the House of Culture. During the fighting, the soldiers also took the top stories of the building; the fired cases were found on the eaves. The administration could not evict military personnel. The servicemen staying in the basement consumed a lot of electric power: UAH 4,800 for May 2016; at the same time the military did not pay for it, therefore the settlement rada which has the House of Culture on its balance was billed. According to the director of the House of Culture, the military

promised to sign the rent contract since September 2015, but as of mid-2016 they failed to conclude it.

**Presence of military personnel in settlements with civilian population increases the risk of firings during combat operations and turns the civilian population into a human shield which is gross violation of norms of the international humanitarian law.**

#### 4. IN-AND-OUT PASSAGE CHECKPOINTS ON THE DEMARCATION LINE IN THE LUHANSK AND DONETSK OBLASTS

The population of ATO zone settlements complained about crossing the demarcation line.



*Hnutovo In/Out Checkpoint “Bended”. Line*

In April-June 2016 the monitoring group visited and scrutinized the work of checkpoints “Stanitsa of Luhansk”, “Zolote”, “Zaitsevo-Mayorsk”, “Hnutovo”, and “Maryinka”. It should be stated at the outset that in all Luhansk oblast there is only one crosswalk in Stanitsa of Luhansk; the monitors were also present at the opening of the in-and-out passage checkpoint in “Zolote” which stopped working on the opening day because on the uncontrollable side no arrangements had been carried out for reception of those crossing the demarcation line. In Donetsk Oblast, there are three crossings but their bad traffic capacity needs improvement: simplification of procedures and acceleration of crossing time.

There is a reservation though: the Hnutovo checkpoint showed optimum conditions for crossing the demarcation line both by pedestrians and

motor vehicles and can serve as a positive sample for all other checkpoints.

The crossing of the demarcation line and work of checkpoints in the conflict zone is regulated by the Temporary Rules no. 415 from June 12, 2015 (approved by the order of the first deputy head of ATO under the SSU) intended to control the crossing of the demarcation line in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts by citizens, vehicles and cargo handling and put in good order passage procedures; it also contains the list of in-and-out checkpoints on the demarcation line (hereinafter checkpoints).

In conversation with the citizens standing in line to Mayorsk checkpoint to cross the demarcation line, the monitors obtained information that the checkpoint personnel requires to produce a power of attorney for motor transport, notarial powers of attorney when crossing the demarcation line with other people’s children, or one of the parents.

The checkpoint personnel accepts only the passport of the citizen of Ukraine that in some cases makes impossible crossing of the demarcation line by citizens having problems with the passport or not having it at all.

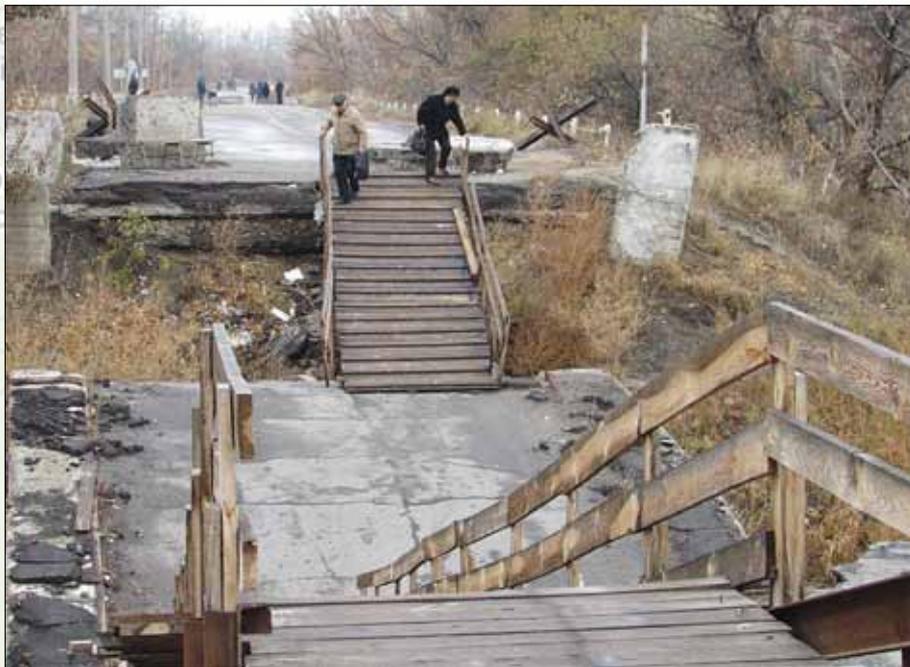
Separate observations concerning the situation controlled by Ukraine at the in-and-out checkpoints will be noted below. Unfortunately, there was no opportunity to consider the situation at the checkpoints in the area uncontrolled by Ukraine.

#### Checkpoint “Stanitsa of Luhansk”

In the **Stanitsa of Luhansk**, the demarcation line between controlled and uncontrolled territories runs along the Siversky Donets River. This river flows not far from the suburbs of the Stanitsa of Luhansk; it is spanned by the road bridge, which, at the time of our visit, provided the only corridor in the Luhansk Oblast for in-and-out passage of

citizens on the way to the territory controlled by the armed forces of LNR and back.

The people drove up to the checkpoint by regular buses, minibuses, cars, passed through the Ukrainian checkpoint, and then followed along the bridge to the right river bank controlled by separatists. On that side, they used other vehicles to reach Luhansk. In the same way they returned.



*Stanytsia of Luhanska. Blown up bridge*

Only people having special permits issued by the Ukrainian authorities are allowed to pass through checkpoint. Such permits may be obtained with the help of Internet. This regulation was implemented by the authorities of Ukraine in 2015. Meanwhile, the separatists introduced no permits for crossing the “border”. The process of obtaining permits takes up to two days, sometimes about seven days. Usually all necessary documents are e-mailed to the SSU which emails back a number which should be told to the checkpoint personnel. The monitors obtained such permit for checkpoint crossing for the next monitoring trip; the procedure took them no more than half an hour for entering of necessary data into the database in the case of personal communication and about a week when using the Internet.

Near the checkpoint two big army tents with cast-iron moveable wood stoves were pitched in

which it is possible to be warmed, hide from a rain, get a cup of tea and rusks free of charge. The toilets are located nearby.

People in the line told the monitoring group that on the way to separatist checkpoint there is no place to warm oneself.

The passage through the demarcation line is controlled by frontier guards and customs officers like on the state boundary.

The checkpoint begins to work at 7 a.m. and closes down at 7 p.m. Since this time, people waited in line to pass through from 2.5 to 7 hours. According to the people waiting at the checkpoint it took them 4–5 hours to pass through. They told that with a little bit of luck they could fix it in 3 hours. On weekends and holidays the line is shorter and it advances faster. In winter the situation is better as there are less people there.

According to those waiting in line, on the side controlled by LNR, the enforcers permitted disabled people, old persons and persons with children up to 5 years to jump the line.

From the side controlled by the Ukrainian authorities only people with children up to 5 years could jump the line.

People bore and carried bags, backpacks, and luggage trolleys full of provisions to the territory controlled by separatists from the territory controlled by the Ukrainian authorities.

The restrictions in force are as follows — see “The temporary regulation of control of passage of individuals, vehicles and goods through the line of contact within the borders of the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts”: the total weight of products carried by one person should not exceed 50 kg, and their cost should not exceed UAH 5,000.

But in majority of cases the people carried less: they are just physically unable to carry or move with a trolley on the planked footway fixed on the blown-up bridge spans.

The members of the monitoring groups questioned a number of people standing in line. According to their answers, the Ukrainian enforcers were not rude. The main claim to Ukrainian authorities is that crossing point works too slowly.



*Stanytsia of Luhanska. In/Out Checkpoint*

### **“Pension tourism”**

The people (the majority is of retirement age) patiently stood in line to pass: some of them were on their way to their families, some, on the contrary, were returning after friendly visits, some people carried products from the Ukrainian territory to the separatist territory, some of them were “pension tourists”. The latter are those who has regularly to go from the territories controlled by LNR–DNR to the territory controlled by the government of Ukraine in order to get their pension. The matter is that since November 2014 the authorities of Ukraine stopped paying all social benefits and pensions in the “separatist” territories.

The government stated that it did not deprive pensioners of the payments which were due to them: it continued assigning pensions to their accounts. But in order to use these means, the pensioners had to leave “separatist” territories, become registered in the new place of stay as dis-

placed persons, document the very fact of dwelling there and only then they would be able to use their pensions.

The majority of the elderly people living in territories of LNR and DNR had no power to make it. Very few people would decide to go to an unknown destination, look for a place in refugee camps or spend pension for the rent of housing.

Mainly those who had relatives to stay with embarked on such a travel. However, soon various “roundabout” schemes were invented. In the territory of Donbass controlled by the government of Ukraine there were intermediaries ready for a certain sum to provide the fictitious registration and documents proving that the pensioner had allegedly moved here from the “separatist” territory. The pensioners, their relatives or people authorized by them cross the “front line” to withdraw pension money from a card and to return back.

Recently the government of Ukraine issued the order about a suspension of payments of pensions until pensioners come personally and confirm their stay in the territory controlled by the Ukrainian authorities. And again the elderly people fared forth in person.

At the same time, the people complained that disabled people could not arrive for Ukrainian pension registration if they could not be transported.

There is a serious problem of passing medical and sanitary expert commission on disability for confirmation of the degree of disability, transportation of disabled persons who cannot move independently or experience serious difficulties with movement, which the Ukrainian government has to consider and solve urgently without allowing deterioration of financial security and possibility to receive medical care by persons with limited possibilities of movement in the uncontrolled territory.



*Stanytsia of Luhanska. In/Out Checkpoint.  
This woman will be transported  
too over the blown up bridge*



*Zaitseve In/Out Checkpoint.  
Regular bus to the occupied Horlivka*

### **Hnutovo Checkpoint**

It takes no more than one hour to wait to pass the checkpoint on Ukrainian side. The passage is intended for cars and pedestrians, but trucks are not allowed to pass. The line from the side of DNR to-

ward the controlled territory is longer.

The checkpoint is not under fire; fire is delivered on the targets “in the fields” where troops are located.

The people were primarily motivated by their desire to get pensions or to process documents.

The minibuses take them only to a stop 300 meters from the checkpoint, then they proceed on foot, on the opposite side there is a minibus to Novoazovsk. The DNR post permitted persons with children up to three years to jump the line, the Ukrainian post let to jump the line only persons with babies up to six-months of age; earlier it was up to 1 year.

There is no chargeable passage here: the line is short, therefore there is no demand for such service.

The checkpoint was opened in December 2015; the passing is available from 7 a. m. to 8 p. m. The cars may go through two ways, two lanes. The frontier guards regulate the passing of cars; if the stream of cars on one side is bigger, they open an additional lane at the expense of a counter flow.

The commander of the frontier guards on duty on checkpoint informed that the daily capacity of crossing point makes on the average 4.500 people and about 1,200 cars. The additional servers and employees are placed.

Almost all passers are locals; therefore the registration and passing are simpler, than in other places. However, recently people from Donetsk and its vicinities began flocking because the procedure is simpler here than in Zaitsevo.

The problems to be dealt with are as follows: the awnings and canopies are needed to protect people against sun, rain or snow. They are being built already. “Doctors without borders” promised to deliver reservoirs for water.

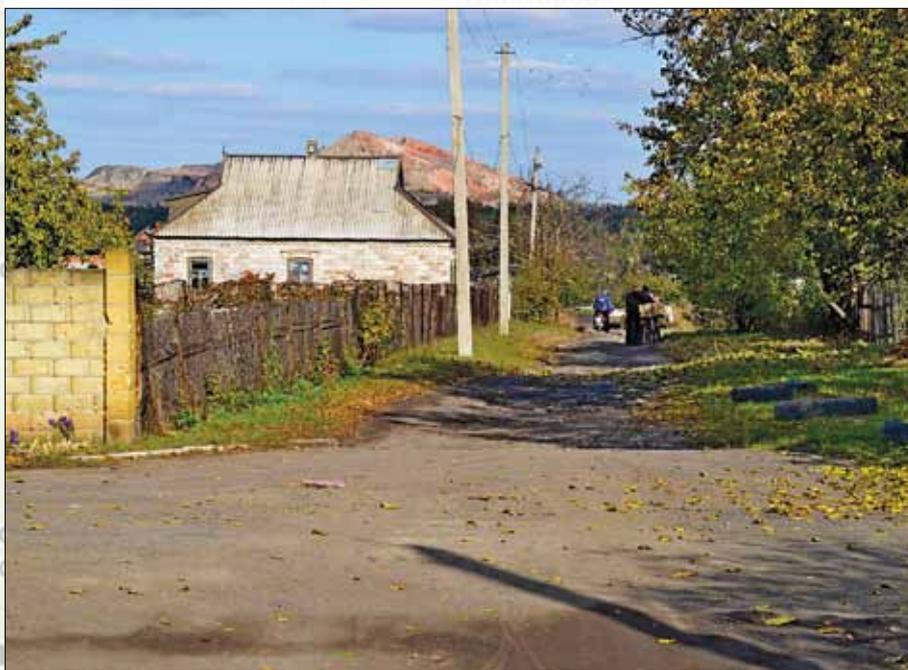
It is quite around the checkpoint in the afternoon; at night shots are heard, but there is no direct threat.

The groups of 40–50–60 persons are let through. The territory controlled by DNR is less than three kilometers away.

The frontier guards on duty have no weapons not to provoke firings from the side of DNR and not to endanger civilians in lines.

### Unofficial crossings of the demarcation line

The monitors have found that in ATO zone there are unregulated crossings of the demarcation line into where the local population passes from the controlled territory to the uncontrollable one and vice versa.



*Unauthorized transition point in Maryinka toward occupied territory*

So, near the **Village of Lopaskino** (Luhansk Oblast, several kilometers from Triokhizbenka) there is an unofficial riverboat crossing on the

bank of the Siverskyi Donets occupied by separatists.

Those who needed to visit relatives in the territory of LNR came to Lopaskino, dialed up a number known to locals and ordered a boat and after a short ride they reached the opposite bank.

All and everybody know about this crossing, including military and military and civil authorities, but they look through their fingers at it. This crossing is also used to deliver food to the opposite bank.

The locals tell about three children of school age that live in Lopaskino on the left bank. The school is situated in the settlement directly opposite — on the other bank.

These children go to school and use this riverboat crossing to the separatist bank on a regular basis.

Acting head of military and civil administration of **Triokhizbenka** Ruslan Tkachuk appealed to the oblast administration to open two-way crossing for locals, but such solution is outside competence of oblast administration and higher authorities are silent so far.

He knows about the riverboat crossing in Lopaskino, but does not interfere with it.

The main request of inhabitants of Triokhizbenka expressed to monitors was to open the Siverskyi Donets Bridge for traffic to Slovyanoserbbsk which is six kilometers away as the crow flies.

The end spans of this road bridge were blown up on both sides; they were replaced with temporary wooden spans on piers made of automobile tires.

Therefore it may be used as a footbridge only.

Until April 2015, the pedestrians could use it showing to military their passport with registration in Slovyanoserbbsk Region.

But then this movement was stopped.

Head of **Popasna Region Administration** Roman Vlasenko in his conversation with monitors pointed that it is necessary to increase the number of checkpoints for delivery to war-ridden areas of food, medicines, rendering necessary services, etc.

It is important that the people there saw how people live here and compared these ways of life.

In this region the road **Popasna – Novooleksandrivka continues to function unofficially** as a “life path”.

The military bend the rules in favor of letting through the staff of the NRC humanitarian organization with freights for the Pervomaisk controlled by separatists.

According to the locals, in **Zolote, before opening of the checkpoint**, they used to go to the opposite side and back unofficially on numerous country roads which had often been mined. Respectively, in connection with closing of checkpoint in Zolote such unofficial crossings of the demarcation line continued.

At the same time many territories around Zolote are mined.

## Conclusions and recommendations

*In general, according to monitors, the situation with crossing of the line of contact through the checkpoint «Stanitsa of Luhansk», which is the only open crossing in the Luhansk Oblast, demands significant improvement, first of all through improvement of logistics of crossing, reduction of waiting time and creation of normal conditions for the people crossing the demarcation line, especially for those, to whom it is difficult to wait for a long time in the open air.*

*At the same time, it is also necessary to grant safety for all those crossing the demarcation line and making this crossing possible.*

*It is necessary to make official and legalize the small boundary traffic existing de facto, expand it having ensured at the same time the safety of those crossing the demarcation line.*

## 5. SCALE OF DESTRUCTION AND PROGRESS OF WORK

The military conflict in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts inevitably led to large-scale destruction and response to the devastation is high on the agenda while returning to peaceful life in these territories which needs huge resources and targeted programs of restoration of damaged and destroyed property.

In the territory of Luhansk Oblast controlled by the government of Ukraine about 9,000 objects were ruined and their restoration needs over UAH 8.8bn, including:

- 7000 houses, including 794 municipal, 6206 private (UAH 750 mln);
- 417 roads (UAH 4.4 bn);
- 32 bridges (UAH 170 mln);
- 94 medical institutions (UAH 300 mln);
- 113 educational institutions (UAH 330 mln);
- 14 industrial facilities (UAH 1.7 bn);
- 256 objects of engineering networks (UAH 600 mln);
- 79 cultural institutions and sports (UAH 180 mln).

In two years a part of schools and medical institutions, community facilities were restored. UAH 34.0 mln were spent to restore 228 houses of community property and UAH 4.48 mln to restore 880 private household. As of August 2 there remain 5,892 destroyed/damaged houses of all forms of ownership.

In 2015, UAH 145.8 mln of budgetary funds were allocated for restoration of infrastructure in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

The assessed value of restorative works concerning the documented destructions (according to table 1) makes UAH 3.656 bn (as of August 2016)<sup>2</sup>.

In the settlements visited by monitors one could see the scale and concrete examples of destructions and also how the buildings and constructions, and infrastructure facilities destroyed as a result of military operations were repaired or rebuilt.

<sup>2</sup> The data are presented referring to the report of the KhHRG “Destruction owing to military conflict” prepared by Yu. Aseyev and Ya. Smelyanskaya, participants of joint monitoring trips.

Concerning the territories of Donetsk Oblast controlled by AFU, the oblast administration showed the following data on all types of destructions (including gradation from “annihilated” to “partially damaged”:

	Apartment houses	Private houses	Medical Institutions	Schools	Pre-Schools	Higher Educational Institutions	Vocational Educational Institutions	Places of Cultural Interest	Places of Sports Activities	Industrial Facilities	Trade Establishments	Objects of other activities	Office buildings	Objects of Road&Transport Infrastructure	Number of Buildings w/o Apartments, Water, Heating, and Electric Power
Avdiyivka	4	347	1	1	3		1	3		15					1792
Bakhmut	7														
Toretsk	115	451	1	2		2		1	1	4	3	3	1		13
Kramatorsk	1														24
Lyman	1											8		3	7
Mariupol			1				1								
Selydove	2						1								
Slovyansk	13	1672	2	1	1		1	3			3	2			497
Bakhmut Region	59	195	3	7			2	1		1	1		2	1	857
Volnovakha Region	1	852	4	7	1		2	2					1	7	2524
Dobropilla Region										3					
Kostiantynivka Region		1													
Maryinka Region	128	1917	5	13	7		2	5	2	9	29	47	3		16 550
Slovyansk Region		44	1		1			1					3	1	38
Yasynuvata Region	91	1234	7	8	6			5				1	3	4	239
<b>Total</b>	<b>422</b>	<b>6713</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>22 541</b>



The former building of militia in Stanitsia of Luhanska. Damaged as a result of shelling

In the **Stanitsa of Luhansk**, according to Head of Settlement Administration Zinayida Andriyivna Havrysh, in the stanitsa 129 private houses were annihilated, 2,475 apartments in apartment houses or private houses were partially destroyed or damaged.

The reports were completed on 202 damaged or annihilated houses; in 2015, 44 of a total of 202 houses were completely restored, though only the frame, without internal finishing, 114 more were provided with building materials.

All apartments in apartment houses were repaired, window glasses were fixed.

The housing stock is being restored thanks to the aid provided by ICRC, Mercy Corps, and Norwegian Refugee Council.

According to Havrysh, there were destructions and fires in the village as a result of shelling after conclusion of truce as well. So, the biggest school no. 2 and the former House of Children's Creativity adjoining it were destroyed as a result of artillery fire from separatists in August and September 2014. In the building there was a fire, and it completely burned out from the inside; all school property was destroyed.

According to Head of Settlement Administration of Stanitsa of Luhansk, at the time, near school, there were positions of the Ukrainian artillery and the school suffered from the exchange of fire.

Now the children from this school go to the printing-house building.

On July 2, 2014, the Ukrainian aircraft struck a blow at the village; the houses around the MIA Department and the courthouse were destroyed, as well as 1/3 of the houses situated on Ostrovskiy St.; then 11 people died.

The hospital damaged in 2014 by fire of the LNR militants is restored and works. Many doctors who had left returned to the Stanitsa.

Summarizing the destructions inflicted during two-year bombardment, Head of the Settlement Rada noted that even during the war of 1941–1945 the settlement was not damaged to such an extent.

The budget for 2016 envisioned allocating UAH 750,000 for restoration, but, according to the head of administration, it is not enough.

In the visited **Triokhizbenka**, according to acting head of military and civil administration of Triokhizbenka Ruslan Tkachuk, 400 houses were registered as damaged, four of them were annihilated; about 80% of the damaged houses had been restored which, however, did not coincide with the stories of locals and direct observations.



*Triokhizbenka. The woman shows her house ruined as a result of shelling*

The deputy head of the city administration of **Zolote** Liubov Serhiyivna Zubok singled out the main problem as restoration of the destroyed and damaged housing.

The main bombardments fell on the period from fall of 2014 to February 2015.

In the city more than 800 objects of housing stock were damaged, there were annihilated buildings as well, but the precise number was unknown. There are no inspectors of housing and communal services who could assess damages caused to housing and draw up the relevant statements.

There were many direct hits in bearing walls of apartment houses, especially in the Stakhanovets Settlement. There are damaged houses, there were hits to the roofs. The main damages of houses include roofs and windows.

There exist difficulties with search of contract organization for restoration of housing stock. The rehabilitation work requires expert examination and estimate, but it costs a lot, and it is unclear whether the proper some will be allocated. If there is no money, then the scarce city budget money for examinations has been spent in vain. As of the time of conversation the cost sheet was made for 38 objects in the Stakhanovets Settlement, but there are no examinations yet of more than 600 objects damaged.



Popasna. Cheremushki Quarter. Myronivska Street



School restored by the volunteers after bombardments in the village of Troitske, Popasna Region

The Mercy Corps Co. campaign helps us to fit windows with glass. The NRC supplied coal and building materials. The compensations for the lost housing are not paid to people though they built into the budget allocations for this. They amended the legislation introducing categories of destruction of housing, but there are no engineers who

would draw up deficiency act for the Stakhanovets settlement. 8–9 houses are completely ruined.

The Czech organization “People in Need” also renders assistance. The local budget can allocate money for fitting windows with glass; there are no means for anything more costly.

In **Popasna Region**, the Villages of Troitske, Toshkovka were hit the worst, but the main losses of the population are in the cities. The last firing happened on March 30, 2016, three days before visit of Popasna monitors: in Novozvanivka (Troitsk Village Rada) the local house was hit with the UBGL grenade, one man was wounded.

Especially strong firings occurred during the period from November 2014 to February 2015.

The small arms fire takes place every day. Lately, the aimed fire is conducted at dispositions of troops, they seldom target the town. The troops are located along the perimeter; there are no troops in the town.

About 2/3 of the apartment houses were damaged in the city, up to 1500 private houses in the area, 119 out of them were annihilated. The entire social sector was damaged. The administration has approximately estimated the cost of repair at UAH 2 bn, including the cost of restoration of industrial facilities and roads.

Almost all social objects have been restored so far. Problems with power supply: the main power line did not work, the city was supplied by the reserve line, and there are no interruptions. The gas supply is as it should be.



*Crossing instead of blown up bridge in Troitske Village.  
The ambulance refuses to go here exactly  
because of this bridge*



*Avdiyivka. One of the apartments in "Razukrashka";  
this building was damaged more than others  
from bombardments.  
On the horizon there is Donetsk Airport*

Not far from Popasna there is a Troitsk Settlement visited by monitors: there are three houses completely destroyed and many partially damaged houses. The military do not let inhabitants to go to the

part of town on the other side of the river; they maintain that they cannot guarantee their safety. During combat actions in 2015, the village was strongly damaged, it was exposed to shelling from GRADs. In the settlement there is an 11-year school, it was destroyed; now the volunteers have completely restored it and it works: they made a new roof and furnished plastic windows. Also the hospital was repaired.

Andriy Anatolyovych Riabukha, acting head of Novotroitsk Settlement Rada, pointed at an important problem preventing to effectively restore the destroyed housing. He confirmed that the persons injured in

the course of military operations do not receive the state aid as the law forbids restoring private property at the expense of the budget. Only the Ukrainian and foreign NGOs come to the aid of them. The NGOs and funds supply construction materials and perform necessary work only in those cases which meet concrete criteria: small or average damages of housing, i. e. the short-time low-budget work. This is paradox situation: those who have suffered the most and whose capital structures have been destroyed, do not receive any aid. The main donors include

the International Red Cross, Norwegian Council for Refugees which also renders legal aid.

In the settlement of Novotroitsk, the damage statements were drawn up (taking into account the destroyed private sector) on 62 objects. One municipal apartment house was damaged slightly. Five out of 62 objects were damaged seriously. People lived in three of them, two were used as

dachas. The aggrieved received aid, materials were allocated and delivered, but no work was carried out yet. The ADRA and International Red Cross render assistance.

Artem Sabadash, Secretary of City Rada of Avdiivka, told monitors about situation with destructions in Avdiivka. During two years of war 6,000 hits were registered in Avdiivka. About 500 shells at different times hit a coke-chemical plant; two persons died at the workplace, there were wounded persons as well. As massive firings continue, the city authorities do not consider it necessary to map firings. According to him, all and every quarter was shelled.

Daily the observers report on firings: from where, how many for yesterday or for days off if the report is prepared on Monday. The inhabitants furnish information, the hits and destructions are entered up. The City Rada maintains records of destructions. However, they register destructions, but not hits: they do not register shells hitting a kitchen garden and two and more houses destroyed by one shell are treated separately. The administration prioritizes the damage caused to housing and inhabitants. It is performed for the sake of assistance allocation.

The City Rada has a commission which draws up statements on destructions; it includes engineers and builders; they put down the facts of destruction and material damage.

In February 2015 the system of heating was broken, only 8 or 9 out of 186 houses were heated. Water was drained in places only and many pipes burst. In summer of 2015 the firings continued. In the city, during firings, about 60% of window glass was broken.

The aid to the city was granted by as follows: R. Akhmetov's fund, Yukhym Zviahivskiy (former people's deputy and director of Zasiadko Mine), International Red Cross (the food, film for windows), People in Need (building materials, means of hygiene, mattresses, candles, and water). Since December 2014 the building materials began to arrive. The public stock of building materials created by various organizations distributed materials according to the needs. Since November 2015 the "Save the Children" helped to restore many houses, employed crews for recovery work and as of January

2016 they helped to restore about 300 houses and apartments. At times, in the city, 60% windows needed glass to be fitted. Then the film provided by donors came in handy. The most active now are the UNDP, Caritas Fund and R. Akhmetov's Fund. But there is a considerable deficit of donors all the same. In November 2015, time and again they asked to send glass; in the meantime we organized crews and at our own risk (it could be broken again during firings) we began to fit windows with glass for especially needy, so that the old men and disabled persons would not remain in winter without windows. The glass was delivered by People in Need Fund and International Red Cross. From November 2015 to February 2016, we got, cut and distributed to people 16,000 sq. m of glass.

## 6. INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS

As of March 6, 2016, the State Emergency Service registered 1,018 mln. of temporarily displaced persons (hereinafter TDP or resettlers) from the zone of ATO and the annexed Crimea.<sup>3</sup>

The monitors visited several places where the TDP were settled, in particular, in Slovyanohirsk rest house "Svyati Hory" and station for temporarily transferred persons in Slovyansk and could see and register conditions in which the immigrants who had escaped from war had been living over a year already.

On the day of the visit, in the rest house "Svyati Hory" lived about 30 families, about 70 TDP. 40–45 of them were pensioners. No more than 10 persons were employed.

The majority of the resettlers were from Avdiivka, but there were also persons from Debaltseve, Spartak, and Horlivka. They had no opportunity to return home as their houses of the many of them had been destroyed and the front line runs near their houses. One of the inhabitants said that in her house in Avdiivka the block post was set up, and

<sup>3</sup> <http://apostrophe.ua/news/society/2016-03-06/v-ukraine-nazvali-vpechatlyayuschee-chislo-bejentsev-s-donbassa-ikryima/51687>

the house is unfit for human habitation. The military authorities promised to repair the house, but the civil authorities did not lift a finger.



*The camp of compact placement of internal settlers in Svyatohirsk City*

The living conditions of the resettlers in the rest house were Spartan. It was cold in their rooms: if radiators worked, the temperature reached 15–17 °C if not it made 12–14 °C.



*Interview with re-settlers from Horlivka. Svyatohirsk City*

The bills rest house accommodation of resettlers in 2014–2015 were never paid and the rest house now is in arrears with payment for electricity. In response to it the administration forbade to use in rooms electric heating devices such as heaters, teapots, and immersion heaters. The resettlers cook food and boil water in secret from administration hiding their electric heaters. The debts of resettlers for the electric power make about UAH 200,000. They had to pay UAH 14 per person daily.

There was a wood-burning stove on which they cooked food for everybody, the firewood (brushwood) they procured from the wood nearby. There was no hot water, the temporarily displaced persons carried firewood themselves and paid the stoker for his work out of their own pocket.

They received food once a day at the expense of the humanitarian aid Fund of Rinat Akhmetov, but there is information that shortly this aid will stop.

Besides, they receive humanitarian aid in the form of food from the People in Need (once a month) and Good News Church. Once a month they made UAH 40-per-person contribution to the common pot.

Coal for heating is a burning issue. One coal car suffices for a week; the delivered 62 tons of coal sufficed for three weeks. The local administration, Red Cross and Charitable Firm Agra brought them coal.

As a result for heating the resettlers gathered firewood in the wood and paid the stoker.

Their source of subsistence is their pension and resettlement payments which they receive regularly.

As of March 2016, the resettlement payments made UAH 884 a month for pensioners and children.

The resettlers of working-age did not receive either pensions or resettlement payments. For the first two months they received UAH 400, the next two months UAH 200, and then the payments were stopped.

There is no work for resettlers in Svyatohorsk. Earlier one could find once-only work. Now the employers want to know whether they are resettlers, and if so they show the door. One-way fare in the fixed-route taxi costs UAH 30. Even if you look for work there, then you monthly fare will exceed UAH 1200 that significantly complicates job search in Slovyansk.

The resettlers were afraid that may be evicted from the rest house despite such severe and uncomfortable accommodation (there is no hot water, it is cold in rooms, remoteness from the town where it is possible to find work).

### **The center for resettlers in Slovyansk**

The center was opened in January 2015, the manager and her family live in it almost since its opening. During evacuation of Horlivka and Debaltsevo there were many people there. Someone just stopped for a while, had a rest and went further on, others had to be settled. The last came at the end of May 2015; then the center for resettlers Berizka was disestablished and several elderly women arrived to them. These are mainly resettlers that lived in the center, from Makiyivka, Horlivka, Yenakiyevo, and Donetsk.

In the center for resettlers there were nine children, at the center 30 people lived. But the total of people who at some time stayed at the center is unknown. The resettlers who lived in the center have problems with job placement. They got registered at the job center and received resettlement payments, but if during six months s/he failed to get hired the resettlement payments were stopped. And it is hard to find work now. In general, the man got a job at local ceramic plants.

One woman did not manage to get a job during six months and her payments were cancelled. She got a job next month, but it was impossible to restore payments. Other woman is of pre-retirement age, and employers do not like very much to employ such persons. She also failed to get job during

six months, and her resettlement payments were also cancelled. She has nothing left to live for.

The kindergarten is located far away and it is full up. At the time only one child went to a kindergarten and another one had to go.

The premises of the center belonged to an enterprise; therefore and the cost of electric power was calculated according to industrial rate which was higher, than for habitable houses. As a result they overpaid for electricity.

**The amount of payments to temporarily displaced persons did not allow covering payments for accommodation; there were no programs of local job placement; it is necessary to revise the policy of support of resettlers by the state and local authorities.**

## **7. SCHOOLING**

According to the information gathered, it is possible to draw the following general conclusions:

- practically in all settlements visited by us which are in close proximity to the line of contact — in the Stanitsa of Luhansk, Triokhizbenka, Zolote, Popasna, Troitsk, Krasnohorivka, Maryinka, Avdiyivka, Myronivsk — three schools were exposed to firings and they are not restored properly;
- in all settlements under control of the Ukrainian government without exceptions schooling did not stop, in the most hard times when firings were regular and the threat to security of pupils and teachers demanded cancellation of lessons, the educational process was carried out remotely;
- in most cases the schooling was resumed as soon as possible;
- the repair and restoration of the damaged buildings were a priority for the authorities; when several schools were destroyed (for example, in Avdiyivka, Krasnohorivka), pupils of different schools continued training in the best prepared schoolrooms. The availability of a bomb shelter was a must.

Because of the lack of bomb shelters or basements which could be used as such shelters, in Avdiyivka in 2015 from the beginning of school

year till October–November, the preschool institutions did not work and children of preschool age had to stay at home, which, naturally, kept parents of such children from returning to Avdiyivka for full-time residence after departure during the most fierce military operations in the winter of 2014–2015.



*Stanytsia of Luhanska. School which burned down as a result of the direct hit of a shell*

In our study analyzing the problem of schooling in settlements which are in close proximity to the line of contact and suffered the most from military operations, we concluded as follows.

During our visit to the Stanitsa of Luhansk we established that the biggest school no. 2 and adjacent former House of Children’s Creativity were ruined by separatists who delivered air strikes in August–September 2014. The building caught fire and it completely burned out from within; all school property was reduced to ashes. At the time of arrival of the monitors in the Stanitsa of Luhansk three schools were working (eleven-year secondary schools); they train about 340 schoolchildren.

The pupils and teachers of school no. 2 were temporarily placed in the printing house (there is also the editorial office of Vremya Newspaper), classes 7 through 11, as well as in the kindergarten, classes 1 through 6. It is the school with in-depth studying of English.

At the time of conversation at school (it took place on March 29, 2016) a little more than 100 children studied. It isn’t much, but the children continued to arrive in spite of the fact that the end of academic year just round the corner. At the beginning of academic year there were about 80 pupils. The biggest class is the 6th numbering 14 pupils, the smallest one is the 9th numbering only 4.

Some pupils after the schoolhouse had burned down went to other schools. Besides, there were 8 pupils in the 10th grade and 14 in the 11th coming to this school from the territory uncontrolled by the Ukrainian authorities. They were trained according to the system of external studies, i. e. received tasks by e-mail and also sent back the tasks fulfilled.

The staffing has been reduced, e. g. there is only one physical education teacher at school, though usually there are two or three of them.

The integrated school has classes both in Russian, and in Ukrainian. So, classes 3, 5, 7 and 9 receive instruction in Russian; there are two five grades: Russian- and Ukrainian-speaking. Other grades receive instruction in Ukrainian. The Russian grades are provided with in-depth study of Ukrainian, and Ukrainian grades receive an advanced course in English.

Before the war there were more than 400 pupils at school, all classes 1 through 11 received instruction in Russian and in Ukrainian.

During especially intensive firings in winter of 2014–2015, the school resorted to distance learning, but education did not stop, and teachers went to work. No pupils were hurt.

Two other schools of the stanitsa were also damaged: there were hits in the roof and close explosions broke out windows.

The project for the restoration of the school no. 2 is available, money should be built into the budget. The teacher, with whom we managed to talk,

explained that there should be a school near the center of the stanitsa because the houses are scattered all over the territory and it is convenient for the inhabitants to bring their children to school on their way to work.

The material resources of the school are in a satisfactory condition. A part of textbooks was preserved in the library, the missing textbooks were brought by volunteers (“New Donbass”) and donations of other schools from all over Ukraine. The sports equipment was supplied by humanitarian aid organizations and Ukrainian military from the 128th brigade. Nevertheless there is not enough sports stock.

The schoolchildren have one meal a day. At school there is no kitchen, and the food is brought from school no. 1. All children from the first through 11th grade have their lunches free of charge.

Unfortunately, the students showed manifestations of the post-traumatic syndrome (PTS). One tenth-grade schoolgirl stopped to talk and she communicates only in writing. In general, children in comparison with the past times became more silent, quiet, balanced which is not typical for them. The French psychologists volunteered and worked with children and teachers.

The school principal in the Village of Triokhizbenka told us about the situation with schooling in the village the following.

The total number of schoolchildren makes 77 people. There are 13 pupils in the first grade and no more than ten in the rest of grades. All schoolchildren are from Triokhizbenka and from the neighboring Village of Kryakivka<sup>4</sup>. Besides, there are 7 schoolchildren living in the so called LNR, who resort to externship (6 pupils of the 9th grade and 1 pupil of the 11th grade).

The school is designed for 624 pupils, before war there were 180 children at this school. Earlier a military unit quartered in Kriakivka and children of the military personnel went to this school too. But in the 90th this unit was disbanded, and since then the number of pupils declined. The principal did not expect significant growth in the number of

pupils. As of the moment of conversation with the representatives of monitoring group the school was heated, there was electricity.

The pupils of the 1–4 grades had one meal a day: tea with cookies and juice. The senior students had no meal. There was no hot food. The dining room, as well as the gym, were situated in an unrepaired wing of school, repair was planned for the next year.

There are enough textbooks in general, except for the textbooks for the 6th grade according to the new program.

The 11th grade has instruction in Ukrainian, other classes in Russian. Earlier there existed parallel Russian and Ukrainian classes.

There is no English teacher, there is a demand for teachers of Russian. Other teachers teach English when it is possible.

The school bus transports students to and from school. There are no problems with fuel and spare parts for it.

The manifestations of the post-traumatic syndrome were not found. At school, there was a psychologist; besides, it was visited by the experts from the International Committee of the Red Cross, but children had no big problems, and they did not need the emergency psychological assistance.

When the battalion Aidar stationed at the school the classes were held once a week in the out-patient clinic building. Each class had its appointed day. Since November 2014 till May 2015 such mode remained, and from January 19, 2014 to February 19, 2015 the training was interrupted because of especially intensive firings.

Two children died as a result of firings:

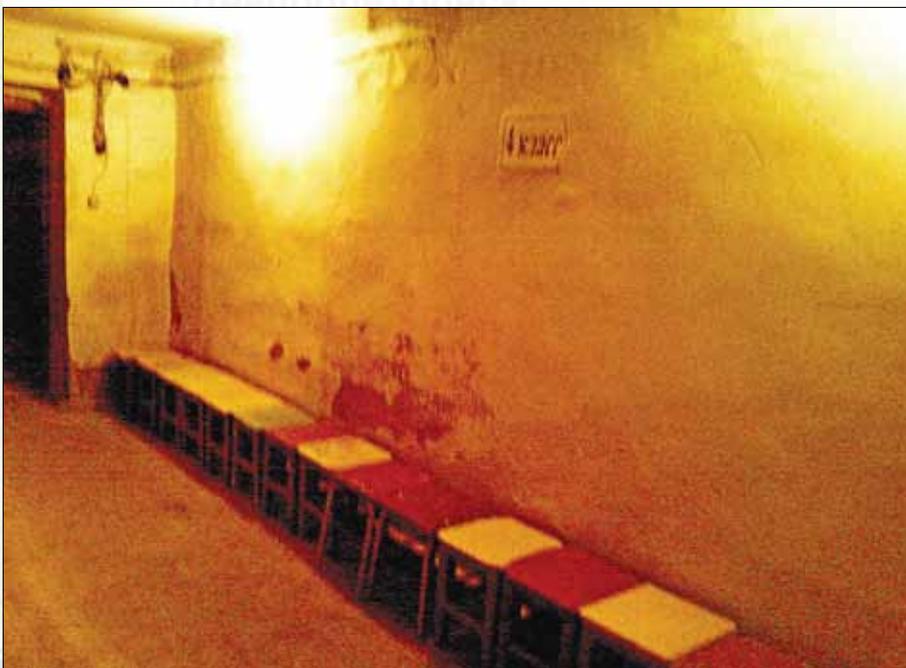
- 1) Valia Kalashnikova who together with her mother in October 2015 was going down the Donetsk Lane, and
- 2) Yulia Ugnivenko (14 years) in Kriakivka at the end of January 2015 and beginning of February during firing at 40-day commemoration of her father who had died while collecting fuel wood. During firings the roof and windows were broken in the schoolhouse.

The battalion “Aidar” stayed in the schoolhouse for about a year. After “Aidar” left the school was in a terrible state: in some schoolrooms the toilets were arranged, in the director’s office the books

<sup>4</sup> Kriakovka is a Village, Novoaidar (former Slovyanosersbks) Region; it borders Triokhizbenka on the west.

from the library and classes were dumped, linoleum was scratched off the floors, many tables, chairs, and the school piano were trucked away. Nobody knows, who needed an old piano. The teachers could enter the school again only at the end of July 2015.

Five KamAZes of garbage were trucked out from the schoolhouse during repair. The roof and windows were repaired at the expense of the state budget: UAH 1 mln. The premises were refurbished-paint, cement, internal finishing – at the expense of NRC. The UNICEF provided exercise books and portfolios. The ICRC provided first-aid kits and the equipment for the air-raid shelter in the basement. All amounts of works was performed by the school staff.



*Bombproof shelter in Urban Settlement Myronivskiy. School no. 9. Here the children studied in the period of strong bombardments*

The gas heating at school did not work as the gas pipe was damaged and there was no gas. Thanks to administration and volunteers the solid-fuel boiler was installed, coal and firewood for it were delivered.

There are no debts on teachers' salary.

There are school desks, some of them old, some new desks were brought from Kyiv. There are laptops, the computer class functions.

The members of monitoring group asked whether in the territory controlled by separatists the in-

struction in Ukrainian continues and the principal answered that in Slovyanoserbsk teaching in Ukrainian continues, there are Ukrainian classes.

In **Zolote**, there is no school; there is a school in the neighboring Settlement of Soniachne. The children were carried there by local bus which ran twice a day there and back: at 5:30 there, at 6:00 back, at 15:00 there and at 15:30 back. Some children go there on foot, but it is quite a distance and in bad weather it is inconvenient. They need a school bus or change of the local bus schedule. In total, in Zolote there are about 25 children of school age.

In the **Town of Popasna** there are 6 schools with 3,500 students, and 3 kindergartens with about 800 children. All schools work, though in some of them – for example, in Troitske and Toshkovka – the repair was not finished or partially was not made.

The kindergartens and schools were closed during local engagements.

**Troitske.** There are 25 schoolchildren in the settlement and one kindergarten. During battles in 2015 the village was badly damaged, it was shelled with multiple rocket launchers Grad. In the settlement, there is an 11-year

school, it was destroyed, but now it is completely restored by efforts of volunteers and operates: a new roof was made and plastic windows foxed. There are no air-raid shelters in the village, only the basement at school.

**Novotroitske.** There are three schools in the settlement, two of them are 11-year schools, two kindergartens, 400 places each, one schoolgarden, one boarding school for children with retarded development, and two sports clubs. The instruction is conducted in Ukrainian, there are no Russian-speaking classes. At schools the schoolchildren were trained in personal security;

the training was conducted by the experts of the Ministry of Emergency Situations.

**Avdiiivka.** In the city, there are schools nos. 1 and 4, as well as no. 5 and no. 6 on the basis of no. 6 and 7 and no. 2 on the basis of no. 7.

The monitors spoke with the management of school no. 7. The director of studies and director of educational work told them that at school there is an equipped basement which is used as an air-raid shelter. Two evacuation-to-the-basement drills were conducted: on the premises of the school no. 7 two schools were working no. 2 and no. 7, and it was necessary to perform fast evacuation. This year there were no causes to use the basement. There were no injured children this year. Firings of Old Avdiivka did not hamper educational process. This year there were no direct hits, but in the past the school was damaged several times. The executive committee of city rada financed the repair works.

As of the beginning of academic year there were 2.5 lesser children at school no. 7, than at the end of the year. At year-end there were about 270 pupils in school no. 7 and approximately as much in no. 2.

Before war there were 676 to 686 pupils only in the school no. 7. The administration is planning to open school no. 2 on its own basis. For the next academic year 37 first-graders have already registered.

This academic year one 11-grade external student; she passed her exams and went to the territory of DNR.

In general, the graduates went to the universities of Slovyansk and Krasnoarmiysk.

There is a shortage of teachers: informatics master chemistry master, they hope that the English teacher will return.

**The administration organized training of children in correct behavior under the conditions of armed confrontation.** There came representatives of various organizations who conducted trainings. However, the teachers complain that nobody coordinated such visits and trainings with them, as a result experts came at the height of educational process, withdrew children from lessons, and then the parents blamed the school.

The psychological tension was a fact; the children matured very much and behaved atypically for

children, too seriously, in an adult way. The school needs psychologist for children on a regular basis, while at the time they made only flying visits. But at the same time such psychologist should not be connected with any religious confession: there were such precedents and parents blamed the school again.

There are no problems with the salary of school teachers and personnel.

At school there was no Internet because of problems with landline phones. The plant provided Internet for administration and not for educational process.

They heard nothing about involvement of minors in military operations, construction of fortification, and block post duty.

## 8. SITUATION WITH FIRINGS AT THE TIME OF MONITORING

The firings continued at the time of the trips of monitors in the zone of conflict; as a rule, they fired at certain settlements at night. For example, in Krasnohorivka, Maryinka, Mayorsk, Novotroitsk, Avdiivka, and Toretsk the firings took place regularly. During two trips around the territory under control of the Ukrainian government the monitors managed to visit these settlements right after the recent firings, sometimes carried out on the eve.

In the **Stanitsa of Luhansk** which the monitors visited on March 29 the small arms firings took place on March 31.

In the village of **Triokhizbenka** the firings near the village continued periodically, but the separatists targeted not the village, but the troops placed generally out of the village. In total, according to locals, 30 villagers died as a result of firings.

According to the villagers, they were fired at by certain Ukrainian “mobile groups” of 5–8 cars. A gun or a mortar were mounted on the armored personnel carrier, the latter drives off the village, for example, to a site between the positions of separatists and the village, deploy there, deliver fire and drive away. In this way they imitate shelling by separatists. Or they drive into the village and

deliver fire at separatists from them inviting separatists' fire at the village. According to the villagers, such mobile groups fire not only at the village, but at the AFU positions as well.



*Stanytsia of Luhanska.  
The consequences of shelling*

In response to such allegations of villagers about firings of the village by the Ukrainian side the head of administration gave an example when the house of a villager near the river was shelled and damaged. The head of administration himself came to examine the scene, and the owner went for him blaming “Ukrainians who had ruined his house”. The head of administration together with his subordinates surveyed the place and established that an ATGM exploded there. They found the guiding wire of the ATGM, which led them through the forest and to the river (the positions of separatists were on the opposite bank). The head of administration suggested the owner to go together with him and define the direction of the rocket. They went and the villager saw that the wire directly hit the river. Then he did not go further and said, “Now I understand that your mobile groups drive directly to the river bank and intentionally fire back at the village”.

**Zolote.** Almost every day the fire was delivered from the side of Molodizhny/ The fire targeted not Zolote, but open fields.

In Popasna, where monitors arrived on April 1, the last firing was the day before, on March 30, in Novozvanivka (Troitske Village Rada): a grenade fired from the under-barrel grenade launcher reached the inside of the house and wounded a man.

The region of Popasna was under small arms fire almost every day. Recently the precision fire targeted the disposal of troops, they rarely aimed at the town objects, according to the head of Popasna Region administration. The troops are located along the perimeter, there are no troops in the town. The most intense direction was Luhanske, in the vicinity of Toshkovka (or Novotoshkovske), Novozvanivka, and Bakhmutivka.

The Popasna–Katerynivka road is dangerous as there could be land mines. Mine clearing of border territories and fields is underway.

**Toretsk.** On the night of arrival of the monitors the firing was heard; one week earlier a woman was killed in the Settlement of Artemovo. The road to the Settlement of Shumy was closed, and the military blocked it as a dangerous zone.

Our company, who accompanied us in Toretsk, Ye. B., a face-worker, told us about strong firing in the small hours. According to him, from his window he can see the Petrovsky Hill, Avdiyivka, and Donetsk. From 2:30 to 3:00 fire was delivered from the Ukrainian positions: self-propelled gun or artillery, not a mortar. Most likely, it was a self-propelled gun; there is a dirt road in the fields, one can drive there, fire a shot and freely drive back. In his opinion, the standard design of night fights was as follows: a DRG tried to penetrate into the territory controlled by Ukraine, Ukrainians fired at them from small arms, the DNR answered with mortar fire, and then the AFU used artillery. The engagement lasted for 30 minutes, and then died down. Such scheme was followed by the events on 12.06 and on 19.06.



*Toretsk. Interview with Yevhen*

On June 17 there was a firefight on Mayorska, where the blown-up railroad bridge on a branch leading to the Mykytivka District of Horlivka; according to him, 1 AFU soldier and 3 DNR militants were killed in action, one was taken prisoner, and then Ukrainians applied artillery.



*Avdiyivka. Local resident tells about the consequences of over-night shelling*

Approximately one week prior to our arrival the DNR artillery from Horlivka delivered a blow to the stadium where the military commandant's office was

located, and missed it by some 100 meters and eight shells hit the houses on Toretsk St. and Tolstoliubov.

On the stadium the military live and light armored vehicles are kept. Earlier, in 2014, there were also heavy vehicles, but now it has been taken out from there. In the city they say that from the stadium the military deliver artillery fire, but Yevhen maintains that it is not so and that his friend lives near stadium and he says that no firing was delivered from the stadium.

B. N., the resident of the settlement near the Yuzhnaya mine of told about firing one night prior to our arrival. She said that there were 4 firings during a month; the strongest one happened this past night. The shells flew over the settlement. They fired from Shumy (the AFU troops hold a position near Shumy) and from Horlivka.

In the Village of **Verkhniotoretske**, the SSU officer at the zero checkpoint said that the firings never ceased, they occurred mostly at night, but there also happen single shots in the daytime. Yesterday, one Ukrainian soldier was killed and three more were wounded.

**Town of Avdiyivka.** The locals at the bus-stop told that they suffered damage the most from shelling of Lermontov St., or Lomonosov, Kirov, Sportyvna.

The monitors visited the recently shelled site and house and talked with the owner Yu.,

who lived on 5, Peremohy St.

The day before yesterday, at about 3:00 a. m., the shell or a mine hit his yard. At the time his wife and he were sleeping in the house. The shell hit the neighboring house footing, the doghouse was

completely destroyed. As it was hot outside the dog slept on a concrete floor in a shed; therefore it got off with a contusion and hearing loss (perhaps, temporary). Other damages included a car in the yard and outbuildings. The rest of the night they spent in the cellar which they used as an air-raid shelter.



*Avdiyivka. The consequences of over-night shelling*

At 8:00–9:00 a. m. arrived the military, militia, commandant's representatives, drew up a statement, then arrived head of housing-and-community and ecology department Shakhov and one more chief, representatives of local administration, they drew up the statement too, then arrived the military, photographed, looked for splinters, collected something and left. The OSCE representatives also visited the site.

The car was also damaged from explosion: the glass was broken, the body of the car was cut with splinters. In the neighboring house no. 3 this shell pierced the wall and ruined the bedroom. The neighbors were absent that night; otherwise they might have been killed. Another shell fell on the railroad tracks 100–150 m away from the house.

The firing never stopped; on the night of our arrival there was a strong firing; the hits were on Ordzhonikidze St., near “Melnytsia”, there were hits in Old Avdiyivka on Stepova St.

According to Yuriy, at night they start with firing from small arms — sub-machine or machine guns, then follow mortars or grenade launchers and final-

ly artillery comes into action. By the dawn, the firing stops, and inhabitants leave their cellars. In winter, they generally fired shots from the small arms, but there were no shelling from the heavy weapons, such as now, and they didn't target the residential quarters. In the afternoon, as a rule, there were no firings.

He was sure that the Ukrainians were instigators; he maintains that he hears from where the firing begins, and DNR does not react, and the last firing which hit his property was intentionally provoked, and the DNR is not to blame. The DNR may answer with a machine gun fire, but not with heavy artillery. Yuriy claimed that there were cases when the first shots were from the rear of the Ukrainian army, from the opposite side of the demarcation line.

Yuriy heard a gunshot, sound of a flying shell, and the sound of heavy explosion, and he said he could define the direction of fire. By the time from the shot to explosion he determines where they hit. Two shots came from the Chorna Sotnia and it's obviously not DNR's doing. If the interval is below 1 min., the Yasynuvata post is shelled, if 2 minutes then the 100th quarter of Donetsk is under fire.

In Old Avdiyivka, a group of citizens at a shop on Kirov St. told that shells hit the houses quite often, but practically always at night. The bullets may fly in the district at daytime as well; yesterday a bullet bounced and pierced the roof of the porch to the shop. In the evening before firing the telecommunication is usually interrupted, probably, they jam it. You cannot call an ambulance or firefighters. The locals noticed that if there was no communication, the firing would begin soon.

***During firing, both electric power, and communication broke. There was no mobile communication during firings; if you needed to call an ambulance or firefighters, you couldn't do it.***

They did not know who and from where delivered fire. Recently, Levanevskiy and Kirov streets were often under fire. Recently there were no casualties; one woman was wounded about two weeks ago.

A local resident told that in the attics of the houses taken by the Ukrainian military the Polish women-sharpshooters (!) sit and target Russian-speaking locals. This is a striking example of the influence of propaganda.

On Shevchenko St. / Levanevskiy St., a local resident told that there were serious destructions about 3 weeks ago. Firing was heard every day, but recently it became calmer; they shoot primarily at night.

The bullets reached the kitchen gardens even in daytime, about four weeks ago the bullet hit the head of a local resident who went to her kitchen garden. She died. He himself concealed himself from the bullets hiding behind the houses and out-buildings.

For all the time of the conflict about 50 people were killed in the city; these are people whose death is directly connected with military operations. The overall loss from fights was estimated at 150 people who did not die at once and suffered from a shock wave, etc.

About 450 people were wounded during military operations (bullets, splinters, explosions). There were also those who had failed to avoid mine blasts, but they were not singled out from the general statistics. The children were also injured, but he could not tell the exact number.

**Krasnohorivka.** The local women near the high-rise building on Lenin St. told us about night firings, but rather far away: Stalinka, Borysivka.

Two days prior to our arrival the settlement was under strong fire, there were wounded. The hits were on 4, Suvorov St., 23, 26, 32, Kirov St., the high-rise buildings were damaged there. At school the roof was pierced with holes, two classrooms were damaged.

There was firing in the past too; the shells hit Soniachne, Eastern residential districts, Borysivka. Firings occurred every night; they began around 22:00 and stopped by 3:00.

They couldn't tell what objects were targeted and whether they hit troops or block posts.

Three days ago hard a woman was severely wounded with a bullet. This morning there has been small-arms firing from.

A shell hit the house on 4–12, Suvorov St. recently: the window was broken, two persons were wounded, and one of them was taken to the intensive care ward.

### **Family of the plant workers**

A woman and her daughter, plant workers at the refractory materials plant, which did not operate since July 13, 2014, invited to the apartment to show their living conditions; they also said that during firings they did not leave their house and concealed themselves behind main walls in the corridor not to be hit with glass splinters, or behind three bearing walls at the front door.

Both sides delivered fire, one after another. They have already learned to distinguish a shot from an explosion by the character of the sound. Two days ago they heard explosions followed by shots; therefore, the exchange of fire was initiated by the DNR. If her sister called her from Mykhaylivka and asked "What's up?", it meant that DNR opened fire.

On June 15, there were hits targeting the house on 7, Microdistrict Soniachny, three floors burned down. On June 17, the same house was hit, the 6th entrance. The fire trucks arrived, but could not extinguish fire without water. The people were evacuated, but no housing was provided. They stay with their acquaintances.

It was a bit quitter now, but in the last two weeks the firings were very strong in the evenings and at night.

They began from 19:00 and continued till 4:00. They targeted the area of the school no. 1, there were many hits.

The people were tired and became embittered; here everyone needs to be taken out for health improvement; they need rehabilitation and psychological aid.

In the evening people hide their children at home, after 20:00 the people do not leave their houses at all.

Firings were resumed since the end of May. The last 10 days the shelling was especially powerful. Firing began approximately at 21:00 to 24:00 and continued till 5:00, the heavy artillery pieces were used. But it was calm in the last three days before our arrival. Recently three persons were injured, including one in Soniachne.



*Krasnohorivka. Soniachnyi Quarter.  
All windows were broken*



*Krasnohorivka. Soniachnyi Quarter*

In fact, firing never ceased, but earlier mortars targeted advanced positions, and in the city it was not felt. As a rule, the DNR initiated the exchange of fire.

They began with smaller calibers, and at first they targeted the positions; then the temperature of fighting increased as well as calibers of guns; the shells began hitting the residential areas, school, and technical school.

Maybe, the heavy machinery of the army was located somewhere in these areas or in this direction.

In the fall of 2015, three tanks were positioned in the territory of school no. 4; the Ukrainian military took up position on the school premises.

In 2015 the equipment and military left the area, the school was repaired and it operates now.

Even the center of Krasnohorivka was under fire. There were cases when the shells pierced the houses all the way through.

In June 15, 2016, three shells hit the last entrance to the house facing the field behind which there were DNR positions.

At that time, near the front door, there were two inhabited apartments; one woman living on the 2nd floor got a wound in a leg, her heel was amputated. The apartments of the three first stories completely burned out and intermediate floors fell into the basement.

In 2015, several people were killed in their kitchen gardens; they say that one man was killed by a sniper.

Recently there were no such incidents.



*Krasnohorivka. Soniachnyi Quarter. In this armchair a woman was injured when the floor collapsed*



*Maryinka. In this house four teenagers died as a result of shelling*

Three days prior to our arrival, a shell hit the building on 26, Kirov St. — it might be a slug from the KE penetrator — it pierced the wall and got stuck in the stove plate.

**Maryinka.** The inhabitants said that the firing never ceased: both at night and daytime.

The shots were heard, shells fell on Telman, in Novomaryinka, on Petrovskiy.

The last serious firing took place on June 3, 2016.

The bullets reached the kitchen gardens on Telman, Matrosov, and Octiabr streets.



*Troitske Village. Interview with the secretary of the village rada*



*Chermalyk.  
Restoration after bombardments  
with assistance of the international organization “Karitas”*

**Chermalyk.** On June 14, 2016, around 12:30, the shell hit the yard of a house on 7, Molodizhna St.; the 13-year-old girl got the shell-shock, the front wall and roof were ruined. The statement of damages was drawn up, building materials were allocated, the “Karitas” employed a man to carry out recovery work; he is working now.

In the village, 1 person died: a year ago he got splinter injuries and died of pain shock.

They usually shot from the opposite bank of the river, from the territory of DNR, generally at night and not at the village: sometimes they delivered fire only from submachine guns, and sometimes it was heavy gunfire. They seldom delivered fire in daytime.

**Pavlopol.** In Pavlopol, the 24-year-old man died on a trip-wire mine, just 40 days prior to the visit of monitors. Another one was wounded.

## 9. RECOMMENDATIONS

### The Ministry of Defence of Ukraine and the Ministry of Interior of Ukraine

Develop and introduce into their statutes, manuals and orders clear and unambiguous instructions for paramilitary units, that are supervising inhabited localities near the demarcation line, which would regulate all possible aspects of interaction with the local population. Establish mechanisms for bringing to disciplinar (and if necessary, criminal) liability militants for abuse of power during interaction with the local population. Relocate all state military and paramilitary units from the territory of the inhabited localities beyond their borders.

Develop the concept of the softer control of the territories, which shall be based on the principle of respect for the rights of the local population and the rights of local communities to self-government; implement its regulations, manuals and orders; get it across all contingent of paramilitary units.

Strictly prevent any attempts of discrimination of the local population on the basis of residence and origin (“all the Donetsk / Luhansk people are separatists”). Inform contingent of the paramilitary units on the inadmissibility of certain practices of blocking of separate residential areas, restricting access of civilians to their homes and other property.

Honestly inform the society about non-military losses, without hiding such statistics behind reports of “armed clashes with DIGs of the enemy.” More than a dozen similar cases were recorded by the KHPG’s employees only during 2014–2015, actually, there are many more: the Chief Military Prosecutor Anatoly Matios spoke of about a thousand people as victim is of non-combat losses in the ATO zone<sup>5</sup>.

### The Ministry of Interior of Ukraine

Adjust reception of citizens by the personnel of the regional Department of Internal Affairs in localities situated in the vicinity of the demarcation line.

Inform the population about the the place and time of reception of citizens by the managerial per-

<sup>5</sup> <http://nv.ua/ukraine/events/matios-ozvuchil-neboevye-poteri-ukrainskoj-armii-za-vremja-ato-94259.html>

sonnel and officers of the district police departments in these localities for the realisation citizens's rights to apply to the law enforcement bodies, if necessary, as well as for investigating shellings, destruction of houses and other incidents.

### **The security Service of Ukraine**

Amend the Resolution no. 415-og in order to bring procedures of crossing the demarcation line in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, in compliance with the standards of respect for citizens' rights and their dignity. Ensure the right of civilians to freedom of movement across the demarcation line through creation of additional transport corridors, providing checkpoints necessary infrastructure (both for checkpoint employees and for citizens crossing the demarcation line), simplification of procedures.

Take measures to combat corruption, to provide access of monitors to the checkpoints. Carry out demining along transport corridors of the checkpoints, limiting passage on the corridors solely to mechanical obstacles. Unlock regular passenger connection with the territory controlled by separatists.

### **The Ministry of Social Politics of Ukraine**

According to the data of Ministry of Social Policy, as of the late August 2016, 1 714,4 people were registered in Ukraine as internally displaced persons. More than 80% of these people are pensioners. The legislative acts in force, which regulate the procedure of verification, registration and of the citizens living on the territories controlled by the separatists, fundamentally violate the rights of these citizens. There is an urgent need to amend the procedure for pension payments, procedure of their establishment and accounting. The authorities are obliged to organize on the territories under their control (of the legal authorities) the opportunity to receive pensions by all people who are entitled for them, without making any additional conditions, and regardless of where these people really live.

### **The Ministry of Health Care of Ukraine**

Taking into account the objective difficulties of access to health care by people living in areas con-

trolled by separatists, envisage when arranging health facility budgets in the areas bordering the demarcation line, increasement of funding medical services for the civilian population, related to the increased workload due to the "social tourists" (individuals traveling on the controlled territory, for solving their social problems and realization of civil rights). Create back-up facilities for the medical treatment of people from uncontrolled territories. Take measures to ensure that the existing hospitals, rural health posts and other medical institutions are provided with medicines, medical equipment; find funding for increasing the salaries of medical experts in order to attract them to work in the frontline zone. To ensure non-stop operation of the ambulance stations on the territories bordering the demarcation line.

### **The Ministry of Economics of Ukraine**

Develop state programs for employment and self-employment in Donetsk and Luhansk regions along the demarcation line, including agricultural production, with its subsequent redemption by state enterprises for processing. Implement mechanisms of grants, subsidies, fiscal incentives for enterprises, conducting economic activity and creating jobs in areas of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions along the demarcation line.

### **The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine**

A positive signal to society can be considered adopted by the Cabinet of Ministers the State target program of restoration and development of peace in the eastern regions of Ukraine. An important element of state policy to resolve the conflict in the Donbass could be the approved doctrine of the complex of measures for national reconciliation.

Develop for the population of areas located in the immediate vicinity of the demarcation line, instructions for all the possible mechanisms of implementation of their civil rights in a case of any problem situation.

Develop and approve a program of compensation for the destruction or damage to housing for people whose households were damaged (destroyed) during

the anti-terrorist operation. Eliminate unreasonably strict limits for transportation (transfer) of food and other consumer goods across the demarcation line, which inevitably give rise to corruption. Settle the issue of land relations with those business entities whose lands were occupied by fortifications of the Ukrainian army. Develop a program of attracting investments in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions affected by combat operations in order to create jobs and efficient use of natural resources of the territories.

### **The Ministry of Education of Ukraine**

In a number of inhabited localities situated in the vicinity of the demarcation line, children remained there, have to go to the next educational institutions located on the uncontrolled territory. Such cases are recorded in Lopaskino, Lobachevo, Zhevanka, Semigorye, Novolugansk. Urgently ensure that children living in the controlled area, have the opportunity to attend school without crossing the demarcation line, as well as solve the problem of the right to education of children living on the uncontrolled territories, and forced to move to the nearest school in the controlled area through demarcation line.

### **The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine**

Develop and adopt non-discriminatory procedure for documenting, investigating and verifying ownership of housing, land and property, as well as establish a register of destroyed and damaged property on the territory of inhabited localities situated in the vicinity of the demarcation line. To appoint and to finance the elections of local councils in certain regions of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, where the holding of such elections was abolished in 2015 by the CEC's decision, to insure the right of citizens of Ukraine living in those areas, to participate in local governments. To solve the most important issue of the transfer of persons serving sentences in prisons on the territories controlled by separatists, to the territory, controlled by the Ukrainian Government.

### **The General Prosecutor's Office of Ukraine**

Pay special attention to the need for an objective investigation of all cases of crimes against civilians

committed by all parties of the armed conflict and bring the perpetrators to justice.

### **The Ministry of Communications and Information**

Strengthen informational presence on the territories of inhabited localities situated in the vicinity of demarcation line. Install additional radio and TV stations, increase the power of the transmitter, together with the TV and radio channels develop the broadcasting network and programs considering precisely the interests of the population of Donbass, with a significant share of programs in Russian.

### **The local recommendations**

Amounts of payments for temporarily displaced persons do not allow to cover the costs for accommodation, there are no programs of their inclusion in the job market at the local level. It is necessary to reconsider the policy of supporting such persons by the state and local authorities.

Difficulties with passing of medical-social commission for confirmation of disability, and move to another place of people with disabilities who can not walk or experience serious difficulties with movement, constitute a serious problem. The Ukrainian government should urgently address this issue by preventing the deterioration of financial security and providing opportunity to receive medical care by people with disabilities who experience serious difficulties with movement, living on the uncontrolled territory. Each case of hitting civilian targets should be properly recorded and investigated. Residents of shelled villages and towns should receive accurate and complete information about fire positions from which the attacks were conducted, and who and in what order must compensate the caused damage.

Open connection with Slavyanoserbsk by the bridge over the river Seversky Donets.

Restoration works require conducting expertise and preparation of estimates, but the local governments of inhabited localities, situated in the vicinity of demarcation line, have no financing. It is necessary to provide such funding?, and attract the required specialists in these areas.

# MONITORING ON TERRITORIES BEYOND THE CONTROL OF UKRAINIAN AUTHORITIES

The Kharkov Human Rights Group and Human Rights Center “Memorial” monitored the situation in the zone of armed conflict in the East of Ukraine from March to July 2016. A number of visits have been organised in the zone of conflict during this work. The representatives of the both organizations visited the territories controlled by the authorities of Ukraine. Only the representatives of the Human Rights Center “Memorial” visited the territories which are not under the control of the Ukrainian authorities. The both organizations discussed between each other and agreed on the texts of the reports prepared by the end of this work.

The realisation of the project has been made with the financial support of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). The opinions expressed in the report are only the author’s opinions and are not obligatory expressing the official position of the OSCE on this issue.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

During the monitoring mission, the participants (members of the Human rights centre “Memorial”) visited the territories which are beyond the control of Ukrainian authorities two times: 16–24 of May 2016 and 3–9 of June 2016.

We were collecting information on the consequences of hostilities, on restoration of destroyed objects and on the current condition of civil population on the territories beyond the control of Ukrainian authorities.

Participants of the mission worked in the districts of Donetsk, which had suffered bombing in 2014–2016 (Kuibyshevskiy, Petrovskiy, Kyivskiy, Kirovskiy districts, including villages Trudovskie, 1-ya ploshchadka, Oktiabrskiy), in towns Dokuchaevsk, Horlovka, Makeevka, Snezhnoe, Uhlehorsk, Debaltsevo and Inakievo, in villages Novosvetlovka and Khrashchevatoe, village Nikishyno.

Special emphasis was placed on:

- a) the consequences of shelling in the period from May till July 2016;
- b) conditions of civilian sites that were damaged earlier and the extent of reconstruction work.

We interviewed local residents in the districts that had come under fire. Also, we examined and took photographs depicting the extent of destruction and rebuilding efforts. Monitoring mission participants also spoke to officials of the self-proclaimed DNR and LNR where those were willing to comment. The officials we spoke to included first deputy of the DNR Reconstruction Centre, head of essential supplies department in the village of Novosvetlovsk, mayors of the towns of Uhlegorsk and Debaltsevo, deputy mayor of the town of Snezhnoye, in charge of social issues, as well as head of the Novosvetlovsk Regional Hospital.

The DNR Ministry of Construction press centre provided detailed information as to how reconstruction of houses and socially important sites was proceeding. Where we failed to get meetings with officials we limited ourselves to official information provided on the relevant ministries’ websites.

Schooling was given special attention. We examined the extent of destruction and efforts at rebuilding school facilities. We also looked into the learning process that had been repeatedly interrupted

by fighting and shelling, availability of teachers, textbooks and other learning aids, regularity of wage payments to teachers, pupils number, language of teaching (Russian or Ukrainian). The mission visited the following schools that were operational: Donetsk schools no. 101 and 11, Uhlegorsk school no. 41, Debaltsevo schools no. 4, no. 5, and no. 6, Snezhnoye schools no. 1, no. 2, and no. 7, a Novosvetlovsk school (gymnasium) where reconstruction was underway. We examined buildings of schools that were not in operation after being shelled and were never reconstructed. These were Donetsk school no. 106, Uhlegorsk school no. 42 and a school for handicapped children, Debaltsevo school no. 7.

Everywhere we did our best to get local residents' first-hand accounts on how reconstruction of houses and social sites was going on, on how much they receive in salary and pension payments amounts, on how much their incomes match prices on essential items, humanitarian aid that they or their relatives might be receiving, and other aspects of their daily lives.

In most villages and towns, mission members recorded food prices in shops and open-air markets (these figures are available in appendices to the present report).

As part of our study trips to the territories outside the Ukrainian authorities control we crossed the division line at the Maryinka checkpoint. Members of the mission could see the checkpoint in operation and speak to people queueing for entry and checkpoint staff members.

On that occasion as well as in other conversations with local residents the issue of the division line crossing was high on the list of people's concerns. It is important to note that Kharkiv Human Rights Group and Memorial Human Rights Centre staff members also visited Luganskaya Station, Gnutovo, Novotroitskoye, Zaitsevo and Zolotoye checkpoints, all located on the territory under Ukrainian control, and saw them in operation.

When not meeting people or commuting we allocated time for monitoring watching on social and political coverage on local television including attempts to find peaceful solution to the conflict, the

aftermath of the armed conflict, and humanitarian issues.

Earlier, in 2014, representatives from the Human rights centre "Memorial" visited some of these population centers and characterized the situation there<sup>1</sup>. That enabled us to compare previous observations with what we saw during our most recent trip to these villages and towns.

## **2. WORK COMPLICATIONS FOR THE MONITORING MISSION ON TERRITORIES BEYOND THE CONTROL OF UKRAINIAN AUTHORITIES**

The authorities of the self-proclaimed LNR refused to provide accreditation to the representatives of the Human rights centre "Memorial". For this reason, the monitoring process took place mostly on the territory of the self-proclaimed DNR. Moreover, during the second mission to the territory of DNR, it wasn't possible to get accreditation to work on the territory of DNR, as the rules of accreditation had been suddenly changed. These changes caused significant complications. Nevertheless, we managed to visit two population centers near Luhansk, which had been previously seriously damaged during hostilities.

Even though we received accreditation, it wasn't always possible to get information from DNR officials. Our attempt to meet any representatives of the General Prosecutor's office of DNR and to get some answers failed. Upon request for this meeting the press-secretary asked us to send the list of our questions prior to the meeting. After we had done as asked, they refused to meet us with a strange reason: "The General Prosecutor's office of DNR is not a public agency".

<sup>1</sup> Human rights centre "Memorial" report "Between ceasefire and war"  
<http://memohrc.org/sites/default/files/old/files/1658.pdf>

We also failed to get information in the Ministry of Education and science.

After thoroughly checking and copying all our documents (including the accreditation from the DNR press-centre) the head of department on information policy of this Ministry, Aram Azizovych Beglarian noted down our questions (quite ordinary questions — general number of schools, how many of them suffered during the conflict, availability of learning materials, staffing level of teachers, education languages before the conflict and now etc.) and promised to answer them the next day and let us talk to school employees — from what he said, talking to them would be impossible without his approval.

We never got neither any answers nor approval to talk with the staff. However, this didn't stop us from visiting a number of schools and talking with their principals and teachers. When we came to the Ministry for the fourth time, A. A. Beglarian refused to give us any information reasoning his actions as an order from the minister — L. P. Poliakova.

During the second monitoring trip, the press-centre of the Government and National Council told us that because the rules had changed, only mass media representatives can get accreditation from now on. It turned out that human rights organizations accreditation issues are not governed by anyone. In the end we were advised to apply to the Interagency committee on accreditation of humanitarian missions. Upon request to the committee we were told that the accreditation process takes two weeks, that the Human rights centre “Memorial”, being a human rights organization, does not comply to the mandate of this centre.

Nevertheless, as an exception, we were promised that they will look through our matter on accreditation in the nearest. Prior to that they said they would send us the list of documents needed to apply to their centre (a copy of the organization Statute, etc.). The wall of the office we had this conversation in had pictures of J. Stalin and R. Kadyrov on it.

After all no list of documents was sent to us, so we had to work with no accreditation, which added complexity to the mission: no possibility

to meet officials, higher risk of complexities while working in regions close to the borderline.

The Authorized official on human rights in DNR D. V. Morozova, despite our numerous appeals to her apparatus, eluded meeting with us. Her press-secretary didn't give us any answer to the e-mail we sent.

As a result we use the information (including information on forced in-migrants) published on the website of the Authorized official.

We thank the centre on DNR reconstruction management and the press-center of the Ministry of construction of DNR for prompt information reports on conduction of reconstruction works.

### 3. GENERAL SITUATION

Even though many civilians, who left because of hostilities, returned to their homes, life is not back in its ordinary route. The number of people and vehicles on the streets of Donetsk is much smaller than before the war. The districts close to the borderline between the sides of the conflict mostly have uninhabited buildings.

The economical crisis can be seen with a naked eye.

A major part (around one third) of shops and offices are closed, and many of those that work are open during limited hours. The centre of Donetsk is an exception. No commercial adverts can be seen, often political agitation posters are seen instead (very often — pronouncements by the head of DNR A. Zakharchenko).

At the moment, the only currency in DNR is the Russian ruble.

Since spring–summer 2015 state employees and retirees started getting regular payments with no delays in Russian rubles.

Payments are made based on the amount of money people were getting back in Ukraine by the rate of two RUR to one UAH (the actual rate is 2.6:1). Before this, on the territories beyond the control of Ukrainian authorities, state employees were getting no payments and pensions were difficult to get.



According to the data of the Retirement fund of DNR, the average pension is 4015 RUR.<sup>2</sup> This is the equivalent of 1526 UAH, according to the exchange rate in “DNR” currency offices, where 1 RUR costs 0.38 UAH. Provided that, the average pension on the territories of Donetsk region controlled by Ukraine is 1960 UAH. The minimal pension in DNR is 755 UAH

<sup>2</sup> <http://dan-news.info/obschestvo/zhitelyam-dnr-nachali-vyplatu-iyunskix-pensij-planiruetsya-vydat-okolo-27-mlrd-rublej.html>  
 “672.4 thousand people will get pensions in June with the overall sum of 2.7 billion RUR”.

and on territories controlled by Ukraine, before May 2016 — 1074 UAH. (since May, the minimal pension was increased to 1130 UAH, in December it will be increased to 1247 UAH.<sup>3</sup>).

It's obvious that state employees and retirees could not have been paid without significant money infusions from the Russian budget.

Minimal salary is 2514 RUR (1257 UAH). The level of unemployment is very high. Many industrial companies, including factories and mines don't work. Open vacancies offer very low salaries — from 2000 to 6000 RUR. Together with that females usually have less trouble finding work (mainly in trading) than males.

According to official data from the Ministry of economic development<sup>4</sup>:

*General present population in 2015 on the territory of DNR was 2277.2 thousand people, 68% of these people inhabit three biggest cities of DNR — Donetsk (962.0 thousand people), Makeevka (382.8 thousand people) and Horlovka (210.0 people).*

*Similar is the average staffing number of regular employees, which states that in general there are 346.4 thousand people or 15% from all inhabitants employed in DNR, including the situation in the biggest cities accordingly — 146.1 thousand people, 55.3 thousand people, 30.3 thousand people.*

<sup>3</sup> <http://www.profiwins.com.ua/directories1/minpens.html>

<sup>4</sup> <http://smdnr.ru/podvedeny-itogi-vypolneniya-programmy-vosstanovleniya-i-razvitiya-ekonomiki-i-socialnoj-sfery-na-2015-god>  
[http://www.mer.govdnr.ru/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1209:rezultati-programmi-2015-050416&catid=8&Itemid](http://www.mer.govdnr.ru/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1209:rezultati-programmi-2015-050416&catid=8&Itemid)

The average salary of a regular employee in 2015 around cities and regions of DNR floats between 4685 RUR in Horlovka and 10 850 RUR in Zhdanovka. The estimate in Donetsk is 6782 RUR. The difference in pensions is slightly smaller. In 2015 the pensions floated between 2619 RUR in Telmanovskiy region and 4368 RUR in Zhdanovka

higher than in Ukraine (see annex 1), regarding many products in comparison with Moscow prices.

Vulnerable population categories (most retirees, lone mothers, disabled people, etc.) survive with the help of humanitarian food supplies — primarily with the help of Rinat Akhmetov’s aid fund, secondarily — with the help of Russian aid.

High prices on the territories of self-proclaimed DNR and LNR are affected by restrictions from the Ukrainian side on the one hand, but on the other hand the influence of the Russian provision embargo on European food supplies is as strong. Delivering products from Poland to DNR–LNR is possible only through Russia, but trucks with European foods are prohibited from entering Russia.

Starting January 2015, Ukrainian authorities started implementing restrictions for articles of merchandise (including food supplies) on territories, beyond the control of Ukrainian authorities<sup>5</sup>. Consider difference in prices, inhabitants of self-proclaimed DNR and LNR aim at delivering food supplies from the territories controlled by Ukrainian authorities. Currently one individual may carry no more than 50 kg of products worth no more than 5000 UAH. These restrictions do not include supplies delivered as humanitarian aid.

Nevertheless, the flow of supplies from the territory of Ukraine to the territories controlled by separatists didn’t



Handing out humanitarian aid by Rinat Akhmetov’s aid fund in Petrovskiy district of Donetsk

These salaries make it quite difficult to get by. The thing is that the food prices are significantly

<sup>5</sup> [http://www.sbu.gov.ua/sbu/control/uk/publish/article?art\\_id=136476&cat\\_id=135945](http://www.sbu.gov.ua/sbu/control/uk/publish/article?art_id=136476&cat_id=135945); <http://sfs.gov.ua/diyalnist-/zakonodavstvo-pro-diyalnis/nakazi-pro-diyalnist/63768.html>

stop, it simply adopted a criminal model. For example, from the words of an individual connected to organizing such shipments, it costs 70 000 RUR (in UAH) to bribe Ukrainian customs officers and get a truck over the borderline from Ukraine.

Speaking of price correlation it is important to remember that utility tariffs set by the Housing and Utility department on the territories of self-proclaimed DNR and LNR stayed the same as before the war. In addition to this they have been transferred to RUR by the rate of 1:2, the same as salaries and pensions. Even though such exchange rate is a disadvantage in terms of salaries and pensions, it allows recoups itself in terms of tariffs. Public transport prices are low (City transport in Donetsk — 3 RUR, city minibus — 7.5 RUR), petrol is considerably cheaper than on the territories controlled by Ukrainian authorities.

Among significant factors influencing public sentiments are:

- **Propaganda:** DNR mass media present no alternative points of view, use extremely aggressive terminology. Alternative adequate informational services broadcasting in Russian don't exist.
- **War consequences:** Bombings and devastation resulting from them, death of family members and friends hardened the people and reinforced the image of the enemy, maintained by propaganda. Violence, displayed towards many captives and those taken into custody for supporting self-proclaimed republics only further promoted this image.
- **Pension problems:** enactment of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine seized bank activities, pension payments and social payments on territories controlled by separatists. It should be said, that Ukrainian authorities stated that they do not mulct the retirees their pensions. The money transfers are still getting allocated to their accounts. However, converting those payments into cash requires traveling to the territories controlled by Ukraine, registering and documentary proving moving to a new address of inhabitanance. Only then can they get the money. Naturally most elderly people in DNR and LNR do not have the abilities to meet such terms. Not many people would easily set off who knows where

and search for a place in refugee camps or spend all the pension for renting a place to live. Most of those who left were people who had relatives prepared to host them. However, other “under-the-counter” schemes began working full power. Many population centers of Donbass, controlled by Ukrainian authorities, have middlemen ready to forge a registration and documents for a certain price. These documents are to prove that the retiree supposedly moved from the “separatist” territories to the territory of Ukraine. Members of the monitoring mission heard many stories of this during their trip.

Here's an example. Citizen N. F., who had worked as a combined machine operator in a mine for 30 years gets the salary of 6400 RUR in DNR (instead of 3200 UAH). At the same time he registered officially to be getting his pension in Ukraine. To do so he had to forge a place of residents with his relatives in Volnovakha. After that he spent 3 days to formalize all the needed documents at the migration service, retirement fund, etc., and stand in long queues. He had to pay bribes. As a result he was payed pension for the previous 9 months he hadn't been getting it. However, starting 1 of August 2016, pensions to inhabitants of territories beyond the control of Ukrainian authorities are only being payed out by “Oshchadbank” on the territory of Ukraine after official registration. These cards will also serve as pension authenticators. Once every half a year identification procedure is required because otherwise the credit card will be blocked, however the procedure of blocking the card is unclear.

The activities which developed from these restrictions gained the name “pension tourism” — when retirees or their relatives travel over the borderline to the other side to get their money, pay a part of it to mediators and return. Nevertheless most retirees on the territories controlled by separatists don't have even this option to get their pensions. We consider that the responsible government in this most difficult situation currently in place in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, should primarily focus on fulfilling their duties to the most vulnerable parts of their population,

in particular retirees. Authorities of Ukraine were responsible for providing the possibility to get pension payments by those who are supposed to be getting those payments, on the territories controlled by them (as legal authorities), without any additional terms. This would soften the acuity of the question, at least for those who retirees who have the pension cards.

In the recent months the situation deteriorated because representatives of Ukrainian authorities conduct absolute and thorough inspection of factual place of inhabitation of individuals receiving pensions. All this naturally causes irritation and resentment of the population on territories beyond the control of Ukrainian authorities. The further down the harder it will be to overcome/put out these emotions.

- **Transport problems:** many people need to cross the borderline quite often for family or work matters. A huge number of relatives found themselves on different sides of this borderline. In addition, such movement is possible through a very restricted number of access points. The existing order of crossing through these access points by foot or in vehicles is determined by the Ukrainian side, apart from that, the existing equipment and the qualification of staff at these access points cause massive queues (sometimes it takes over 24 hours to get through) with almost no living conditions. This situation inevitably causes complaints towards Ukrainian authorities with no regard to political views of the individual complaining, it also provokes corruption among Ukrainian enforcement officers.
- **Economic situation:** as previously stated, correlation between salaries and supplies prices, especially after exchanging state employee salaries and pensions from UAH to RUR by a low exchange rate cause numerous complaints of population towards the government of the self-proclaimed republic authorities.

***General impression is that in summer 2016 significant part of the population felt disappointed for unfulfilled expectations of spring 2014. “At this point we are against everybody, against both the Ukrainian authorities and our DNR authori-***

***ties” – these were the words of some interviews to the members of the monitoring mission.***

#### **4. SCALES OF DEVASTATION AND THE PROGRESS OF RECONSTRUCTION**

The scale of devastation which the hostilities resulted in on the territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions of Ukraine are enormous on both sides of the borderline between the sides of conflict. Reconstruction works are taking place on both sides of the borderline, but the comparison is obviously not in Ukraine’s favor.

During our monitoring trips we saw that massive reconstruction plans have been launched on the territories of self-proclaimed DNR and LNR. These plans include both multi-compartment buildings and private houses. With no doubt, this has become possible only because the biggest part of these reconstruction works are performed with the help of Russia.

According to the information provided to members of the monitoring mission by the press-center of Ministry of Construction of DNR, the interlocutory figures<sup>6</sup> state that during hostilities on the territories controlled by the authorities of self-proclaimed DNR the objects listed below have been destroyed or damaged:

- 1676 social objects, 621 restored,
- 4233 multi-compartment buildings, 60 beyond economic repair, 825 restored.
- 17 803 private houses, 1793 beyond economic repair, 2596 restored.

<sup>6</sup> The reasons listed below make it impossible to count the exact number of destroyed objects on the territory of self-proclaimed DNR:

- Bombings continue, thus the figure of destroyed or damaged objects is dynamic;
- Bombings and absence of the house owners stop the committees on reconstruction from gaining access to a significant number of private houses to calculate the level of damage. According to preliminary calculations Donetsk alone has 583 houses damaged but not checked, in Iasinovataia this figure is 574 houses.

The process of reconstruction was divided into phases. Currently the second phase is coming to an end.



The first phase took place between March and May 2015. That phase was focused on restoring socially important objects — schools, hospitals, boiler houses, water supply facilities — 293 objects (including 116 — education facilities, 25 — healthcare facilities, 123 — heating supply facilities, 27 — water supply and water discharge facilities, 1 cultural facility, 1 energy facility).

The second phase of reconstruction started in September 2015 and is still active. This phase focuses on reconstruction of social facilities and living premises. According to plan, the second phase includes:

- reconstruction of 436 social area facilities (246 education are facilities, 105 — healthcare facilities, 62 — heating supply facilities, 23 — water supply and water discharge facilities);
- reconstruction of 1189 multi-compartment buildings;
- reconstruction of 2000 private houses — the so-called “2000 houses” plan. This plan includes providing owners with building materials for conducting repairs, which they have to pay for themselves;
- construction of 111 new private houses instead of those totally destroyed in population centers Debaltsevo, Uhlehorsk, Ilovaik, Zugres and Shakhtersk. This program includes four new types of houses (32, 42, 54 and 84 sq. m) depending on the number of people previously registered in destroyed houses;
- construction of three multi-compartment buildings instead of those beyond economic repair.

In the beginning of July 2016, during the second phase of the reconstruction program

334 social area objects and 564 multi-compartment buildings had been completed.

During the implementation of the “2000 houses” program, according to preliminary estimates, more houses will be restored than initially planned — the assumed number is 3728 houses.

111 new private houses had been completed (instead of totally destroyed) in the towns of Debaltsevo, Uhlehorsk, Ilovaik, Zugres and Shahtersk.

In addition, material means saved during these construction works have been used to start building

ding another 18 private houses in the Proletarskiy district of Donetsk<sup>7</sup>.

Currently there is a list of objects yet to approved for reconstruction in the third phase (both social area objects and living premises).

The Centre of reconstruction management of DNR (department controlling the reconstruction process) gave us quite different figures:



*Novosvetlovka. Destroyed in 2014 and reconstructed in 2016 hospital building*

The overall number of social and life support area objects destroyed or damaged on the territories controlled by self-proclaimed DNR is 2574. 4 of them are beyond economic repair, thus new buildings need to be built instead of them. 366 objects had already been restored.

Concerning housing areas, 10 000 residential units in 20 population centers had been currently detected to have been damaged (meaning major population centers like the town Debaltsevo, with 6 villages connected to it). This figure includes both single-storey private houses and multi-compartment buildings.

It looks like the difference in figures given concerning restored objects, presented by the Ministry and the CRM (*Centre of reconstruction management*) took place because the CRM, regarding its statistics report, only included those objects which

had all the documentation prepared on building and repairing activities, and where the specialists of this agency completed their work on the conducted procedures.

Thus there is a time difference between completing repairs and documenting them officially by the CRM, so these objects hadn't been including

into the statistics report if the CRM, but had been taken into account by the Ministry as repaired during the second phase of the reconstruction program.

Similar programs are present in self-proclaimed LNR<sup>8</sup>. For example, as part of the "100 houses" program, they're conducting construction of new private houses instead of those totally destroyed in population centers Novosvetlovka, Khriashchevatoe,

Chernukhino, Heorhievka, there is also a reconstruction program called "2000 houses", etc.

Having failed to get accreditation we could only visit two population centers on the territory of self-proclaimed LNR, severely damaged during the hostilities — Novosvetlovka and Khriashchevatoe.

Previously, in November 2014, representatives of the Human rights centre "Memorial" visited these population centers and reported of the damage they suffered<sup>9</sup>. This time we registered noticeable improvement in reconstruction of destroyed social and living area objects in these population centers.

<sup>8</sup> <http://www.planetoday.ru/programma-100-domov-v-lnr-bydet-yspeshno-zavershena-k-pervomy-dekabria>; <http://glava-lnr.su/content/rukovoditel-administracii-glavy-lnr-derzhit-na-kontrole-realizaciyu-programm-100-i-2000>

<sup>9</sup> Report of the HRC "Memorial" "Between the truce and war", section 2.2. "The destruction of villages Khriashchevatoe and Novosvitlivka Luhansk region" <http://memohrc.org/sites/default/files/old/files/1658.pdf>; [http://echo.msk.ru/blog/orlov\\_oleg/1455876-echo/](http://echo.msk.ru/blog/orlov_oleg/1455876-echo/)

<sup>7</sup> <http://lug24.ru/vlasti-dnr-pristupili-k-vozvedeniyu-18-chastnyx-domov-v-donecke-dlya-semej-iz-prifrontovoj-zony>



*Novosvetlovka.  
Destroyed in 2014  
and reconstructed  
in 2016 hospital  
building*





*Novosvetlovka.  
Destroyed in 2014  
and almost  
reconstructed  
gymnasium building  
in 2016.  
Classes will start here  
in September 2016*



*Uhlehorsk.  
House built as part  
of the «111 houses»  
program*

*Uhlehorsk.  
Kindergarten no. 63 —  
reconstruction  
in progress.  
This building had  
previously suffered  
shelling of roof and walls.  
On the day of visit  
to this town by  
the representatives  
of the monitoring mission,  
the reconstruction  
process had been  
almost finished*





*Debaltsevo. One of the multi-compartment buildings in the process of reconstruction on Lenin str. During the hostilities in January-February 2015 this building suffered a few shelling strikes which resulted in collapse of floor structure between two floors*



*Uhlehorst. From what we were told, during the advancement of separatist units they were using artillery fire to get rid of Ukrainian positioned on top floors of multi-compartment buildings*

The amount of work on reconstruction in self-proclaimed DNR is impressive.

During visits to population centers, representatives of the monitoring mission checked the reconstructed schools, hospitals and living premises (including those damaged severely).

Apart from that they also checked the newly built private houses as part of the “111 houses” program.

The inhabitants of multi-compartment buildings of Debaltsevo, destroyed during hostilities of January-February 2015 and then repaired in spring 2016 recalled the saying: “There was no fortune,

but misfortune helped”.

From their words, the houses they lived in never had any repairs since the 90s which lead to ramshackle of communication cables, water pipes and the roof which leaked during rains.

Now their houses aren’t just reconstructed, but the repairs included new water and sewer pipes, sanitary ware, window frames and even doors.

However, many multi-compartment buildings are yet to be repaired.

All the people we talked to, both the officials and ordinary citizens, mentioned that the biggest amount of repair works is conducted with help from Russia.

It also important to mention the contribution of the ICRC and the Czech humanitarian organization “People in Need” to the process of reconstructing destroyed buildings.

However, their help was much smaller than that of Russia (according to calculations of the officials we talked to — around 3%).

Nevertheless we've been hearing many stories of delays with reconstruction because the building materials deliveries are getting delayed.



*Uhlehorsk. Vera Fedorovna (on the left), 76 years old, lives with her 78 years old husband. In February 2015, a shelling dropped on the maintenance extension to their house, damaged the walls of the main house and, apparently, damaged the electrical system of the house. A fire started in the main house soon after that.*

*The elderly couple asked the authorities to provide them with building materials to at least cover the broken roof. They were refused, reasoning the refusal with the statement that their house was damaged because of fire, not because of the hostilities. Currently the elderly couple live at their neighbor's house while the neighbor is travelling.*

*Her 76 years old neighbor, Nina Stepanovna (on the right) was given building materials to repair her house, damaged in result of shelling. But she doesn't understand how will she physically manage the repairs on her own.*

It should also be said that reconstruction programs include, primarily, multi-compartment buildings and, in certain amount, private houses that had been destroyed by 50% or more. In addition to that, in most cases, owners get just the building material (not always in the needed quantities), and the repair works should be organized by them individually. For a significant number of elderly people, living on pensions this way is impossible.

Sadly the level of devastation is so high that regarding the current speed of reconstructing pri-

vate sectors, it might take years to fully complete the process. The most optimistic scenario, if we use the data provided by the Ministry of Construction of DNR, repairing heavily damaged 3728 private houses will take one year.

The repair of the remaining 13414 houses which can be repaired will take another almost four years. But the reality is that there might be noticeably more damaged and destroyed houses — as was mentioned before, inspection of the private sector had not yet been completed.

Concerning the same data, 1793 houses are beyond economic repair.

In one year, instead of the destroyed houses, 129 new houses will be built. If the speed of construction stays the same, the remaining 1664 houses will take 12.5 years to get reconstructed.

On the territory of LNR, in the village Novosvetlovka alone 850 private houses were either completely destroyed or severely damaged<sup>10</sup>.

Even though the repairs of 13 multi-compartment buildings is coming to its end (one house is beyond economic repair), only 16 private houses have been repaired by May 2016 and another 25 new houses have been built. Obviously, reconstructing the whole housing area in this village will yet take a lot of time and resources.

Will the reconstruction program continue? Can Russia, regarding its own developing crisis, keep up the current level of support?

We don't have an answer.

In general, however, the situation is totally different from that on the territory of Ukraine, where no national reconstruction programs take place at all.

<sup>10</sup> The message to the monitoring mission members from the head of life support of the Novosvetlovka village in Krasnodonski region of LNR, Ovchinnikova Irina Nikolaevna.



In the cases where such reconstructions took place (e. g. Sartana), it was sponsored individually by industrial companies (Metinvest) or by from abroad, including NGOs (EU representatives in Ukraine, Danish Refugee Council, “People in Need”, “Caritas-Germany”). Alas, unlike in the self-proclaimed republics, Ukraine can’t hope for help from Russia.

It should also be mentioned that the biggest damage during hostilities in certain population centers (Uhlenorsk, Debaltsevo, Ilovaisk, Khriashchevatoe, Nikishyno, etc.) was caused by forces of DNR-LNR (and Russian forces) during their advancement operations. During interviews, this fact was confirmed by DNR officials.

Repair works in these population centers (apart from Nikishyno) are active and ongoing.

However, reconstruction programs barely include regions neighboring the borderline both in Donetsk and other population centers.

For example, Oktiabrskiy village, neighboring the former Donetsk airport, is a total devastation scene. Village “1ya Ploshchadka” (Donetsk) has had no water supply in houses for two years, many people spent winter with smashed windows. These regions strongly contrast the center of Donetsk, and this contrast is very noticeable to the inhabitants of outskirts.





On 18th of July 2014 one of the apartments in house no. 6 on Tumaniana str. (“Iya Ploshchadka” village) suffered shelling. Many apartments of the house have smashed windows after that day, some window frames were damaged. No humanitarian aid was given by the authorities.

Since then windows in Apt. no. 18, where lonely 80 year old Leonida Yakubovna Kuprianovna lives, have been covered with plastic film, blankets and cardboard. She survived two winters with this. Her pension is 2300 RUR.

Authorities say that houses in “Iya Ploshchadka” village will only be repaired after peace is reached between sides of the conflict and shooting will stop.



*Nikishyno village*





*Centre of Donetsk*





*Donetsk outskirts,  
Oktiabrskiy village*



Peculiarity of this situation is in the fact that the villages subject to reconstruction are mainly those, that had been destroyed as result of DNR–LNR and Russian forces actions. Those residential areas that suffered as result Ukrainian artillery fire are less reconstructed.

Unlike Russian practice and reconstruction works in South Ossetia show, we never heard any statements about theft of building materials meant for reconstruction<sup>11</sup>. Even more surprising is the fact that during construction of 111 private houses instead of those destroyed, saved resources were invested into building another 18 houses.

## 5. FORCED IN-MIGRANTS

The problem of people forced to have fled their places of inhabitation because of hostilities is a large scale problem. Nevertheless self-proclaimed DNR did not implement any forced in-migrant or IDP status that would allow receiving social payments and benefits. With the help of the Authorized official on human rights in DNR, people of this category are placed in temporary settlements.

According to the information, shown on the website of the Authorized official on human rights of DNR, there are currently over 8404 official forced in-migrants on the territory of DNR, including 1240 underage individuals. 3253 of all the current in-migrants, including 636 underage individuals, live in temporary settlements. 5151 people, including 1504 underage individuals settled with relatives or friends, some of the in-migrants have capabilities to rent temporary residential space.

86 temporary settlements had been created on the territories controlled by authorities of self-proclaimed DNR. 60 of them function (in Donetsk, Makeevka, Khartsizk, Zugres, etc.), 26 are in reserve.

<sup>11</sup> It's possible that the situation in self-proclaimed LNR was different, as mass media reported of arrest of Alexei Rusakov, the minister of construction, on 10th of February 2016 for supposed theft of budget resources.

The currently functioning temporary settlements have 2146 vacant spaces.

Members of the monitoring mission visited one of the temporary settlements in Donetsk, house no. 6 on Rozy Luxembourg str. There are only 495 living there. 120 out of them are people with no homes on the territories controlled by DNR authorities, not even destroyed homes.

These are mainly inhabitants of population centers based in the part of Donetsk region, controlled by Ukrainian authorities. Some of them had been actively organizing the referendum in May 2014, some – combatants in the conflict, some used to be captured or arrested and then exchanged for Ukrainian soldiers, captured by DNR units. These people have no opportunities to move from the temporary settlements.

Some of settlement inhabitants have been living there for 2 years.

Rooms, where the people live, are meant for four to eight people. There is furniture and bed sheets. Inhabitants are given free food. They don't pay for the premises and the utility services.

There is water, electricity, a kitchen with electrical stove on every floor, meant for cooking food. However, they often brake because of overuse and the inhabitants are forced to pay for the repairs personally.

Children of in-migrants are accepted to schools and kindergartens with no problems.

Nevertheless, there are serious problems. Starting June 2016 humanitarian aid from Russia, which used to be given every month, is only given to retirees (with pension of up to 2100 RUR), families with children of under 3 years old, multi-child families, disabled people of I and II disability categories.

Medical services are formally free of charge, but in reality, according to the words of temporary settlements inhabitants, everything needs to be paid for.

Even when the Ambulance arrives on call, the in-migrants are often denied hospitalization.

In-migrants have significantly more problems finding a job than even locals.

## 6. SCHOOL EDUCATION

*In certain population centers visited by the monitoring mission members, we inspected schools, talked to teachers and principals. This allows us to generalize certain information.*

Education process usually stopped only during most intensive shelling, or in those schools which had been severely damaged.

Education process, in most cases resumed on first opportunity.

Most school buildings which were damaged, had been restored with high priority. In a number of cases principals told us that they never hoped in the past that their schools would be in such a good state. Only a few schools hadn't resumed the education process, because their buildings took too much damage or are too close to the borderline between the sides of the conflict.



*Debaltsevo. The building of school no. 6 took a number artillery hits. In February 2015 a missile from a multiple launch rocket system (MLRS) "Uragan" destroyed the floor structures between 1st and 3rd floors in the middle of the main building. Currently the building is fully restored and the education process is resumed*

In 2015 the Ministry of education of DNR approved the new school program. Currently the education process is conducted using, mostly, Russian textbooks; in 2015 schools received textbooks from Russia in the needed amount.

All the teachers are present, we received no complaints on lack of teachers. Teachers receive their salaries in time and with no delays.

Number of hours, given to learning Ukrainian language and literature has been strongly reduced. Ukrainian literature, for example, is given 1 hour per week. Number of Ukrainian classes in schools has been strongly reduced. Only two schools out of all we inspected had one Ukrainian class each, other schools, including those which used to be Ukrainian schools, have none.

The DNR Ministry of education and science's report from 2015<sup>12</sup> states that «*the need for language education by the population is fully satisfied in DNR. If in 2014 preschool education establishments had 10.5% of children been raised in Ukrainian and 89.5% in Russian, then in 2015, 100% of children are raised in Russian at parental will*».

This "language question" wasn't "finally solved"

on the level of middle schools:

*«In 2015–2016 academic years 6780 (97%) classes started in Russian, they have 125 984 (98%) pupils. 170 (3%) classes started in Ukrainian, they have 2358 (2%) pupils.*

*For comparison:*

*In 2014–2015 academic years there 4723 (65%) classes with Russian as education language, they had 99 202 (71%) pupils; 40 519 (29%) pupils studied in 2496 (35%) classes with Ukrainian as their education language. Thus the number of Russian classes grew by 2057, the number of Ukrainian*

*classes decreased by 2326.*

*DNR has 431 (88%) general education organizations, implementing pedagogic activities only in Russian (with no Ukrainian classes) and 3 (1%) general education organizations, implementing pedagogic activities in Ukrainian (with no Russian classes). 54 (11%) general education organizations in DNR pedagogic activities are conducted in both Russian and Ukrainian».*

<sup>12</sup> [http://mondnr.ru/?page\\_id=47857](http://mondnr.ru/?page_id=47857)



*Uhlehorsk. The building of school no. 42 took six artillery hits during hostilities in January–February 2015. The building hasn't yet been restored*

Weekly hours, provided by the “basic plan” for Russian and Ukrainian languages (and literature) also deserve attention:

Grade	Russian schools		Ukrainian schools	
	Russian language and literature	Ukrainian language and literature	Russian language and literature	Ukrainian language and literature
1	6	3	4	5
2	8	3	6	5
3	8	3	5	6
4	8	3	6	5
5	8	4	7	5
6	7	3	6	4
7	6	3	5	4
8	6	3	5	4
9	5	3	4	3,5

*Debaltsevo. The building of school no. 7 hasn't yet been restored*

Russian language is given significantly more time everywhere apart from 1st and 3rd grades in Ukrainian schools.

In this sense, the situation in schools on the territories of Donetsk and Luhansk regions which are controlled by Ukrainian authorities are a marked contrast. Balance between the number of Russian and Ukrainian classes in schools before the conflict and in 2015–2016 almost didn't change here. Members of the monitoring mission noted this during their visits to schools, the same is stated in the official statistics report in Donetsk region<sup>13</sup>.

	2014–2015 academic year	2015–2016 academic year
Ukrainian schools	327	321
Russian schools	76	54
Bilingual schools	213	186
Ukrainian classes	5345(61%)	4862 (62%)
Russian classes	3386(39%)	2924 (38%)



Currently Uhlehorsk has one working school no. 41, the building of this school had two holes from artillery hits, the roof was also damaged. The building is currently restored and education process resumed, however the school is overwhelmed with pupils

<sup>13</sup> Data provided by the desk responsible for norms and quality of preschool and general education at the department of education and science of Donetsk regional administration. Authors express their gratitude for this.

## 7. THE CURRENT SITUATION ON SHELLING

By the time we travelled for our second trip, the situation in the conflict zone in the East of Ukraine deteriorated: according to UNO data, June 2016 has shown peak numbers of conflict civilian victims on both sides of the borderline in the previous ten months. This has been reported by the UNO Administration on coordinating humanitarian issues.

As of from 1st to 30th of June the UNO Administration of the High Commissioner for Human Rights recorded 69 cases where civilians suffered during the conflict. 12 of those cases were lethal, in the other 57 cases people sustained injuries.<sup>14</sup> Together with that 14 people sustained injuries and 5 people died, blown up on land mines or unexploded shells. Report authors state that shelling took place «using different artillery systems, including calibers, prohibited by the Minsk agreements».

During the second monitoring mission to the territories beyond the control of Ukrainian authorities, members of the mission visited 16 places, which had suffered shelling with mines or other shells around end of May – beginning of June 2016, causing damage to civil objects.

These cases took place around Western outskirts of Donetsk (Lenkoranskaya str., Tumaniana str., Shakhterskoy Slavy str., Prepodavateley str., Selidovskaya str., Biriuzova str.), around Western and North-Western outskirts of Dokuchaevsk (Komsomolskaya str., Lenin str.) around Western outskirts of Horlovka (Fadeeva str., Pokydko str.), in Makeevka (Tukhachevskoho str.).

In the cases examined by us, damage was sustained by multi-compartment buildings and private houses, three civilians were injured (one 77 years old woman and two men), one 53 years old man died.

Shell craters left from the shelling, blast fragmentation markings, the fragmentations which we picked up, character of devastation and stories of

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.rbc.ru/politics/09/07/2016/5780856d9a79478dfcbebfde?from=newsfeed>;  
<http://ria.ru/world/20160709/1461956037.html>;  
<http://www.bbc.com/russian/news-36753825>

eyewitnesses point out that during the shelling conducted by the Ukrainian side, weaponry they used, according to Minsk agreements, should have been withdrawn from the borderline (artillery, mortar launchers). Cases of massive strikes or cases of using multiple rocket launchers had not been detected.



*Shell crater left by a mine on the night to 28th of May 2016 near house no. 7 on Shakhterskoy Slavy str. (Donetsk, "1ya Ploshchadka" village). House wall is marked by shell fragmentations, some windows smashed, one of the fragmentations penetrated the door*



*Shell crater left by a mine on the night to 28th of May 2016 in the backyard of house no. 12 on Lenkoranskaya str. (Donetsk, "1ya Ploshchadka" village)*



*Mine explosion marking on Shakhterskoy Slavy str. on the night to 28th of May 2016*



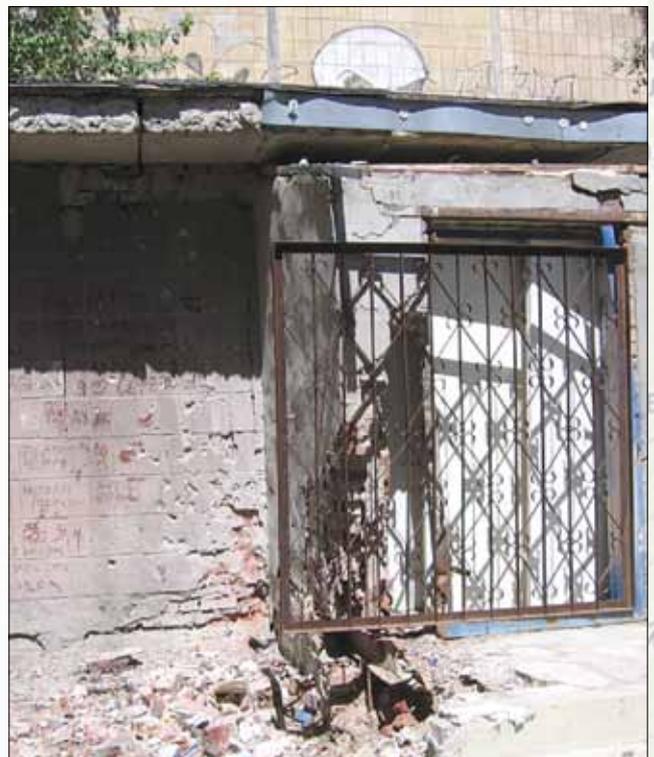
*On the night to 28th of May 2016, apparently, the mine exploded in the backyard of house no. 4 On Prepodavateley str., (Donetsk, "Iya Ploshchadka" village)*



*Blast fragmentations marked the roof, smashed the windows in this house and the neighboring house no. 2, penetrated the metal fence and gates, flew across the street and marked the roof of house no. 9*



*Crater left from a shell explosion approximately 100 meters away from residential area on Prepodavateley str. The shelling took place in the beginning of June 2016*



*At 0100 on the night to 24th June 2016 a shell, supposedly a 120 mm mortar mine, exploded at the entrance to a pediatric clinic based on the first floor of house no. 35a on Biriuziva str. (Donetsk)*



Terrace steps damaged, metal door blown out, windows smashed, sometimes together with window frames, fragmentation markings on the wall, ceiling of the clinic, extended from the multi-compartment house, shifted, creating an open crack between the ceiling and the wall. As result, premises of the clinic require capital repairs. Currently, pediatric patients are being received in other cabinets of the centre



On the night to 29th of June 2016, the roof of house no. 12 on Selidovskaya str. (Donetsk), was hit by a mine. As result — two people injured: 77 years old Alexandra Havrilovna Khrystiuk and her 53 years old son Alexander Ivanovych Khrystiuk. Both of them were transported to hospital, where Alexander Ivanovych died. Another mine landed in the yard of a neighboring house no. 10



*On the night to 5th of July, around 2320 a mine landed and exploded in the yard of a multi-compartment two-storey house no. 20 on Stepanenko str. (Donetsk). The mine hit a bus, parked near the garages in the yard by its driver, who lives in this house. The mine went through the roof of the vehicle and destroyed the propeller shaft. Two men entering the house that moment were injured by the blast fragmentations.*

*The character of the bus damage, energy of the explosion, which left some windows of the house untouched, small blast fragmentations (photo) point out that this shell was a mine of 82 mm caliber. This is also pointed to by the fin-stabilizers found after the explosion. Pictures of the fin-stabilizers was shared via internet.*

*With regards to this a number of Ukrainian commentators claimed that the mine had been fired from the DNR positions, as 82 mm mortars are said to have a shorter range than needed to fly in from Stepanenko str. — where Ukrainian positions are based.*

*However, the direction from which the mine flew in is quite clear — from the direction of village Peski, and the maximum range of a mortar like that is 4 km, which is just enough to reach borderline.*

Obviously, even after signing the Minsk agreements, heavy artillery shelling continues from both sides of the conflict. Though civil objects are not targeted by these hits, quite often they get the biggest damage. All cases like this took place close (4–5 km) from the borderline between the sides of the conflict. In Horlovka, around 250 m away from the point where a few mines landed on 24th of June, was the HQ military position, which, apparently was the target. In any case, there was a big shell crater near it on the street.

Citizens of some Donetsk districts, located near the borderline, complained that at night times self-propelled artillery platforms station near their houses. These self-propelled artillery platforms fire towards positions controlled by Ukrainian forces. We were told of such cases in Kuibyshevskiy region (“1ya Ploshchadka” and “2ya Ploshchadka” villages, Oktiabrskiy village) and in Kyiv district (Biriuzova str.). People fear that return fire would inevitably cause new devastations and civilian deaths. In one case we clearly spotted the place where previously (in the beginning of June) four self-propelled artillery platforms held position and, from the words of eyewitnesses from locals, delivered a 40 minute fire in Western direction (approximately towards village Krasnohorovka). We registered caterpillar tread marks on sand and grass, clearly spotted the places where the machines delivered fire from.

Locals also told us that they wrote a letter to the head of DNR — Zakharchenko A. with request to control and stop cases of delivering fire from residential areas. However, they wished to personally deliver this letter to Zakharchenko, fearing that it would not reach the addressee which would cause repressions against them as authors. Currently they didn't succeed in reaching the head of DNR.

In relation to the aforementioned we consider it important to stress attention on two circumstances:

- During the monitoring mission to village Krasnohorovka (based on the territories controlled by Ukrainian authorities), members of the mission were told by locals about a case of delivering mortar fire by Ukrainian forces towards a residential area of Donetsk.
- Donetsk citizens, who were telling of night fire delivering from the residential areas talk of these cases very quietly and ask not to point out their names anywhere, and not to point out their place of inhabitation. They are very scared of possible repressions against them for these stories from members of armed military groups of DNR. «If you point at us, they will come to us and they will kill us all» — these were the words addressed to the members of the monitoring mission by inhabitants of one of the outskirts of Donetsk.

At the same time territories controlled by Ukrainian authorities have complaints from locals, some-

times absurd, sometime fair, but usually loud and clear, without hiding their names and places of inhabitation, sometimes on camera. They don't fear consequences. When talking to inhabitants of Krasnohorovka during the monitoring mission on territories controlled by Ukraine, members of the mission heard the next description of the situation with delivering fire from the territory of the village: «The machines stand in between buildings, fires, moves to another location and fires again. People heard from other locals that those people saw machines firing near the hostel on Lenin str., on 20th of June. The same was on Solnechanya str. Mortars firing.



Around the former “Mayak” company, where a military base use to be. It's not there anymore, but

soldiers drive out there and fire from those positions. Return fire from DNR in its turn hits residential areas. In general, both sides deliver fire». Members of the mission failed to prove validity of this information.

## 8. MAIN CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON RESULTS OF THE MONITORING VISIT AND ANALYSIS OF THE SITUATION ON TERRITORIES OF DONETSK AND LUHANSK REGIONS WHICH ARE BEYOND THE CONTROL OF UKRAINIAN GOVERNMENT

- The territories of self-proclaimed DNR and LNR in the East of Ukraine have Governing bodies that de-facto exercise government functions. Conditions created on these territories make it significantly more difficult for NGOs to monitor the situation on human rights, international humanitarian legislation abundance and social-economic conditions of civil population.
- With the help of significant financial allocation from the Russian budget the social-economic situation on self-proclaimed DNR and LNR got noticeably better since spring-summer 2015 and is no longer close to the level of humanitarian disaster. Nevertheless, social-economic situation of the majority of people stays quite difficult, some population categories survive only on humanitarian provision aid from Ukraine and Russia.
- Large scale reconstruction works are taking place on the territories of self-proclaimed DNR and LNR targeting both multi-compartment buildings and most damaged private houses. No doubt this became possible only because the main volume of reconstruction works is performed with the help of Russian aid. Nevertheless, sadly, the devastation scales on the aforementioned territories are so high that even if the current speed of reconstruction remains the same, by the most optimistic scenario it would take over five years to

fully recover all damaged houses of the private sector in DNR. Building new houses instead of those beyond economic repair would take over twelve years.

- Even though many school buildings have been more or less damaged from artillery fire during the conflict, education process was being resumed at the earliest opportunity. Most damaged schools buildings had been repaired as priorities.
- Currently the education process in schools takes place, mostly, by Russian textbooks, which had been brought in from Russia in the needed amount. Pedagogic state is fully present, there were no complaints registered concerning lack of teachers; teachers receive salaries in time and with no delays. In addition to that it is sad to state that DNR schools show almost absolute extrusion of Ukrainian as an education language. In 2015 the Ministry of Education of DNR accepted a new school education program, which includes a significant cutdown in weekly hours given to Ukrainian language and literature. Even Ukrainian classes have more Russian hours than Ukrainian. Prehospital education system of DNR already shows total extrusion of Ukrainian.
- It is considered that the responsible government in this most difficult situation currently in place in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, should primarily focus on fulfilling their duties to the most vulnerable parts of their population, in particular retirees. Authorities of Ukraine were responsible for providing the possibility to get pension payments by those who are supposed to be getting those payments, on the territories controlled by them (as legal authorities), without any additional terms. This would soften the acuity of the question, at least for those who retirees who have the pension cards.
- The existing order of crossing through few access points by foot or in vehicles determined by the Ukrainian side, as well as the existing equipment and the qualification of staff at these access points cause massive queues with almost no living conditions. This situation inevitably causes complaints towards Ukrainian authorities with no regard to political views of the individual complaining, it also provokes corruption among Ukrainian enforcement officers.
- After visiting some access points on the borderline in Satnica Luhaskaya, Zolotoe, Marjinka, Zaicevo and Hnutovo members of the monitoring mission register that the conditions of passage through the access points and passage itself significantly differ and require improvement almost everywhere. Logistics of the access points require obvious upgrades to minimize waiting time to pass the borderline, by increasing the number of customs officers, reacting to queue build-up by increasing access capacities, creating normal conditions for people waiting in queues. Reasons for complaints from those crossing the borderline in and out of Donetsk and Luhansk regions need to be cleared for both those who live in the aforementioned regions and on the territories controlled by Ukrainian authorities.
- Only Hnutovo access point has the process of crossing the borderline by foot or in vehicles organized well and takes insignificant time (up to one hour for those driving vehicles and 20–30 minutes for those traveling by foot). Hnutovo access point can serve as a positive example of a correctly organized logistics system.
- Apart from that, it is needed to eliminate unjustified harsh restrictions of carrying food supplies and other consumable objects over the borderline, as the current order inevitably leads to corruption.
- Even though the problem of the people, forced to have fled their places of inhabitation because of hostilities is of quite large scale, self-proclaimed DNR did not implement any forced in-migrant or IDP status that would allow receiving social payments and benefits. The issue of social support for this population category requires analysis and solutions.
- It is obvious that even after signing the Minsk agreements, heavy artillery shelling continues from both sides of the conflict. Though civil objects are not targeted by these hits, quite often they get the biggest damage. Population centers should not be subject to delivering fire. Provocations with use if population centers as cover are strongly intolerable in cases when fire is delivered deliberately from the territories of population centers aiming at triggering return fire.



Places of recent shelling, visited by members of the monitoring mission

## ANNEX

### Comparison of prices in May–June 2016

	Donetsk (in RUR)	Donetsk (in UAH)	Kharkiv
Loaf of bread	from 8 to 15 RUR	from 3 to 5.7 UAH	3–9 UAH
Orange juice 1 L.	150 RUR	57 UAH	15 UAH
Eggs	40 RUR	15.2 UAH	12 UAH
Onions (in July)	27 RUR	10.3 UAH	6 UAH
Green onions	40 RUR	15.2 UAH	10 UAH
Carrots (in July)	30 RUR	11.4 UAH	5 UAH
Potatoes (in July)	20–40 RUR	7.6–15.2 UAH	3–6 UAH
Young potatoes in May	80 RUR	30.4 UAH	12 UAH
Tomatoes in May	80 RUR	30.4 UAH	25 UAH
Tomatoes in the beginning of July	40–80 RUR	15.2–30.4 UAH	10–25 UAH
Cucumbers	40–60 RUR	15.2–22.8 UAH	10–25 UAH
Zucchini	30 RUR	11.4 UAH	7–8 UAH
Eggplants	70 RUR	26.6 UAH	5–10 UAH
Apples	60–90 RUR	22.8–34.2 UAH	12–15 UAH
Pork	250 RUR	95 UAH	80 UAH
Veal	230 RUR	87.4 UAH	75 UAH
Lamb	360 RUR	136.8 UAH	110 UAH
Sugar	55 RUR	20.9 UAH	15 UAH
Cheese «Komo»	369 RUR	140 UAH	110 UAH
Milk 2,5% fat 1 L.	34 RUR	12.9 UAH	10–12 UAH
Sour cream (1 kg)	115 RUR	43.7 UAH	30 UAH
Fresh cheese	100 RUR	38 UAH	25 UAH
Smoked sausage , per kg	140 RUR	53.2 UAH	60 UAH
Pig fat (salo), per kg	120 RUR	45.6 UAH	47 UAH
Chicken, per kg	120 RUR/kg	45.6 UAH	37.5 UAH
Chicken filet, per kg	210 RUR	80 UAH	55 UAH
Chicken legs, per kg	156 RUR	59.3 UAH	45 UAH
Flower, per kg	14 RUR	5.32 UAH	7.1 UAH
Butter, per kg	200 RUR	76 UAH	61 UAH
Sunflower oil, per L.	73 RUR	27.74 UAH	26.56 UAH
Tea 40 teabags of Ceylon tea (Riston)	116 RUR	44.8 UAH	40 UAH
Cheese dessert Danissimo	41.8 RUR	15.9 UAH	7–9 UAH
Melted cheese «Hochland» 4 lumps, 0,14 g. each	150 RUR	57 UAH	30 UAH
Rice, per kg	50 RUR	19 UAH	16.25 UAH
Buckwheat grain, per kg	95 RUR	36.1 UAH	33 UAH
Wheat grain per kg	32 RUR	12.16 UAH	12.1 UAH
Vodka «Khortitsa», 0,5 L	360 RUR	136.8 UAH	55 UAH
Petrol	43–45 RUR/l	16.3–17.1 UAH	21–23 UAH

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## Ситуація з правами людини в Донецькій та Луганській областях (квітень–червень 2016)

(англійською мовою)

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