












“Adaptation of internally displaced persons in host communities under conditions of war in Ukraine: The role of local governments”

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ADAPTATION OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN HOST COMMUNITIES UNDER CONDITIONS OF WAR IN UKRAINE: THE ROLE OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

Abstract

The aggravation of the migration crisis in the country against the background of socio-economic instability in conditions of war has triggered the deterioration of the institutional and economic capacity of local governments to ensure further integration of internally displaced persons in the host society. The article aims to identify the resource and economic capacity of local governments in conditions of war to ensure the needs and adaptation of internally displaced persons to new living conditions (using the example of Pidberiztsivska Territorial Community of Lvivska Oblast). The research is based on a questionnaire survey in the form of in-depth interviews with the representatives of local governments. The sample consists of 20 persons; strata are formed in accordance with the staff units of local governments (head of the village council; representatives of the community's administrative center and starostyn districts; heads of structural units of the village council). The paper emphasizes that local governments face a great challenge in ensuring the adaptation of internally displaced persons in the community, mainly related to the lack of free housing (according to 76.2% of respondents) and the labor surplus in the local market (over 20%). The results show that the majority of internally displaced persons see the community only as a place of "waiting" and seek to return to the former residence place (68.4% of the interviewed representatives of local government), so they shouldn't be deemed as a potential community asset. Proactive tools for increasing the resource and economic capacity of local governments to ensure further integration of internally displaced persons include interaction with regional authorities, efficient use of the capacity of relocated businesses, cooperation with charitable foundations and NGOs to solve housing problems and create additional high-wage jobs.

Keywords

capacity, war, internally displaced persons, Ukraine,
local governments, questionnaire, challenges,
adaptation, integration

JEL Classification

H51, H70, O15

INTRODUCTION

In addition to the occupation of territories, the loss of human resources, and the large-scale destruction of critical infrastructure, the Russian-Ukrainian war, with its new phase beginning with the large-scale invasion in February 2022, has caused the decline in real GDP (which, according to experts, is more profound than in most countries with a history of military conflicts) and led to significant social losses and the emergence of a new layer of the population – internally displaced persons (IDPs). These are people forced to leave their places of permanent residence to live in new host communities without leaving the country. According to the International Organization for Migration, 13.5 million people were forced to leave their homes in

2022, and 5.4 million internally displaced persons were registered in Ukraine in January 2023 (IMO in Ukraine, 2023). Overall, one-third of the population residing within Ukraine was internally displaced as of late 2022 (The UN Refugee Agency, 2023).

The Russian aggression and the resulting financial-economic instability and security threats require decisions at both the national and local levels to meet the basic needs of IDPs and ensure their access to public services, and most importantly, they do not contribute to the communities' ability to foster their adaptation to life in a new place. In the current conditions, IDPs require significant support from host communities, especially in the initial post-displacement stage (adaptation) and further integration. In some cases, IDPs have caused a socio-economic burden on host communities, which could not but impact approaches to their adaptation. On the other hand, in overcoming new challenges caused by growing financial, housing, social, and security problems that require immediate solutions, local governments need assistance in finding resources and adequate government funding.

Assessing the needs of internally displaced persons and identifying the opportunities for local governments to meet them in the process of adaptation to life in the host community are important tasks and a component of the IDP-related policy, since they allow, on the one hand, to develop the mechanisms for minimizing the negative effects of internal displacement on host communities, and on the other hand, to improve the processes of social adaptation and thus integration of IDPs into the host society.

1. LITERATURE REVIEW

Speaking about forced migration in Ukraine in the conditions of war and ways of adapting the population to life in host communities, it is worth noting some features: a) displacement within the country was mostly for long distances, sometimes exceeding in length the relocation of Ukrainians abroad; b) displacement of residents was of a "repeated nature", when a person (a group of persons) moved once, stayed for a certain time in the host community, and then moved again to other communities (often to other regions) (EUAA, IOM & OECD, 2022). Another feature is that one third of households hosted IDPs with chronic diseases and one quarter of households hosted people with disabilities (EUAA, IOM & OECD, 2022), which had a deterrent effect on the process of IDPs' adaptation to host communities and placed an additional burden on their budgets.

The thesaurus of the forced displacement problem includes the concept of the host community, which, according to Fomekong (2022), needs more attention and substantiation by international organizations and individual states, especially in the legal area. The UN Refugee Agency (2006, 2011) interprets host communities as the country that provides asylum to displaced, national, regional, and local governance systems, as well as social and

economic entities, in which the refugees and IDPs are hosted. Displaced persons live in host communities with the respective legal status or without the status and recognition by the host community. The host community can cover refugee camps or coexist with such camps, but on the condition of interaction with refugees residing in the camp or their impact on the community. The issue of interaction between IDPs and host communities already intensified in Ukraine back in 2014, namely, the legal aspects of ensuring the rights and freedoms of IDPs were established at the legislative level and the liabilities and functions of local governments in this process were determined (The Law of Ukraine, 2014). Yet, the concept of a host community is not defined by law.

The study of the role of host communities in the reception and support of displaced persons requires an emphasis on the difference between the concepts of "interaction between the host community and IDPs" (displaced persons remaining in the country) and "interaction between the host community and refugees" (displaced persons outside the country). Unlike refugees and migrants, IDPs are members of the same society as the residents of the communities to which they have moved and often have similar socio-cultural backgrounds, which ensures rapid adaptation of IDPs and facilitates their socialization (Abedtalas & Mamo, 2023).

The problems of interaction at the level of IDPs – host communities are quite studied, taking into account the continuous increase in the number of displaced people worldwide (The World Bank, 2022). The role played by host communities for displaced persons helps to consider them as “an informal instrument of humanitarian aid – de facto NGOs critical to saving lives, building resilience and providing essential services” (Davies, 2012; Vasylytsiv et al., 2022).

The role of host communities in the provision of humanitarian assistance and the reception and protection of IDPs in countries that have become the epicenters of internal displacement is highly valued (Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre, 2020). However, researchers pay attention to the negative consequences of the impact of mass internal displacement on the host communities when the level of the financial and economic capacity of the communities is low (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 2021). In the countries such as Burkina Faso, Nigeria, Mali, and Colombia, the mass displacement of IDPs has led to destabilization of the situation in host communities due to the depletion of the resource base (George & Adelaja, 2022) and resulted in increased tensions and the emergence of conflicts between IDPs and host communities, contributing to local violence (ACAPS, 2019; Kamta & Scheffran, 2022). The problem of unequal access to basic goods (housing, social services, jobs) between community residents and IDPs (even after 10 years of residence of these individuals in host communities) is quite relevant, which is related to the lack of established social networks and dependence on state assistance (Arredondo et al., 2011; Salihu et al., 2022; Halkiv et al., 2022). The problem of limited resources and the growing burden on the system of social services provision and financial capacity of host communities can be traced in the behavior and attitude of community residents towards IDPs: high level of solidarity and support for displaced persons for the moment of arrival is replaced over time by a reserved/hostile attitude due to competition in the labor market (Arredondo et al., 2011).

The conducted studies clearly indicate the need for increased attention on the part of states and international organizations to host communities to assist them in coping with the problems of

IDPs. However, currently, there are few strategies to support host communities and host families, while the benefits of reducing the vulnerability of IDPs and host communities by providing them with assistance before they find themselves in the risk zone and extreme poverty are not fully realized (Davies, 2012; Mulska et al., 2022).

The problems faced by host communities in Ukraine after the mass internal displacement in 2022 are similar to those that occurred at the beginning of the war in 2014, when 1.8 million people moved from Donetska and Luhanska oblasts and Crimea (UN Migration, 2016). According to the study conducted by the International Organization for Migration, the main problems faced by IDPs included the lack of housing (about 70% of IDPs rented housing) and the impossibility of employment (only 50% of those employed before displacement managed to find a job). With regard to host communities, the growing burden on local budgets and social infrastructure was detected (UN Migration, 2016; Kuppenko et al., 2023; Bondarenko et al., 2020).

In 2022, the number of displaced persons in Ukraine increased many times over. In Lvivska oblast, the number of IDPs “passing through” (registered in) some host communities amounted to up to 10% of the population of these communities (The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 2023). A significant proportion of them considered the host communities in the context of temporary asylum (stayed here for some time to receive some social services and necessary assistance, temporary accommodation, and psychological support) and moved on. People staying in the communities for a longer period of time faced the problems of loss of private housing, financial security, job, income sources, and difficult emotional condition after the experience they have gone through (Voznyak et al., 2023; Mykhnenko, 2023).

Host communities in Ukraine, as the entities directly interacting with displaced persons at the moment of their arrival and throughout the period of their stay on their territory, are obliged to ensure the provision of the most needed social services and accommodation, and “measures

to ensure the reception, travel, and accommodation of displaced persons are the expenditure obligations of Ukraine and local governments in accordance with their competence” (The Law of Ukraine, 2014). Communities bear a large part of the responsibility and financial liability for ensuring social rights and guarantees for IDPs as Ukrainian citizens. It requires the accumulation of significant financial and human resources, the performance of functions not typical for local governments, and the expansion of cooperation with the local population to organize the reception and accommodation of IDPs.

The role of host communities in the process of receiving-accommodating-supporting IDPs is not sufficiently studied. Taking into account the large-scale nature of displacement in Ukraine, its instantaneous nature (United Nations, 2022), and the repeated movements of individuals/groups of individuals with different lengths of stay in communities, it is high time to study the economic capacity of host communities, the readiness of their members to support IDPs, and the consequences of receiving displaced persons for host communities, and these issues need additional consideration.

The issue is also relevant from the viewpoint of the short existence of territorial communities in Ukraine in their current configuration and the local government system – in the context of its institutional and resource-based capacity. The reform of the territorial organization of authorities and local government in Ukraine in terms of decentralization started in 2014. Authorities and part of the resources have been transferred to the local level to provide the population with most of the social services (Voznyak et al., 2022). The process of administrative-territorial reform was completed at the basic level only in 2020. And already at the beginning of 2022, the communities faced the greatest challenge to their development – the war.

The paper aims to identify the resource and economic capacity of local governments in the conditions of war to ensure the needs and adaptation of internally displaced persons to new living conditions (using the example of Pidberiztsivska Territorial Community of Lvivska Oblast).

2. DATA AND METHODS

To determine the current state and bottlenecks in the resource and economic capacity of territorial communities to meet the needs of IDPs and their further integration into the host society, a sociological survey in the form of in-depth interviews was conducted among local governments (on the example of Pidberiztsivska community in Lvivska oblast, Ukraine). This method made it possible to ensure the complementary nature of the interviewer’s answers and the voluntary nature of the respondent’s participation in the survey.

The community under research is characterized by a favorable geographic location and proximity to the largest city of Western Ukraine – Lviv. It borders directly on the satellite town of Lviv, Vynnyky, which has been classified as part of Lvivska Territorial Community under the administrative-territorial reform. Pidberiztsivska community consists of 11 villages and includes the administrative center (village Pidberiztsi) and four starostyn districts (Verhnyobilkivskyi (villages Verhnya Bilka, Nyzhnya Bilka, and Suhorichchya), Myklashivskyi (villages Myklashiv and Pidhirne), Chyzyhivskyi (villages Chyzyhiv and Hluhovychi), and Chornushovytskyi (villages Chornushovychi, Tarasivka, Zhuravnyky).

Pidberiztsivska Territorial Community has one of the highest levels of financial capacity among the communities in Lvivska oblast. It is ranked 11th out of 73 territorial communities in the region in terms of per capita revenues to the local budget general fund and 8th in terms of the level of fiscal return of the territory. The emphasis on local taxes and fees as the main source of budget revenues is a significant feature of the economic capacity of the territorial community (UAH 5,100 per capita – 1st place in the ranking of territorial communities in the region), while large amounts of financial resources are allocated to capital expenditures (UAH 1,400 – 3rd place in the ranking).

In 2022, Pidberiztsivska Territorial Community spent almost 30% of the local budget on economic activity, which is one of the best rates among the communities in Lvivska oblast. On average, less than 20% of expenditures from community budgets are spent on this area. In fact, in 2022, the share

of such expenditures amounted to only 7%, which was caused by the suspension of capital expenditures in conditions of martial law in Ukraine. The main area of the use of the budget resources of Pidberiztsivska Territorial Community is ensuring the provision of social services to its residents: 46% of financial resources are spent on education (the rate is lower than the average rate for communities in the region, where education receives more than 50% of expenditures), healthcare – 2%, social protection and social security – 5%, mental and physical development – 4%. Thus, the local government spent 57% of expenditures on the social sphere, while the average rate in the region is 67%.

Pidberiztsivska territorial community is characterized by a diversified economic structure, well-developed wholesale and retail trade, and capacity for the development of agriculture and processing industry. Close center-periphery relations (community – Lviv, oblast center) significantly expand the opportunities for increasing the economic capacity of the community to ensure the adaptation of IDPs through employment in the local community and oblast center and guaranteeing better working and living conditions.

The sample of local governments consists of 20 people, 16 of whom reside in Pidberiztsivska Territorial Community. Sample strata are formed according to staff units: head of the village council (1 person); representatives of the community administrative center and starostyn districts, including starosta (mayors), clerks (9 persons); heads of structural units of the village council – Legal Department, Education, Culture, and Leisure Department, Department of Social Security and Children's Rights Protection, Offices for Children's Affairs, Department for the Planning of Socio-Economic Development and Investment (10 persons).

The field period of the sociological survey covered November-December 2022. The coefficient of variation of the relative standard error not exceeding 5% was chosen as the main feature of the survey reliability. Empirical sociological estimates are built on the basis of the weighted harmonic mean method.

The main tasks of the local governments' sociological survey were subordinated to the following goals:

- to determine the resource capacity of local governments;
- to evaluate the interaction between local governments and regional and central authorities;
- to specify the perspectives on the involvement of IDPs in community life, development, and strengthening of self-sufficiency.

The sociological survey of local governments allowed us to draw reasonable conclusions about

- bottlenecks in the resource framework of the needs of local governments leading to a decrease in the level of local governments' capacity to meet the needs of IDPs;
- functioning efficiency of the institutional environment in the projection of assistance to IDPs in the community;
- levels, types, and forms of communication channels of interaction between local and regional and central authorities;
- factors-obstacles to the adaptation/assimilation of IDPs to life in the host community;
- causes of potential conflicts between local governments and IDPs;
- dilemma "Are IDPs an asset or a burden to the community?"

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The resource and economic capacity of Pidberiztsivska Territorial Community to meet the needs of IDPs and foster their adaptation and further integration was strongly correlated with the scale of internal migration, which in early 2022 was dynamic and large-scale with unpredictable consequences for communities. Nevertheless, local authorities of the Pidberiztsivska community managed to provide temporary accommodation and basic necessities for all IDPs, who were mostly settled in collective facilities, namely educational institutions, clubs, and other premises adapted for a temporary stay. These activities re-

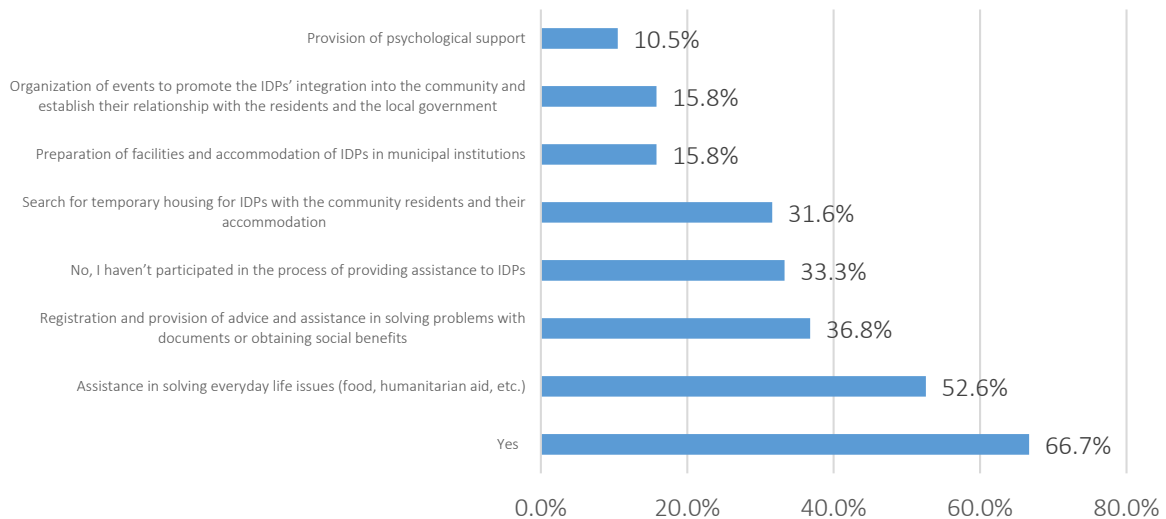


Figure 1. Level of involvement and functions of representatives of the Pidberiztsivska Community Village Council in the process of providing assistance to IDPs, % of all respondents

quired from the local government the appropriate resource framework and implementation of special anti-crisis tools for community management in conditions of unpredictable shocks.

66.7% of the interviewed representatives of local authorities of Pidberiztsivska community answered in the affirmative to the question “As a representative of the village council, have you participated/do you participate in the reception, accommodation, or provision of other types of assistance to IDPs?” The most common function performed by them in the process of supporting IDPs was assistance in solving everyday life issues, including food and provision of humanitarian aid, etc. (52.6%). 36.8% of the representatives of the village council registered and provided advice and assistance in solving problems with documents or obtaining social benefits, etc. 31.6% of the interviewed representatives of the local government helped IDPs find temporary accommodation (Figure 1).

Preparation of facilities and accommodation of IDPs in municipal institutions (schools, cultural institutions, preschool institutions, etc.) was provided by 15.8% of the interviewed representatives of the village council; 10.5% of the representatives of local authorities performed the function of providing psychological support. 15.8% of the interviewed representatives of the village council ensured the organization of events to promote the

IDPs’ integration into the community and establish their relationship with the residents and the local government (organization of thematic evenings, festivities, and workshops).

In the process of organizing accommodation and meeting the basic needs of IDPs, Pidberiztsivska Village Council has established inter-organizational cooperation to ensure safe and, to the extent possible, comfortable living conditions for IDPs. The entities with which the village council supports the closest ties in the process of solving the problems of IDPs are the regional authorities, as indicated by 52.6% of the interviewed local government representatives. According to 47.4% of representatives of the community’s local authorities, charitable organizations are no less important in solving the current problems of the IDPs. Volunteers were the third most important source of support for IDPs in Pidberiztsivska community (36.8%), followed by the church community (21.1%) and local residents (10.6%). Interestingly, 15.8% of the representatives of Pidberiztsivska Village Council mentioned the significant assistance to IDPs provided by IDP groups (sometimes individuals) themselves.

The local government of Pidberiztsivska community cooperates with regional authorities, voluntary organizations, and philanthropists in providing accommodation and financial assistance to IDPs. However, local authorities need additional

resources (financial, personnel, material-technical) to provide accommodation for a part of IDPs, especially in the winter period. The results of the in-depth interview with the representatives of the village council confirm the significant deficit of temporary accommodation for IDPs (78.9% of the interviewed respondents), and 31.6% of the interviewed representatives of the local government point to the lack of financial resources. It is worth mentioning that 5.3% of the representatives of the community's local authorities note the deficit of human resources, especially specialists qualified to work with IDPs.

According to 42.1% of the interviewed local government representatives, the deficit of jobs is a major challenge for the community. The community's labor market is characterized by a high level of external labor migration and partly hidden unemployment, on the one hand, and a limited job supply, on the other.

Pidberiztsivska community cooperated with the regional authorities, volunteers, and local residents to provide the IDPs with basic necessities (accommodation, food, clothing, social services, etc.). Thus, none of the representatives of the village council estimated the provided social services at low level when answering the question "In what areas was the Pidberiztsivska Village Council able to efficiently ensure the reception and stay of IDPs in the community?" (there are no answers with points "1" and "2"). A small part of the interviewed representatives of the community's local government, namely 4.8%, estimated only two areas of

support for IDPs with "3" points – (1) provision of social services and (2) establishment of consistent systemic cooperation between the local government and IDPs (Figure 2). 25.0% and 23.8% of the interviewed representatives of Pidberiztsivska Village Council rated the process of cooperation with NGOs, including charitable foundations, and the organization of IDPs' accommodation in the community as a moderate level of the quality of provided services ("4" points). The vast majority of all interviewed representatives of the local government rated all areas of support for IDPs with the highest score ("5" out of "5").

The local government actively participated in the reception and adaptation of IDPs, but the resource framework of this process is limited and needs additional funding sources, especially for the creation of appropriate living conditions for IDPs. To ensure the quality of communication between the local government representatives and the IDPs, an interactive group was created in the social networks to promote the quick response of the representatives of Pidberiztsivska Village Council to the IDPs' problems.

The local government of Pidberiztsivska community effectively cooperates with the regional authorities in implementing socio-economic development programs for the area and providing assistance to IDPs. 70% of the interviewed representatives of the community's local authorities answered in the affirmative to the question "Do the central and regional authorities sufficiently support your village council in the process of the re-

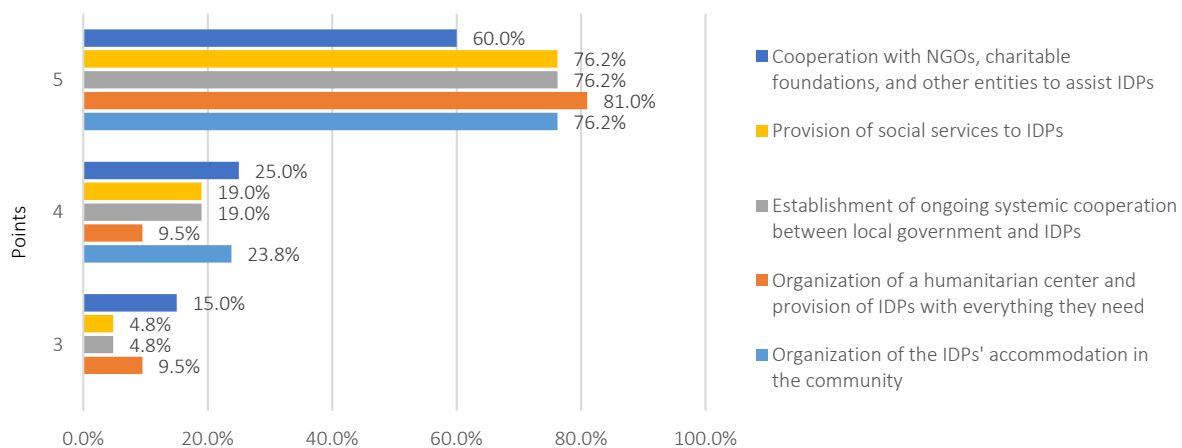


Figure 2. Efficiency of ensuring the reception and stay of IDPs in Pidberiztsivska community: local government representatives' estimates, % of all respondents

ception, accommodation, and integration of IDPs on the community territory?”. Therefore, 30% of the respondents argue that the support is insufficient to provide IDPs with everything they need, especially when the shortage of housing for IDPs is acute.

According to 76.2% of the interviewed local government representatives of Pidberiztsivska community, the lack of housing is a glaring problem for IDPs. Despite the fact that Pidberiztsivska community is self-sufficient, which allows it to maintain a high level of financial capacity throughout the decentralization reform and ensure high efficiency of basic needs when receiving IDPs, it is an extremely difficult task to meet the housing needs of IDPs in the right volume without the assistance of regional and central authorities. Thus, state programs for financing housing for IDPs can be an important tool for minimizing the shortage of housing supply for displaced persons in the community. Pidberiztsivska community is unable to provide free temporary accommodation for all IDPs, while it is one of the conditions of adaptation and assimilation of IDPs into community life. This opinion was supported by 23.8% of the local government representatives. Interestingly, 4.8% of the representatives of Pidberiztsivska Village Council noted the high cost of rental housing and relatively low wages (Figure 3).

The local market already had a labor surplus even before the IDPs arrived, and the significant increase in the labor force volume in conditions of war due to the increase in the economically active population in the community has only aggravated the problem. The creation of additional jobs, a favorable business environment for small and medium enterprises in the community, and attractive conditions for entrepreneurial activity for relo-

cated businesses could partially offset the problem of lack of employment opportunities for IDPs. According to 52.4% of the interviewed representatives of the village council, this problem is among the main problems of IDPs’ integration into the life of Pidberiztsivska community.

The independent solution to housing issues of IDPs is an extremely difficult task for the local government of Pidberiztsivska community, so support from the regional authorities is appropriate. The results of the interview with the local government representatives show that the community is most in need of temporary housing for IDPs. The same share of the respondents (21.1% each) mention that the community should also intensify cooperation with the regional authorities in terms of assistance to IDPs and the organization of events, consultations, and meetings for IDPs on employment.

Inadequate provision of IDPs with housing and social services, low activity of IDPs in the buying or renting housing, especially in rural areas, low employment and self-employment of IDPs, and conflicts with the local population and the local government can be considered as the main obstacles to the adaptation (and thus integration) of IDPs to the life of Pidberiztsivska community. 52.4% of the interviewed local government representatives note that the IDPs living in the community for a long time have managed to arrange their lives and find jobs. However, when asked about the level of IDPs’ integration into the local environment, 19.0% of respondents emphasize that the social status and lifestyle of IDPs in their former place of residence have a significant impact on the adaptation process. That is why the processes of integration into Pidberiztsivska community are not very active (Figure 4). According to observations of 4.8% of local government representatives

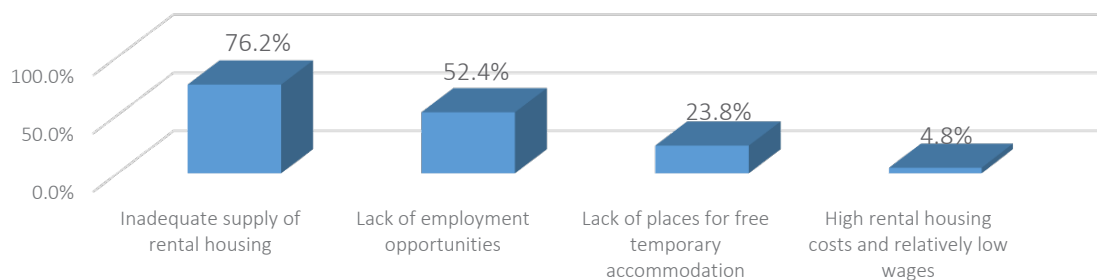


Figure 3. Main problems faced by IDPs in Pidberiztsivska community: local government estimates, % of all respondents

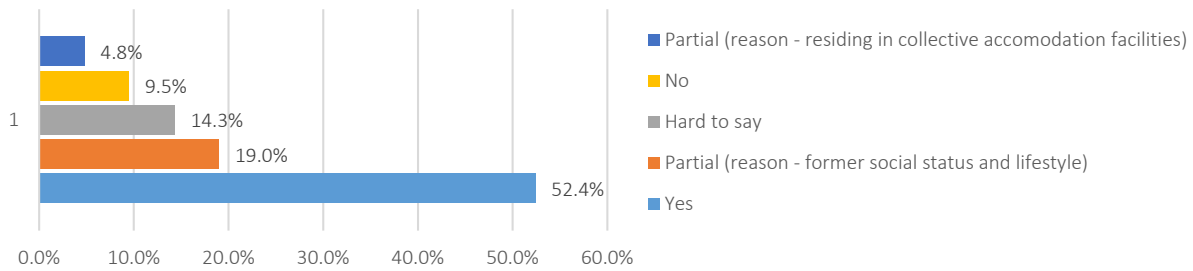


Figure 4. Level of IDPs' integration into the local environment of Pidberiztsivska community: local government personal estimates, % of all respondents

in Pidberiztsivska community, integration is partial due to living in collective accommodation facilities, as opposed to those renting housing or residing in private houses/apartments, as their assimilation is much faster. Almost every tenth local government representative argues that IDPs do not show interest in the independent arrangement of their life in a new community and emphasizes the role of the state and local government in creating comfortable conditions for their life. The reasons range from confidence in a quick victory and a chance to return home to differences in mentality between the residents of the host community and the displaced persons.

The results of the survey show that, according to 47.6% of the local government representatives, IDPs do not have any problems with the arrangement of life in Pidberiztsivska community. Meanwhile, the vast majority of the local government representatives tend to believe that the IDPs have problems with organizing their everyday life. Among the reasons for this, they mention the psychological condition acquired as a result of what they have gone through, overestimation of the role of the state and the local government in solving the problems of their life, and the lack of intentions and active actions to find a job (Figure 5).

Interestingly, there was not a unanimous answer regarding the factor limiting the IDPs' integration, such as living in collective accommodation facilities, as the opinions of the interviewed local government representatives were equally divided.

Another aspect related to the IDPs' adaptation in the host community that must be emphasized is the emergence of conflicts between local residents and IDPs and between IDPs and the local government. The clash of values, interreligious and cultural beliefs, and different lifestyles and views on them have become the factors of social convergence between different segments of the population and interest groups. In response to the question "Do you have information about conflicts in IDP communities and between IDPs and local residents" 9.8% of the interviewed local government representatives answered in the affirmative. It is worth noting that the attitude of local residents towards IDPs was not rated lower than "3" points by any of the local government representatives. The attitude of local residents towards IDPs was rated the highest ("5" points) by 35.0% of the interviewed local government representatives. The same percentage estimated the attitude of local residents towards displaced persons in the community with "4" points.

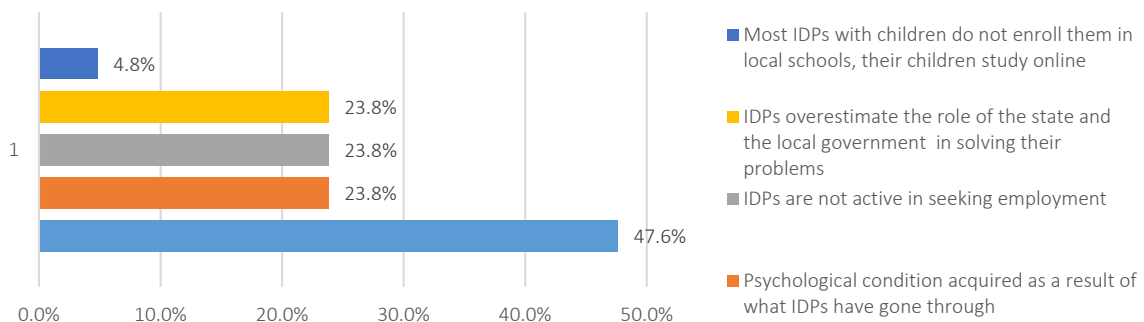


Figure 5. Reasons that make it difficult for IDPs to arrange their lives in the host community, % of all respondents

According to 9.5% of respondents, conflicts between local government representatives and local residents over IDPs were observed in Pidberiztsivska community. The main causes of these conflicts were language issues (3.5%), living conditions (2.7%), competition in the labor market (1.8%), and interreligious contradictions (1.5%). Since there is also a prejudiced attitude of the local population towards IDPs, any activity of the local government regarding the integration of IDPs (organization of events, trainings, other initiatives) is sometimes perceived by local residents as unreasonable spending of community financial resources, as most IDPs do not intend to assimilate into the community or stay here permanently.

Local authorities of Pidberiztsivska community take active measures (charitable, cultural, entertainment, educational, etc.) to integrate IDPs. Yet, the level of socialization of IDPs in the community is moderate, their active participation in the community life is not observed. According to 68.4% of the interviewed local government representatives, IDPs are not active, they see the community only as a place of “waiting” and seek to return to their former place of residence, so currently, there is no need to talk about “IDPs as a community asset”. Accepting and accommodating IDPs and establishing interaction between them and the local authorities has become an additional problem for the local government. According to 10.8% of the local government representatives, this statement is true. And only 21.1% of respondents argue that IDPs should be considered a community asset, as some of them plan to stay for permanent residence and they will become active participants in the labor market and community life.

The results of the sociological survey show that local governments are able to provide IDPs with basic social services, including healthcare, education, and culture, at a high quality level. Diagnosis of the environment hosting IDPs requires the specification of the nature of the basic concepts of measuring the parameters of social security indicators, the most important of which are the factors of employ-

ment as the main source of a migrant’s income and social assistance (Sadova et al., 2015). Nevertheless, Pidberiztsivska community does not have a high level of economic capacity to provide sufficient accommodation for IDPs or facilities for the organization of collective accommodation. The possibilities to find housing “narrow down” to the purchase, rent, or temporary stay on a free-of-charge basis. The increasing number of residents in the settlements of the community increases the competition for jobs, housing, and some social services. Although living in collective accommodation facilities has become a kind of “panacea” for solving the problem of temporary accommodation of many IDPs, the growing problem of providing free housing for IDPs on a long-term basis has become a challenge for the local government. Therefore, the accommodation of IDPs in collective facilities is the factor that slows down their integration into host communities and directly affects the emergence of conflicts in the IDP environment, between IDPs and local residents, and between IDPs and local governments. In fact, according to previous studies, the lack of available housing and limited employment opportunities are the main problems of internally displaced persons in the host society (Sadova et al., 2014; Voznyak et al., 2023).

Internal migration of the population in the conditions of war is the trigger for the expansion of social vulnerability of both the local population and internally displaced persons (Mulska et al., 2022a; Kuppenko et al., 2023), as well as growing imbalances in the local labor market. These transformations mainly include market shifts caused by the mass displacement from the areas of hostilities or endangered areas, which directly affects the volumes of labor force supply, the number of jobs, and thus the demand for labor force due to business liquidation, downsizing, or relocation; regional imbalances due to structural-spatial changes in the labor market; sectoral imbalances due to the loss of established production, logistics, trade, and other links (Mulska et al., 2022b; Porkuian et al., 2023).

CONCLUSION

The study was conducted (using a questionnaire survey of local governments in November-December 2022) in order to determine the resource and economic capacity of local governments to meet the needs of internally displaced persons and ensure their adaptation to new living conditions in times of war (on

the example of Pidberiztsivska Territorial Community of Lvivska Oblast). The results of the study allow us to draw the following conclusions and suggestions.

Economically, the satisfaction of IDPs' needs (mainly housing and employment) is at a moderate level. Low activity of IDPs in terms of buying or renting housing, especially in rural areas, low level of employment and self-employment of IDPs, and conflicts with local residents and local government are the factors limiting efficient adaptation/integration of IDPs into the host society. More than half of the community's local government representatives (52.4%) testify to the fact that the IDPs residing in the community for a long time have managed to organize their lives and find jobs.

It is impossible to solve this problem without the active involvement of civil society organizations and cooperation between NGOs and territorial communities. Therefore, the main vectors of the development of the IDP capacity as a community asset can be the following: overcoming the problem of the low level of IDP security, reducing the financial vulnerability of IDPs by stimulating self-employment, professional development or participation in civil projects; reducing social tensions, namely building social housing in the community and monitoring the social-labor needs; reducing the burden on social infrastructure.

Active cooperation with the regional authorities and cooperation with charitable foundations and NGOs in solving the housing problems of IDPs, as well as participation in international and other grant programs focused on the creation and improvement of social infrastructure will promote the accumulation of resources for community development and ensure safe living conditions for IDPs in the community. Efficient tools for integration of IDPs into the life of the host community are (1) expansion of the labor supply of IDPs in the local labor market, which requires additional funding of professional retraining activities, sometimes training, of IDPs and acquisition of new knowledge by them regarding starting a private business and conducting business activities; (2) reduction of conflicts between IDPs and local residents and local government, which requires holding attractions and trainings for IDPs and representatives of local authorities regarding management methods and techniques and avoidance and minimization of negative consequences of conflicts in the society.

Identifying the perspectives of socio-economic development of territorial communities in terms of using the capacity of IDPs as a territorial asset and determining the opinion of local residents regarding the consequences of the emergence of IDPs for community development and the efforts of local governments to solve the problems of IDPs and promote their integration into the host community based on a sociological survey are areas for further research.

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