

According to the Ministry of Veteran Affairs, following Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, there are expected to be up to 3 million veterans and their family members in Ukraine. These veterans will face challenges as they return to civilian life, such as finding a job and receiving mental health support. The Veterans Reintegration (VR) Program supported by the U.S. State Department Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations (CSO) works with local partners to ensure Ukraine's veteran support structures are more capable and responsive.

Veteran Reintegration Survey

VR, in partnership with the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology (KIIS), Veteran Hub (VH), and Legal Hundred, conducted a research study to fill critical information gaps on veterans' experiences. The study covered veterans' needs in the areas of physical and mental health, social wellbeing, employment, and benefits utilization, as well as the general public's view of veterans. Study results were released in 6 thematic reports, which were presented to local partners and the general public, and are available for download at irex.org/project/ukraine-veteran-reintegration.

Supporting Ukraine's Government

Working with MoVA, VR has helped develop an e-registry for veterans to access service and MoVA to access veteran data and a MARTA psychological self-screening system. VR also facilitates strategy sessions for MoVA and trains government employees who frequently work with veterans.

- 174k E-registry downloads
- 75 MoVA staff joined strategy sessions
- 496 Social workers trained
- 3.7k State Employment Center employees trained

Veteran Hub

VR works with VH to provide safe spaces for veterans to receive services, meet others, and attend activities. With VR's help, VH has added two hubs (Dnipro and Vinnytsia) to their network, opened mobile support services, Plus Plus centers, and operated a hotline for veterans. Expansion to more cities is planned in the future.

- 12.2k Consultations provided
- **1.9k** Trust Line callers
- 282 Veterans received mobile services
- **14k** Total visitors

Supporting Local Organizations

VR offers small grants to local organizations implementing projects to support veterans' needs. Small grants have funded a veterans creative writing program; canine, art, and sports therapy sessions; job trainings on cybersecurity and farming; and a mental health app.

- 17 Small grants issued
- \$4.4M Grant funding to local organizations
- 9.1k Total veterans reached
- 24 Oblasts reached with activities

Mental and Physical Health Support

To help veterans receive mental health support VR works both to provide consultations to veterans and resources to mental health professionals. In addition, VR translates physical health protocols to help Ukraine's doctors treat common issues facing veterans.

- 8.9k People received psychological support
- 29.8k People downloaded new mental health app
- 100 Family doctors trained on veteran healthcare
- **140** Protocols translated into Ukrainian

Employment Support

Employment is a key factor in helping veterans transition back to civilian life. VR provides trainings to veterans on hard and soft skills to improve employability and works with HR professionals to make hiring and work processes more veteran-friendly.

- 1.3k Veterans received employment consultations
- 81 Hard skills scholarships issued
- 130 HR specialists trained
- 34 Companies improved veteran hiring policies

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