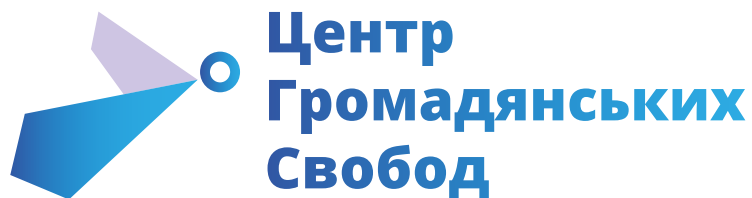


CENTER FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES

ANNUAL REPORT 2019



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CENTER FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES 2019

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Kyiv 2020

CONTENTS

1. Opening remarks	4
2. About Center for Civil Liberties	7
2.1 Reorganisation	8
2.2 Volunteers and interns	9
3. Coalitions and initiatives of the CCL	12
3.1 Activities of the Human Rights Agenda Platform	13
3.2 Overcoming the effects of armed conflict	19
3.3 #SaveOlegSentsov Campaign and actions in support of all Kremlin prisoners	24
3.4 OZONE Public Watchers Group	30
3.5 Euromaidan SOS	36
4. Protection of human rights and certain vulnerable groups	40
5. Human rights education and enlightenment	42
6. International advocacy	45
7. International solidarity	47
8. Achievements	50
9. Center for Civil Liberties team	52
10. Communications and cooperation with mass media	55
11. Financial report for 2019	56

1. OPENING REMARKS

Pre-election 2019 interim year summed up the previous five post-Maidan years. Unfortunately, after the Revolution of Dignity, there was no fundamental reset of political elites. Close to the elections, the discussion about “the success of Ukrainian reforms” was for some reason reduced exclusively to the problem of “is the glass half- empty or half- full”. However, the question has to be asked differently: will this glass have enough water to make a jump and get out of the constant turbulence zone.

Sociology showed a huge public demand for new faces and a new quality of politics. However, since TV still plays a huge role in communication with voters and almost all TV channels support the political agendas of their owners, this demand for renewal was accumulated by quite specific people. During the inauguration, I was on the train to Kyiv, and when I surfed the Internet, I read on Facebook the assessments of experts who were concerned with the populist campaign of the Zel' Team. However, the first thing I heard

when I went to the platform was a phone talk of a train station employee — “Have you seen the faces of those scoundrels in Parliament?” We move on to the next stage of course of events in the context of the war with Russia. The previous one was about military mobilisation and repelling the aggressor. Now the course for dialogue and possible solution of the issues at the referendum is declared. Any dialogue during the ongoing war is very painful for society. The task of civil society is to bring meaning to the process, not to forget the protection of rights in the occupied Crimea and Donbas, to set the red flags, and to make these complex issues easy for understanding by ordinary people.

Ukraine needs real reforms in deregulation, demonopolisation, tax system, and rule of law with judicial and law enforcement reforms playing a key role. We still need the engagement of the international community and the energy of civil society. The role of an observer with popcorn in this historic period is destructive and simply irresponsible.

The situation is complicated by fragmentation within civil society itself and the widening gap within the general public. The number of citizens involved in public activities decreased by 7.5% in 2019. Human rights organisations have the responsibility to go beyond the boundaries of the “human rights ghetto”, to actively communicate with society, and to engage large segments of population in human rights work. Otherwise, in 5 years we simply have no one to rely on.

It is worth noting that I have only mentioned the problems, not the successes that also took place in 2019. If you look at Ukraine from a greater distance and compare it with other countries in our region they seem more noticeable. Thus, there are many challenges we need to take seriously. However, there are chances for a successful democratic transformation of the country, which will have a huge impact on the entire post- Soviet space. And this is what imposes a special responsibility on all of us.

“

And this is what imposes a special responsibility on all of us.

”





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2. ABOUT THE CENTER FOR CIVIL LIBERTIES

Center for Civil Liberties (CCL) is a Ukrainian human rights organisation founded in 2007. CCL conducts monitoring and analysis of draft laws on the conformity with the standards of human rights, carries out public control over the actions of law enforcement agencies, courts and local authorities, over the investigation of the crimes committed during the Euromaidan, registers political persecutions, human rights violations and war crimes in the Donbas, leads educational activities in the field of human rights and democracy, takes part in international solidarity programmes, etc.

OUR MISSION:



To work for the establishment of human rights, democracy and solidarity in Ukraine and the OSCE region for the establishment of human dignity.

VISION:



CCL is one of the leading actors in Ukraine, which influences the formation of public opinion and state policy, supports the development of civil activism, and actively participates in international networks and solidarity actions to promote human rights in the OSCE region.

OUR VALUES:

respect for human dignity;

freedom and human rights;

the rule of law;

democracy;



solidarity;

impartiality;

non-discrimination

2.1 Reorganisation

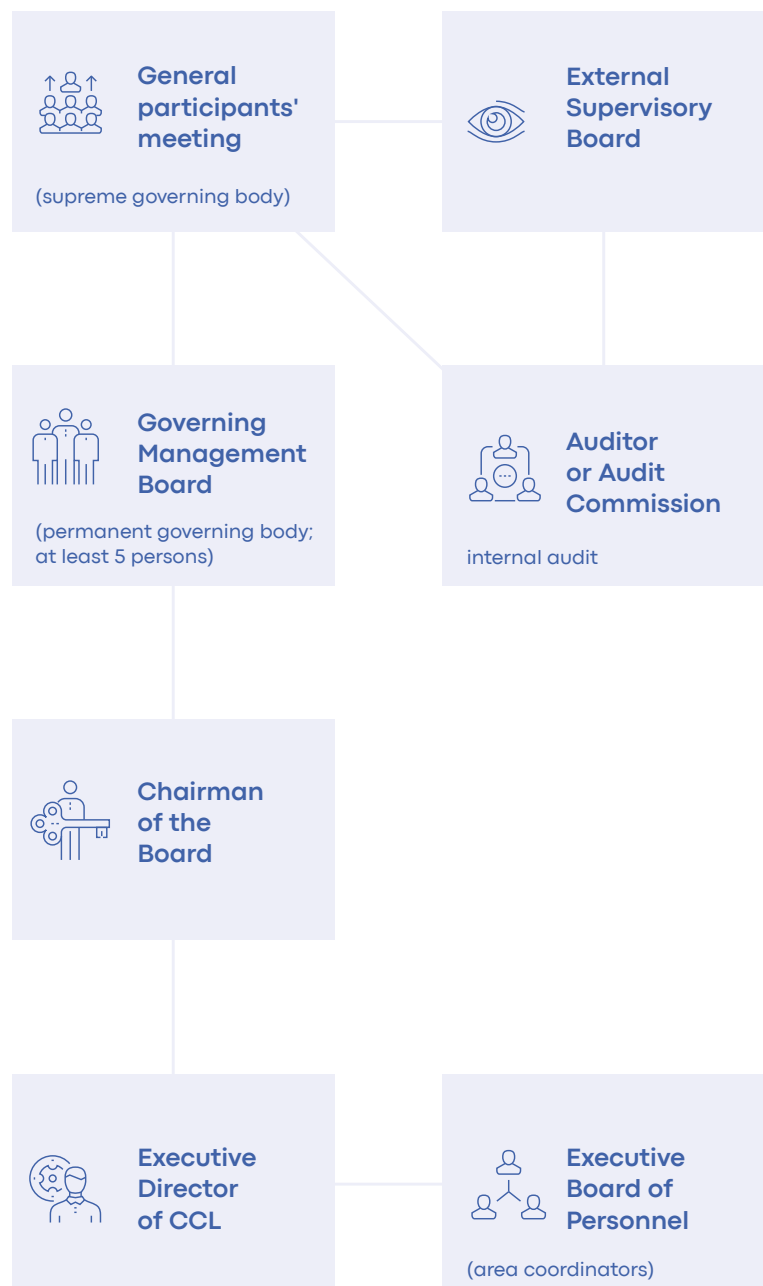
In 2019, a reorganisation of the administration took place within the Center for Civil Liberties. We have created a system that fully complies with European standards and will make the work of our organisation more accessible and transparent both for the members of our NGO and for partners. A system of governing bodies has been established and their areas of responsibility have been expanded:

General participants' meeting: strategic decision making, the election of the board, charter, strategic planning, participation in the formation and approval of vision, mission and values

Supervisory Board: evaluation of the organisation activities, resolution of conflicts within the organisation, consultations on vision, mission and strategic planning

Management Board: administrative decisions, tactical planning for strategy implementation, evaluation of operational tasks

CCL team: tactical plan execution, operational plan development



2.2 Volunteers and interns



As part of its work, the Center for Civil Liberties defines one of its goals as the development and support of the volunteer movement. In particular, the organisation constantly recruits and organises activities for volunteers who wish to participate in the activities of human rights defenders. The CCL volunteers help us create an environment for the growth of a new

generation of human rights defenders, where everyone can become part of a big movement. We are joined by all those who want to change the country, to promote human rights principles, to control authorities and to protect others. Our volunteers organise actions, flashmobs, educational events, take part in public observation, have social media pages, do analytical and design work, etc.

80
volunteers
in the CCL
community



The Center has an **internship** programme as a special form of activity, which is carried out on a volunteer basis and is aimed not only

at helping employees of the organisation but also at directly transferring experience and skills to interns. The main objectives

of the offered internships are to provide interns with the opportunity to gain practical experience in the area related to their academic

13
interns



programme or future work;
to acquire practical skills and
capacity in relevant areas;
to gain work experience in
a human rights non- gov-
ernmental organisation; to

provide the opportunities
for CCL initiatives to benefit
from the interns' work.

In particular, this year
13 selected candidates
became participants of

internship programmes at
the Center. Among them,
there were 6 foreign interns
from France, Denmark,
Sweden and the USA.

"During my internship with the CCL, I took the Introductory and Basic Human Rights Courses, which greatly broadened my horizons and encouraged me to think more critically. I have deepened my knowledge about transitional justice and the European Court of Human Rights. In the United States, we mostly study the UN system and spend very little time on studying other regional systems, so for me this new knowledge is very valuable. The brightest part of my internship was participation in the Kremlin Prisoners regional tour! It was a great honour for me to represent the #SaveOlegSentsov campaign in the first two cities — Odesa and Kherson. I am very grateful to the CCL team for this opportunity to test my abilities and leave my shell, as well as for the faith in me".

Comment of intern Lisa May
(The Fletcher School at Tufts University, USA)



3. COALITIONS AND INITIATIVES OF THE CCL





3.1 Activities of the Human Rights Agenda Platform

During 2019, the coalition of human rights organisations, the Human Rights Agenda Platform, continued to work on monitoring, analysis and development of legislation in accordance with the principles of human rights and fundamental freedoms. The Human

Rights Agenda supported 16 applications and 7 appeals to the authorities to protect fundamental rights and freedoms. Also, 2 action plans on directions were developed and 1 resolution was issued in cooperation with partners. Human Rights Clubs are regularly held during the year, where

the most relevant issues in the field of human rights in Ukraine and in the world were discussed.

The Coalition focused its attention on the most striking violations by the state, in particular, systematic persecution of civic activists in the occupied Crimea.

10 INCONVENIENT QUESTIONS TO PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES”

Furthermore, in the election year, our coalition prepared two campaigns which were implemented during the presidential elections and early parliamentary elections. Since the beginning of 2019, we had been conducting a “10 inconvenient questions to presidential candidates related to the protection of human rights in Ukraine” campaign. The Human Rights Coalition defined the most relevant and painful issues in the field of human rights and called on the presidential candidates to publicly express their

position thereon, which was important both

for the human rights community and for voters.



During this campaign, not only did we send these questions to candidates' headquarters, but also conducted an active information campaign. Our experts and partners asked questions live on television and radio. The questions were aimed at the support of the ratification of the Rome Statute and the Istanbul Convention, implementation of international humanitarian law in Ukrainian legislation, cancellation of the land moratorium, etc.

In total, during the campaign, we sent 40 public statements to presidential candidates, received over 10 responses, which were published, conducted two press conferences, participated in over 10 television and radio broadcasts, the

40 public statements

campaign was mentioned about 10 times in the media.

We received answers from the following presidential candidates: Valentyn Nalyvaichenko, Ruslan Koshulynskyi, Roman Bezsmertnyi, Anatolii Hrytsenko, Inna Bohoslovskaya, Ruslan Ryhovanov, Henadii Balashov, Olha Bohomolets.

Not all listed presidential candidates supported the ratification of the Rome Statute, appealing to the fact that this issue is not a priority and relevant for them, and there is a possible risk of prosecution of persons who participated in volunteer battalions in 2014 and fought with terrorist groups in the territory of Donbas.

It is worth noting that, unfortunately, the highly-rated presidential candidates did not provide answers to our questions. However, taking into account the fact that the goal of our campaign was to publicly demonstrate the positions of the candidates, the lack of answers is also indicative. Unfortunately, it can be concluded that the key participants of these election campaigns did not put a priority on the issue of human rights protection.

13 STEPS FOR PARLIAMENT

During the parliamentary elections, the Human Rights Agenda formulated questions for the parties running for parliament and selected 13 first steps for the future parliament. We developed a road map for the parties heading to the Verkhovna Rada, for the first months of work. Among the tasks for Parliamentarians, the ratification of the Rome Statute and the adoption of the draft law 9438 on war criminals were the main ones.

We put these issues for public discussion and called upon the human rights advocates and experts to get involved in the drafting of the human rights protection action plan for the new parliament and the President.

In early July, we publicly presented the action plan for the new Parliament. The issues were selected, formulated and sent to all parties that according to ratings could make it to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. A public

campaign entitled "Human Rights Action Plan for the new Parliament" was launched. Under the campaign, we held several meetings with the parties' representatives where we presented our action plan and heard answers to important questions.

There were only 5 parties interested in the meeting: "Sluha Narodu" (Servant of the People), "Samopomich" (Selfhelp), "Holos" (Voice), "European Solidarity", "Syla i Chest"

У НАС Є ПЛАН!

ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЙ ПЛАН ДІЙ для нового парламенту

- Ухвалити розроблені Конституційною комісією зміни до розділу II Конституції України про захист прав та основоположних свобод людини та громадянина.
- Скасувати мораторій на купівлю-продаж землі сільськогосподарського призначення та ухвалити закон про обіг землі.
- Продемонструвати готовність України боротися з безкарністю та ратифікувати Римський статут, Стамбульську конвенцію і ухвалити законопроект про воєнних злочинців 9438.
- Продовжити проведення судової реформи та ухвалити зміни до Кримінального процесуального кодексу щодо суду присяжних.
- Розпочати реформу Служби безпеки України та позбавити її невласних функцій, привести її діяльність у відповідність до міжнародних стандартів, зокрема, розвинути механізми парламентського контролю за її діяльністю.
- Внести зміни до адміністративного та кримінального кодексів для вдосконалення механізмів притягнення до відповідальності за дискримінацію та злочини на ґрунті ненависті.
- Розробити та прийняти закон щодо щорічного звітування правоохоронних органів у парламенті про обсяги та результати застосування слідчо-розшукових та оперативно-розшукових дій.

ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЙ ПОРЯДОК ДЕННИЙ

- Спрямувати законодавче забезпечення пенітенціарної реформи на захист прав позбавлених волі.
- Ухвалити зміни, які спростять чинну систему реєстрації місця проживання, щоб кожна людина могла легко зареєструвати своє фактичне місце проживання та користуватися правами і послугами, які з цим пов'язані.
- Ухвалити національну модель перехідного правосуддя та підтримати законопроект «Про засади державної політики захисту прав людини в умовах подолання наслідків збройного конфлікту», розроблений правозахисними організаціями спільно з Уповноваженим Верховної Ради з прав людини.
- Врегулювати на законодавчому рівні правові статуси та гарантії соціального захисту людей, які незаконно затримані в Росії та окупованому Криму, а також перебувають в полоні на території окупованого Донбасу.
- Внести зміни до закону про Уповноваженого Верховної Ради з прав людини для вдосконалення процедури обрання та посилення гарантій незалежності і повноважень даного інституту, а також запровадити незалежні інститути спеціалізованих омбудсменів (інститут інформаційного комісара та інші).
- Створити інституційний механізм для постійної співпраці незалежно від політичної кон'юнктури та започаткувати щоквартальні зустрічі парламентських фракцій із Правозахисним порядком денним.

ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЙ ПОРЯДОК ДЕННИЙ

У НАС Є ПЛАН!

ПРАВОЗАХИСНИЙ ПЛАН ДІЙ для нового парламенту

	ДОМОВИЛИСЯ ПРО ЗУСТРІЧ	ПРОВЕЛИ ЗУСТРІЧ	ПІДТРИМКА ПЛАНУ ДІЙ
Зе! депутат слуга народу	✓	✓	✗
ОПОЗИЦІЙНА ПЛАТФОРМА ЗА ЖИТТЯ	✗	✗	✗
♥ БАТЬКІВЩИНА	✗	✗	✗
# ГОЛОС	✓	✓	✓
ЄС Європейська Солідарність	✓	✓	✗
СИЛА І ЧЕСТЬ політична партія	✓	✓	✓
ОБ'ЄДНАННЯ САМОПОМІЧ	✓	✓	✓
СИЛА ЛЮДЕЙ	✓	✓	✓

ВІДПОВІДІ ПАРТІЙ НА КОЖЕН З ПУНКТІВ ПЛАНУ

✓ повністю підтримує ? є зауваження / примітки

ПУНКТ ПЛАНУ ДІЙ	# ГОЛОС	СИЛА І ЧЕСТЬ політична партія	ОБ'ЄДНАННЯ САМОПОМІЧ	СИЛА ЛЮДЕЙ
1	✓	?	?	✓
2	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	✓	✓	✓	✓
5	✓	✓	✓	✓
6	✓	✓	✓	✓
7	✓	✓	✓	✓
8	✓	✓	✓	✓
9	✓	✓	✓	✓
10	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	✓	✓	✓	✓
12	✓	?	✓	✓
13	✓	✓	✓	✓



(Strength and Dignity). The parties “Ukrainian Strategy of Hroisman”, “Batkivshyna” (Motherland), “Opposition Platform ‘Za Zhyttya’” (For Life), “Opposition Block”,

“Hromadyanska Pozystia” (Civic Position) did not respond to the meeting proposal and did not provide their written answers.

On July 19, 2019, we summarised the campaign and publicly presented the results of work with the parties.

In total during the campaign, we had over 10 meetings with party representatives, held two press conferences, participated in over 15 television and radio broadcasts. The campaign was mentioned over 10 times in the media.

This autumn, after the final formation of the Parliament and committees of the Verkhovna Rada, we launched the process of the “13 steps” implementation. It should be noted that some of our paragraphs are being actively adopted, in particular, cancellation of the moratorium on the land market.

10
meetings
with party
representatives

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS NON-CONFERENCE 2019

On December 10, the Human Rights Day, Kyiv hosted the opening of the country's largest Human Rights non-Conference. This year's event can claim to be the largest since it was first held both in terms of the number of participants and the number of workshops.

The main feature of the non-Conference is thematic workshops that take place simultaneously and cover a wide variety of topics, from the protection of the LGBT rights to the Kremlin prisoners. A total of about two dozen different platforms were organised this year,



each covering a different topic. The event was attended by about 400 participants,

which is pretty much the best indicator in the history of the non-Conference.



NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS AWARD 2019

A mandatory attribute of the non-Conference is a national human rights award, which is given to a nominee chosen by the members of the Human Rights Agenda Platform. The 2019 award was held in the unusual format. The organisers determined

the winner, yet she was not announced publicly. The reason for this is the nature of her activities. The jury decided to award the nominee for her work related to the protection of human rights in the occupied territories, and, unfortunately, such work

often involves personal risks and requires anonymity. Therefore, the award was handed over to former hostages in the occupied territories Iryna Dovhan and Valerii Nasiedkin, who later presented the award to the winner behind the closed doors.



3.2 Overcoming the effects of armed conflict

An important part of our organisation's activities is the protection of human rights in the occupied territories, as well as the establishment

of an effective mechanism to ensure bringing to responsibility for the gravest crimes committed during the military conflict.

CAMPAIGN FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE ROME STATUTE

On June 30, 2019, the three-year postponement of entering into force of the new constitutional provisions, which facilitate the ratification of the Rome Statute, expired. This is why,

during the election campaign, the Human Rights Agenda called on all political forces running in the parliamentary elections to do their utmost to ensure that Ukraine ratifies the Rome Statute

in the nearest future and becomes a full member of the International Criminal Court.

Together with our colleagues, we issued a statement regarding the expiration of the three-year



15
meetings on
the ratification
of the Rome
Statute



postponement of the Rome Statute ratification, as it will allow the International Criminal Court prosecutors from The Hague to efficiently work in Ukraine and will help achieve a fair punishment.

Under the campaigns “10 awkward questions to presidential candidates” and “13 steps for the new parliament”, one of the key topics was the ratification of the Rome Statute in Ukraine.

Under the campaigns “10 inconvenient questions to presidential candidates” and “13 steps for the new parliament”, one of the key topics was the ratification of the Rome Statute in Ukraine. Throughout the year, we have been working at international platforms (the UN, the PACE, the OSCE),

constantly advocating for the ratification of the Rome Statute and implementation of the international humanitarian law standards.

We organised a number of events and spoke at other platforms, where myths and fears about the ratification of the Rome Statute were dispelled. Indeed, in 2019, this issue became more urgent for politicians and society.

We published several articles, held a press conference, organised over 4 round tables to discuss ratification issues. In total, in 2019, we held over 15 meetings and participated in 10 other events related to this issue in support of the ratification of the Rome Statute.

CAMPAIGN TOWARDS ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT LAW “ON WAR CRIMINALS”

Throughout the year, we made every effort to draw attention to our draft law on war criminals which should introduce an effective mechanism and serious responsibility for crimes against humanity and war crimes in Ukraine.

As late as January we began negotiations with the relevant committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on Legislative Support of Law Enforcement Activities to support and promote the draft law on harmonisation of Ukrainian criminal legislation with the international law standards.

On February 7, 2019, we held an action within the Ukrainian Parliament together with our ambassadors of the draft law on war criminals. On the sidelines of the Verkhovna Rada, we distributed printed materials and talked personally with the MPs about the relevance and need for this draft law.

On February 7, 2019, we held an action within the Ukrainian Parliament together with our ambassadors of the draft law on war criminals. In lobbies of the Verkhovna Rada, we distributed printed materials and talked personally with people's deputies about the relevance and need for this draft law.

As late as February 27 at a meeting of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Legislative Support of Law Enforcement Activities a decision to recommend to the Verkhovna Rada to adopt the draft law “On Amendments to Certain Legislative Acts of Ukraine regarding the Harmonisation of Criminal Legislation with International Law Provisions” (reg. No. 9438) in the first reading was made.

However, the draft law had not been submitted to the agenda of the session of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine for a long time.





Therefore, we continued the campaign in support of the draft law on war criminals by raising the issue of impunity at the international film festivals DocudaysUA 2019 and Molodist where we presented excerpts from the 3D film *Hostages of War* and held a flashmob called “punish war criminals”. The virtual reality glasses allowed the participants to feel themselves in the basement of the DPR, where prisoners were held and tortured, and to hear the stories from the hostages and their loved ones.

In May and June, we held two major public actions in support of the adoption of draft law No. 9438. The actions caused a huge resonance in the media.

As a result, the public campaign reached the Parliament as well. Parliamentarians were finally forced to adopt the draft law on war criminals in the first reading on June 6, 2019.

Throughout the way to the first small victory, we were supported by international organisations, non-governmental organisations, and state authorities which unanimously approved the legislative initiative. After all, the draft law is aimed at harmonising Ukrainian criminal legislation with the provisions of International Humanitarian Law.

During the campaign, we held over 100 meetings with representatives of international organisations,





result. The Committee on Law Enforcement was unable to take a decision on the draft law, only a working group was created to work on the comments and suggestions to the version.

Our struggle continues until justice prevails over impunity.

In total, during the campaign in support of the draft law on war criminals, we held about 10 public actions and over 50 advocacy meetings, organised and participated in expert discussions at various events more than 30 times. Over 80 articles and news stories regarding our law were written and filmed.

state authorities, the Government, and parliament, held public events and actions where we discussed the necessity of adopting the draft law on war criminals.

We also started working with a new target group consisting of service members and veterans, who are direct witnesses of war crimes committed by the Russian Federation and pro-Russian militants in Donbas. We tried to explain the essence of draft law No. 9438 to the veterans of

the war with Russia and active service members in plain language and also dispelled myths and assertions concerning criminal prosecution of the Ukrainian military or other persons, who took part in counteraction of the armed aggression of Russia on behalf of Ukraine.

As late as autumn, the new parliament registered draft law under No. 0892 and undertook to adopt it.

However, by the end of the year, we did not get a positive

50
advocacy
meetings

3.3. #SaveOlegSentsov Campaign and actions in support of all Kremlin prisoners



2019 was a landmark for our organisation that has been campaigning for Kremlin prisoners since 2014. The #SaveOlegSentsov campaign that we launched last year continued to be active and only grew in scope. On July 13, we held the campaign called “Night with Oleg Sentsov”.

From 9 p. m. to 1 a. m. several hundred people gathered in downtown Kyiv, in the cultural space “IZONE”, for a big meeting dedicated to Oleg Sentsov’s birthday. The meeting was attended by human rights activists, writers, actors, and friends of Oleg. Anticipated as a small one the meeting

turned out to be a real concert with artists whom many major festivals would envy.

Oleg’s birthday was celebrated and Kremlin prisoners were supported by free-of-charge performances by Andrii Khlyvniuk (Bumboks), MC Tapolsky, and Anton Sliepakov (Vahonovozhatye).



The “Night with Oleg Sentsov” was one of the most prominent actions, but hardly the only. Throughout the year, SaveSentsov volunteers held dozens of actions in support of Ukrainian political prisoners.

In August 2019, our volunteers took part in the “human rights landing force”, all-Ukrainian action “Prisoners of the Kremlin”, which was held with the participation of ten major human rights organisations in Ukraine and covered 11 cities. Our volunteers visited Odesa, Kherson, Kharkiv, Mariupol, Dnipro, Zaporizhzhia, Chernivtsi, Lviv, Vinnytsia, Chernihiv, and Kyiv.

The installation consisting of metal traps, the number of which coincides with the

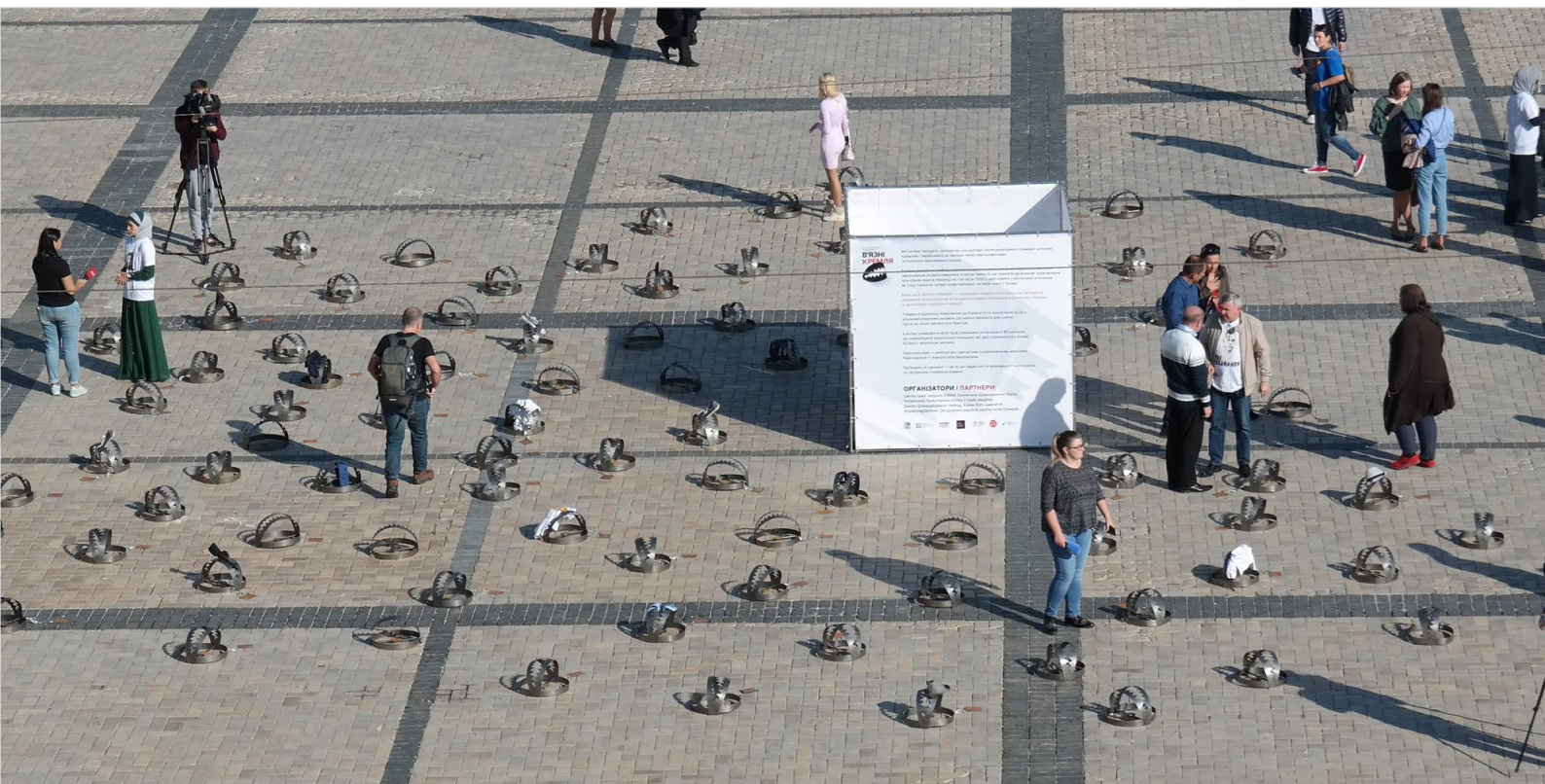
number of Ukrainian political prisoners in the occupied Crimea and Russia, was installed in each city. Next to the installation, there was a tent inside of which our volunteers provided the citizens with the current information as to the Kremlin prisoners, as well as offered

the local residents to write letters for those behind bars. In total, during this tour, we collected almost half a thousand letters and postcards.

On September 7, when our volunteers were conducting the action in Mariupol, some Ukrainian political prisoners returned to their homeland.







Oleg Sentsov, Oleksandr Kolchenko, Volodymyr Balukh, and all Ukrainian sailors previously detained in Kerch, etc. were among those released.

A few weeks after the release, we held the informal meeting of ex-political prisoners with the participants of our volunteer campaign.

We told Oleg Sentsov, Mykola Karpyiuk, Oleksandr Kolchenko, and Volodymyr Balukh about the campaigns in their support we had been holding for several years and personally handed over those letters that had been collected for them during the “Kremlin Prisoners” tour.

However, despite the “Exchange”, our campaign proceeds. After Oleg Sentsov’s return to the homeland, we held several actions and events in support of Ukrainians and Crimean Tatars imprisoned in Russia and Crimea. There was an action held on Maidan on Volodymyr







**PRISONER'S
VOICE**

Dudka's birthday and a big "Evening with Stanislav Asieiev" dedicated to the birthday of the imprisoned journalist.

In autumn 2019, the initiative group of the #SaveOlegSentsov campaign decided to rename it. From

the beginning of 2020 we are fighting for every Ukrainian prisoner in Russia and the occupied territories under the name [#PrisonersVoice](#) while keeping one of our main slogans — become the voice of Kremlin prisoners!





public monitoring

3.4 OZON Civic Monitoring Group

A voluntary association of active citizens who are aware of the importance of quality public control over the actions of the authorities, as well as over the key processes that take place on the line of contact between society or between the person and the state. The work of the initiative is coordinated by the human rights organisation Center for Civil Liberties.

Civic monitors are an independent party always being ABOVE the process. The aim is to improve the work of government bodies in the area of human rights through an organised system of independent control over them. Through their work, groups of monitors popularise the concept of the authority as a hired manager with the evaluation of the effectiveness of government

bodies being directly carried out by the citizens themselves.

The special aspect of the group's activities is wide involvement of "ordinary" citizens in public control regardless of their previous specialisation and experience.

The task of monitors is documenting the events going on around the peaceful assemblies and tracking violations during court trials. The recorded data is subject



to analysis for compliance with the national legislation and international standards.

OZON volunteers are visible for the public and

easily recognised by special yellow vests and ID cards with the words “civic monitor”.

During the year, over 70 new volunteers from

Kyiv and regions joined the OZON activities. In total, over 100 volunteers took part in civic monitoring and public control actions in 2019.



EXAMPLES OF RESULTS OF MONITORING BY PUBLIC WATCHERS PRESENTED IN THE REPORTS:

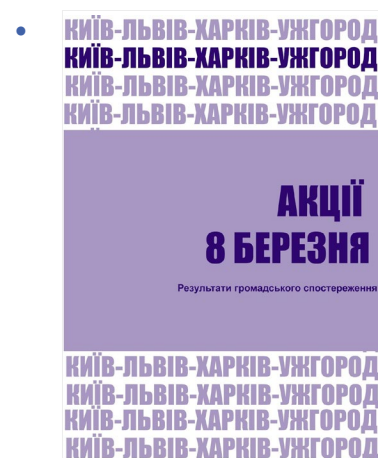
- **Equality March 2019**
<http://ccl.org.ua/reports/monitorynh-marshu-rivnosti-2019>



- **KharkivPride March**
<http://ozon.monitoring.tilda.ws/hrkvprdi9>



- **March 8, 2019 action monitoring results**
<http://ccl.org.ua/reports/ozon-rezultaty-monitorynhiv-aktsiy-8-bereznia-2019>



- **May 9 in Kyiv**
<http://ccl.org.ua/reports/monitorynh-9-travnia-2019-u-kyievi>



- **Accessibility of courts in Kyiv (2019)**
<http://ccl.org.ua/reports/dostupnist-sudiv-u-kyievi-2019>



- **OdesaPride Equality March 2019**
<http://ozon.monitoring.tilda.ws/page7216527.html>

- **TRANS MARCH2019**
<http://ozon.monitoring.tilda.ws/page8401235.html>

IN 2019, THE OZON CIVIC MONITORS GROUP CARRIED OUT:

32 training events were organized, including 21 trainings and masterclasses, 9 briefings, 2 lectures. Our monitors also participated in 4 professional development events organised by ODIHR/ OSCE, European Center for Not-for-Profit Law and UNDP.

In addition, 31 working meetings and a large coordination meeting of monitors were held during the Human Rights non-Conference 2019 to coordinate the work of the network.

Over 100 monitorings of peaceful assemblies and court trials were conducted, including 34 peaceful assemblies, 14 court trials in different high-profile cases.

32

training
events

21

trainings
and master
classes

100

observations
of peaceful
assemblies

MAIDAN CASES

Over 70 court hearings were attended under the Maidan Cases public monitoring campaign, which was launched in September 2019. The questionnaire for training under the campaign was filled in by about 120 people, for whom 4 trainings with experts have already been conducted. In Kyiv, court hearings in cases of crimes committed during the Maidan take place every week. For several years now, journalists, human rights defenders, and social activists have been trying to attend all the hearings to control the process. However, their efforts are often not enough and only a few come to court hearings which have been in the focus of attention of the whole world. The aim of the campaign was to draw attention to the court

KYIVPRIDE EQUALITY MARCH 2019

KyivPride Equality March 2019 is the longest monitoring in the field that took 18 hours.

On June 23, 2019, 8 monitors carried out observations at the March, along the whole route of the assembly and counter-assemblies. 40 monitors took part in the coordination and conduct of the monitoring.



hearings in these cases and to encourage the public not to be passive consumers of information from the news, but to ensure public control over the compliance with the right to a fair trial.

COURTS MONITORING INITIATIVE

On April 19, **50 volunteers** checked the inclusiveness of **10 courts** of general jurisdiction in Kyiv under the campaign called “Let’s Check the Courts for Accessibility”. After the training conducted by universal design experts, groups of action participants went to different courts of Kyiv to independently identify violations and opportunities for improvements in the context of accessibility of the court infrastructure for people with limited mobility.

The action was organised by OZON Public Civic Monitors (Center for Civil Liberties) with the support of Otsium Library, experts from the Inclusive Country Association, and ORFO Universal Design.

People with limited mobility, people who use wheelchairs, and visually impaired activists joined the action as well. During the check in Pecherskyi and Podilskyi courts, everyone had an opportunity to get into the building using a wheelchair. Parents of the



Kyiv Friendly to Parents and Children initiative also expressed solidarity with the action. Based on the results of the check, experts prepared a report with recommendations on how to improve the infrastructure, taking into account the unfavorable context: most of the courts are located in old buildings which have never been designed as inclusive and require major repairs; and a joint round table was held with representatives of the State Judicial Administration.

IMPACT ON AUTHORITY

As part of its activities, the group prepared and issued:

- 28 requests for access to public information
- 10 applications to the authorities
 - 6 of which concerned the initiation of internal investigations
 - 1 case was transferred to the State Bureau of Investigation



During the monitoring of events after Kharkiv Pride March on September 15, our observers recorded a case of the illegal use of force by a police officer.

Detaining a person at 15 Rymarska Street, together with other law enforcement officers, the police officer without proper identification, as seen on the videotape, stepped on the leg of the detainee, and kicked the latter on the knee with his other

leg. The video shows that the detainee does not resist lying and covering his head with his hands, which indicates abuse of authority by the law enforcement officer.

- 5 meetings with representatives of the authorities
- 1 round table

In 2019, we significantly increased the information coverage of our activities. We organised and conducted 6 press briefings and interviews, and our Facebook page increased its reach by over 1,000 %.

1000%
Facebook page reach increased by

3.5. Euromaidan SOS

In 2019, our Euromaidan SOS initiative worked in two main areas: requirements for the effective investigation

of crimes against protesters at Maidan, as well as the holding of a traditional Volunteer Award.



HISTORY'S LARGEST EUROMAIDAN SOS VOLUNTEER AWARDS

The awards presented at a ceremony held annually by the Center of the Civil Liberties on November 30 in Kyiv. This date has a symbolic meaning, because on November 30, 2013 the Euromaidan SOS initiative

was created as a response to the violent crackdown of a peaceful student demonstration on Maidan Nezalezhnosti. It is on this day that the initiative of the Center for Civil Liberties, Euromaidan SOS, brought

together volunteers from all over the country to say “thank you” to those people, by courtesy of whom the country withstood in difficult times, and by courtesy of whom the problems which seemed to be insolvable are now resolved.



The sixth ceremony was attended by 123 nominees who are volunteers from different cities of Ukraine. The nominations include “Support for the Ukrainian military”, “Support for vulnerable groups”, “Animal rights”, “Donation” and many others. Each nominee was awarded a diploma and branded gifts.

The expert jury selected two laureates this year. They were Kateryna Pryimak, the paramedic of “Hospitallers”, who saved the lives of soldiers, and Vitalii Andriiets, who founded the workshop “Mudryi Tesla” (Wise Carpenter), where he teaches the craft to children who grow up without a father. It should be noted that Vitalii is displaced from Luhansk.

The jury consisted of the following prominent people:

- Andrii Kurkov — Ukrainian writer, scriptwriter, President of PEN Ukraine.
- Yaroslav Hrytsak — Ukrainian scientist, historian and publicist.
- Rymma Ziubina — Ukrainian actress, TV presenter, public activist
- Iryna Dovhan — Ukrainian volunteer, resident of Yasynuvata, who was tortured by the DPR for her pro- Ukrainian position. In March 2016, she received a non- governmental award, the People’s Hero



of Ukraine, the winner of the Volunteer Award 2018.

- Oleksandr Fozzy Sydorenko — vocalist in the Tanok na Maidani Kongo group.
- Mariia Fronoshchuk — co-founder and director of Platfor.ma.

123
nominees



MAIDAN CASES

2019 may become decisive in the investigation of the so-called “Maidan Cases”, crimes against protesters during the Revolution of Dignity. Over all these years, the Euromaidan SOS initiative has repeatedly criticised the ineffective investigation and made concrete proposals to resolve the situation. However, autumn 2019 almost put the Maidan Cases at risk of complete collapse. Due to the reforms of the Prosecutor General’s Office, the investigation of cases was to be transferred from the Special Investigation Department of the Prosecutor General’s Office of Ukraine to the State Bureau of Investigation (SBI). However, as experts note, the SBI



had neither appropriate department, nor investigators to handle these cases. Those investigators who had been working with materials for many years should transfer cases to the “emptiness”.

According to the experts, the investigation could have stopped completely for at least six months, which would have led to the collapse of the investigation. This situation received a very strong reaction in Ukrainian society. In protest against

the collapse of Maidan Cases, several well-known activists and lawyers went on a hunger strike, among them the lawyer of the Heavenly Hundred families Yevheniia Zakrevska.

From the very beginning, the Euromaidan SOS initiative released several joint statements against the collapse of the Maidan Cases and also made specific proposals to rescue the investigation. In early November, we held a large action near the Presidential Office which gathered

relatives of the deceased Heroes of the Heavenly Hundred, lawyers, human rights defenders, and active citizens. We handed over our demands to the representative of the Presidential Office.

In early December 2019, the Verkhovna Rada voted for amendments to the law that could save the investigation. However, there is still a big threat to the effective investigation, which means that we will continue working in this direction.



4. PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND CERTAIN VULNERABLE GROUPS

Over the year, we actively participated in the protection of rights and freedoms of various groups of people, from the LGBT to political refugees. We held events on women's rights and defended Crimean Tatars. In addition, we conducted a range of activities in two main categories:

FREEDOM OF RELIGION

In 2019, we created a new platform in the form of roundtables with dozens of representatives of different confessions, which became near the most effective of our new initiatives. The agenda included different issues: from the protection of religious minorities in the occupied



territories of Donbas and Crimea to assisting the Kremlin prisoners by religious missions. We are only beginning to work in this direction, however, one thing is for sure now:

after each roundtable, its participants would agree that Ukraine lacked such a platform for discussion of topical issues in the field of freedom of religion and religious rights.



PERSECUTION OF CIVIL SOCIETY IN 2019

The tragic death of Kateryna Handziuk who was doused with acid has drawn attention to the persecution of civil society. The list of victims compiled by her friends and lawyers even at the time included 55 attacks on human rights defenders, lawyers, environmentalists, journalists, corruption exposers, etc.

Since the beginning of this year, the Center for Civil Liberties has recorded over 70 cases of different forms of pressure on and persecution of civil society representatives throughout the country. These figures show not so much an increase in the number of attacks as the fact the tragic death of Kateryna Handziuk has forced human rights organisations to begin systematic work to monitor and record these attacks for the first time.

The Center for Civil Liberties systematically works to protect civil society and to

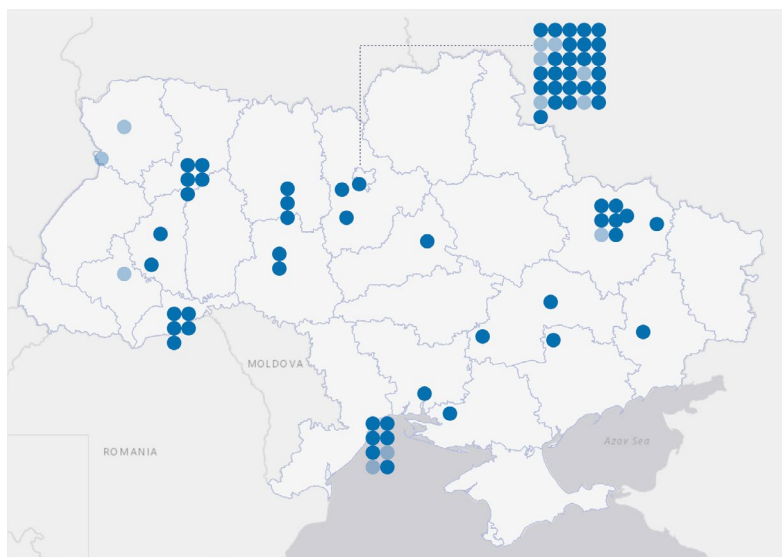
develop effective monitoring and investigation of these attacks. In 2019, we created and presented an interactive map of attacks. So far, it is working in a test mode, but even now you can look at specific cases throughout the country and see how law enforcement agencies and public activists themselves assess their state of investigation.

In addition, CCL continues to be actively involved in the civil society protection

coalition which includes dozens of other non-governmental and human rights organisations.

This also shows that the problem of the persecution of civil society is still topical. Only a few months ago Cherkasy journalist Vadym Komarov died in hospital without regaining consciousness. An unknown man hit him three times on the head with a blunt metal instrument, probably a hammer. The theory of robbery was not confirmed as no valuables were missing.

The interactive map is the first online tool in Ukraine that allows tracking the response of state authorities and assessing the effectiveness of investigation in these cases.



5. HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION AND ENLIGHTENMENT

Since its establishment, our Center has been regularly engaged in educational and awareness-raising activities and this area has always been one of the most important for us.

KYIV SCHOOL OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Kyiv School of Human Rights and Democracy is a free educational platform of the Center for Civil Liberties.

We regularly hold educational events in Kyiv and other cities. Within the school, we organise lectures, film screenings, round tables, and courses. The school is a great



Київська
Школа
Прав
Людини

54
different
events

opportunity to volunteer for one of the initiatives of the Center for Civil Liberties, to begin human rights activities, and to learn more about human rights.

In 2019 we held over **54** different events under the brand name of the Kyiv School of Human Rights. **15** of them were film screenings where we showed documentary films on human rights.

Among those documentaries there were Srebrenica, See You in Chechnya, Rwanda, Reconciliation, Birth and Elections. We invited experts in the relevant topics for a discussion: Max Levin, documentary photographer; Iryna Yakovleva, communications specialist in the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission; Olena Rozvadovska, volunteer, activist who works



with children in the gray zone in Donbas; Noema Krotas, the UN expert, and others.

We hold monthly Human Rights Introductory Courses.

Our events were attended by about **1,500** people, among whom there were pupils, students, human right defenders, and ordinary citizens. Over **110,000** people watched our events online and **4,000** subscribed to our regular human rights events digest.



110,000
people
watched our
events online



SEPARATE EVENTS

Last year, we actively participated in various festivals. Beginning with a music concert on the Independence Day of Ukraine organised by our partners from the Crimean House where we introduced our platform for writing letters to the Kremlin prisoners, and ending with participation in Zaxidfest and Atlas Weekend music festivals. This was perhaps the first time we tried to hold human rights platforms at entertainment events and received positive feedback. These festivals are usually well attended and the informal atmosphere facilitates the activities ranging from human rights quizzes to letter-writing marathons.



6. INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

Systematic work to inform and influence the decisions of such institutions as the Council of Europe bodies, including the European Court of Human Rights and PACE, the OSCE, the UN, the European Parliament, and the International Criminal Court is the goal of our international advocacy carried out in 2019.

It is important for us to use all the instruments provided by these international institutions to address human rights violations both in the occupied and government-controlled territories. In addition, it is the fruitful cooperation with these units that has served all year long as an occasion for active interaction with national human rights organisations and such international associations of human rights defenders as FIDH, NGO ICC Coalition, Civic Solidarity Platform, Front Line Defenders and others.

As a result of this work, repeatedly adopted resolutions and recommendations were addressed to the Government of Ukraine, the

Russian Federation and the international community.

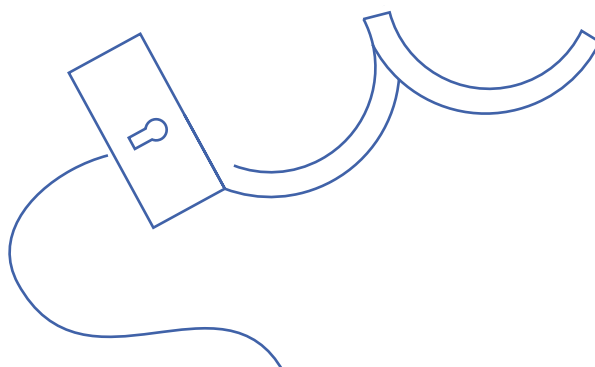
The key issues on which we have been working over the past year are as follows:

- Introduction of the human rights context into the so-called “Minsk Process”;
- Bringing Ukrainian legislation in line with International Humanitarian Law;
- Release of 87 political prisoners held in prisons in the Crimea and the Russian Federation, as well as over 200 prisoners held in illegal detention facilities in the separate

districts of Donetsk and Luhansk regions (SDDLK).

The first large-scale release of 11 political prisoners and 24 war prisoners (sailors) this September obviously stole the spotlight. Thanks to the willingness of former prisoners to participate in further advocacy for the release of their fellow prisoners, beginning from September 10 - the date of the first press conference of Oleg Sentsov and Oleksandr Kolchenko, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and various partners such as the Open Dialogue Foundation and Ukrainian diaspora, we were able to organise high-level advocacy meetings in more

**35 political prisoners
were released in September
and 76 prisoners
in December 2019**



than 10 European countries: Great Britain, France, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Spain, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Slovakia, Czech Republic. Plans for the beginning of next year include the USA, Canada and the Scandinavian countries. A number of meetings of Oleg Sentsov and Oleksandra Romantsova at the Council of Europe were separate events: one with the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, PACE President, and the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, as well as another separate meeting with the President of France Emmanuel Macron.

In addition, it should be noted that our organization held the meetings with all political forces of the European Parliament and



its President as part of the awarding Oleg Sentsov with A. D. Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought, as well as a side event on the situation

with Ukrainian political prisoners in Russia, Crimea and SDDL within the annual meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council in Bratislava.

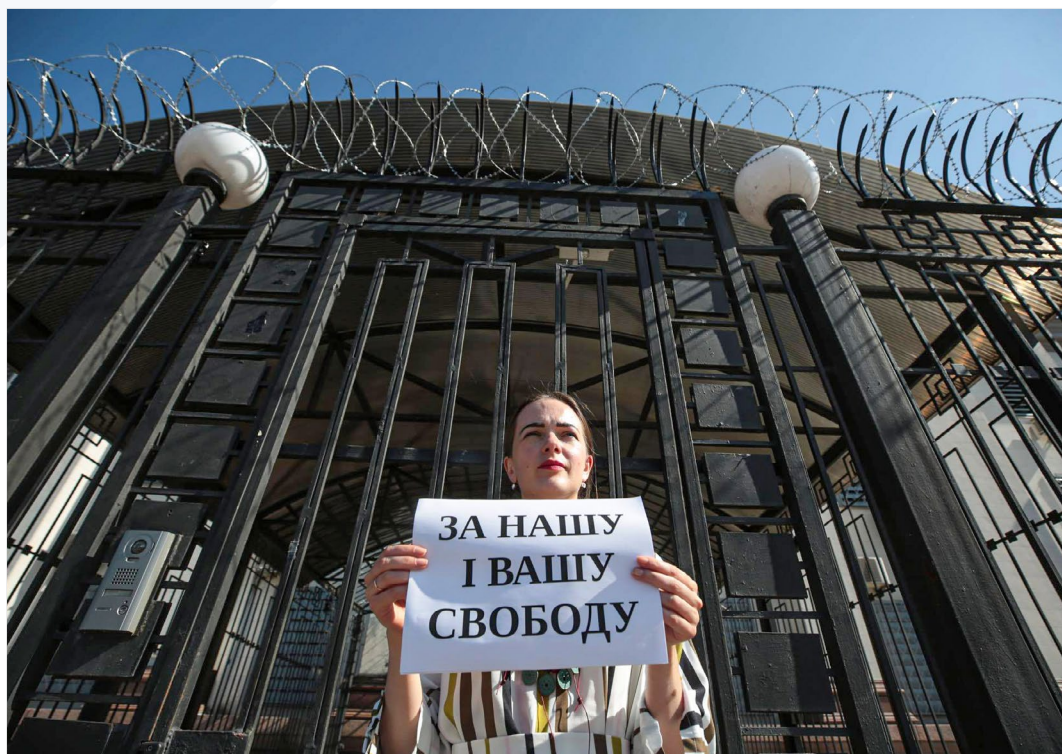


7. INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

Solidarity is not just an important area, but also one of the values of our organisation.

Over the year, we focused on human rights violations in the OSCE region countries, in particular the protests and crackdowns in Russia and Hong Kong. Oleksandra Matviichuk, the Chairperson of our organisation, spoke out against political repression in Kazakhstan by taking part in the support action on Maidan organised by the citizens of Kazakhstan.

In 2019, we repeatedly expressed support for citizens of other countries who are persecuted for political reasons. Thus, we held a protest demonstration at the Russian embassy after the arrest of Russian activist Kostantyn Kotov who is known for his pro-Ukrainian views and actions in support of Ukrainian political prisoners and the territorial integrity of Ukraine. In addition, we drew attention to the case of Russian activist Sergey Ryzhov, who was one of the organisers of the Peace March in Saratov



against the war with Ukraine in 2014 and has been under arrest for more than two years now. We expressed solidarity with the Moscow activist Mark Halperin known for his pro-Ukrainian actions in Russia who was arrested this autumn.

In autumn 2019, protests in Hong Kong turned

unspeakably massive and the counteraction of the Chinese authorities became truly appalling. Ukraine knows first-hand what the struggle for own independence against the authoritarian regime is, which is why our Euromaidan SOS initiative launched an online action in support of the protesters in Hong Kong. In

addition, we held a large rally near the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in Kyiv.

Over the year, we closely monitored the observance of the rights of foreign citizens in Ukraine, including those who were forced to leave their homeland due to political or other persecution. Unfortunately, we acknowledge the unpreparedness and unwillingness of the Ukrainian authorities and migration services to fulfil their obligations under international agreements on refugees. However, our organisation provides targeted assistance to several politically persecuted activists who are forced to seek asylum in Ukraine. We also support Ukrainian human rights organisations that have taken the initiative to reform the migration procedure in terms of protection of foreign citizens against political persecution.





8. ACHIEVEMENTS

- Last year we enjoyed many achievements, intermediate and final victories. Thus, at the very beginning of the year, **we received the award** from the MP Iryna Suslova.



- On the first day of summer, June 1, 2019, the Verkhovna Rada **voted for the adoption of our law on war criminals in the first reading.** Unfortunately, because of the early elections of the Parliament, the procedure for adopting the law was complicated, and in December 2019, our law was re-registered in the Verkhovna Rada of the new convocation. In any case, we can say for sure that after several years of active campaigning in 2019, we are as close as possible to passing this law.
- In 2019, the Chairman of the Center **Oleksandra Matviichuk got into top-hundred of the most influential women of Ukraine** thanks to her advocacy and public work. “Last year she initiated the global action #SaveOlegSentsov, which was supported by thousands of active people around the world. The Chairman of the Center for Civil Liberties and the like-minded simultaneously launched activities in 40 capitals to protect the Ukrainians who were found to be in Russian prisons,” Focus notes.
- Annual major events, **Euro Maidan SOS Volunteer Award, and the Human Rights Non-Conference became the most massive in the history of their implementation.** In 2019, regular educational events at the Kyiv School of Human Rights and Democracy were attended by over 1,000 participants.
- At the end of the year, the Ministry of Justice supported and registered in the Verkhovna Rada the **law on jury trial, which was developed by our experts as well.** We have been conducting awareness campaign on this law for several years. The law on jury trial is likely to be adopted in the near future.
- The internship programme at the Center for Civil Liberties was in great demand in 2019: **over 20 interns from 7 countries** participated in the summer internship. We continue our ongoing cooperation on internship with the University of Paris, and this year we started accepting interns from Stanford University.
- In December 2019, our **initiative #SaveOlegSentsov received an award for the best mobilisation campaign** from the Pirania Private PR Club of civil society organisations. The award was presented during the Civil Society Development Forum to our volunteers who directly participated in the campaign.

- By the sixth year of our active campaign for the release of Kremlin prisoners, the exchange **process was finally unblocked** which could not happen without constant pressure from the civil society as well as international advocacy at a high political level, in which the Center for Civil Liberties took part not only as a human rights organisation but also as a coordinator of an international network.
- Last year we **launched Ukraine's first online tool for public control** over the investigations of attacks and other forms of persecution of public activists.



9. CCL TEAM



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**Svitlana
Astrakhantseva**

Member of the Board of the International Helsinki Group and the International Helsinki Association



**Andrii
Yurov**

Famous international human rights activist, social philosopher, expert of the Moscow Helsinki Group. Member of the Council of the International Public Initiative for the OSCE. Academic Director of the International School for Human Rights and Civil Action. .



**Oleh
Martynenko**

Head of the analytical direction of the Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union. Director of Public Association «Center for Law Enforcement Studies». Habilitation degree in law, criminologist.



**Mariia
Kravchuk**

Director General at Polimentor – digital advertising and contact-centre.

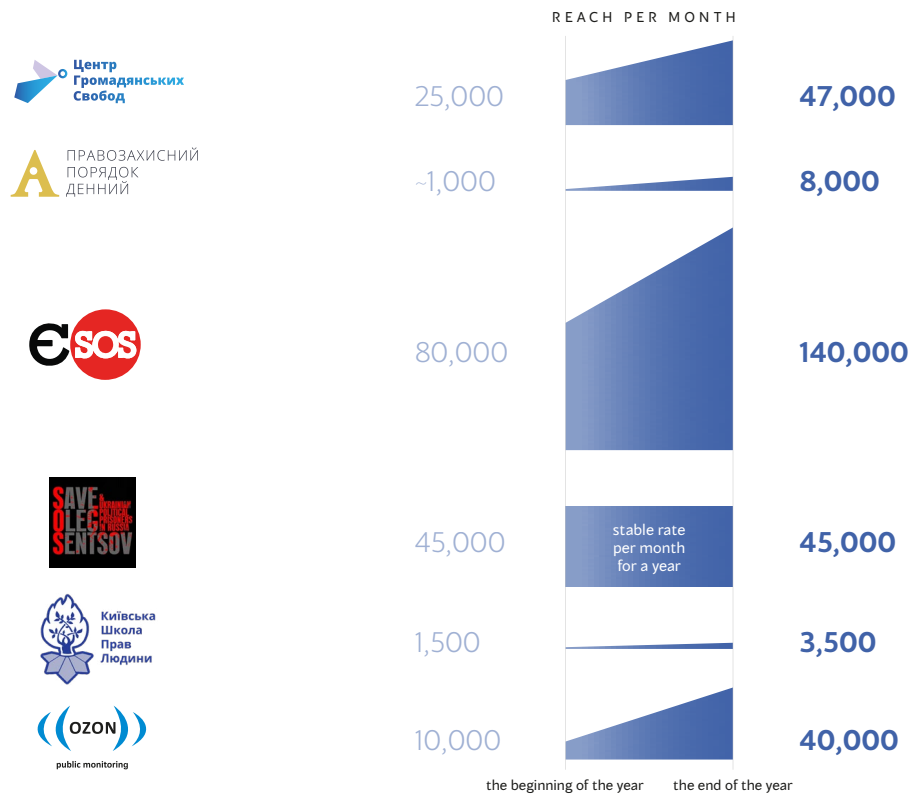


**Larysa
Denysenko**

Lawyer, human rights activist, writer. Member of the Board and host of Hromadske Radio. UNDP Messenger of Tolerance in Ukraine. Member of the Board of the International Renaissance Foundation.

10. COMMUNICATIONS AND COOPERATION WITH MASS MEDIA

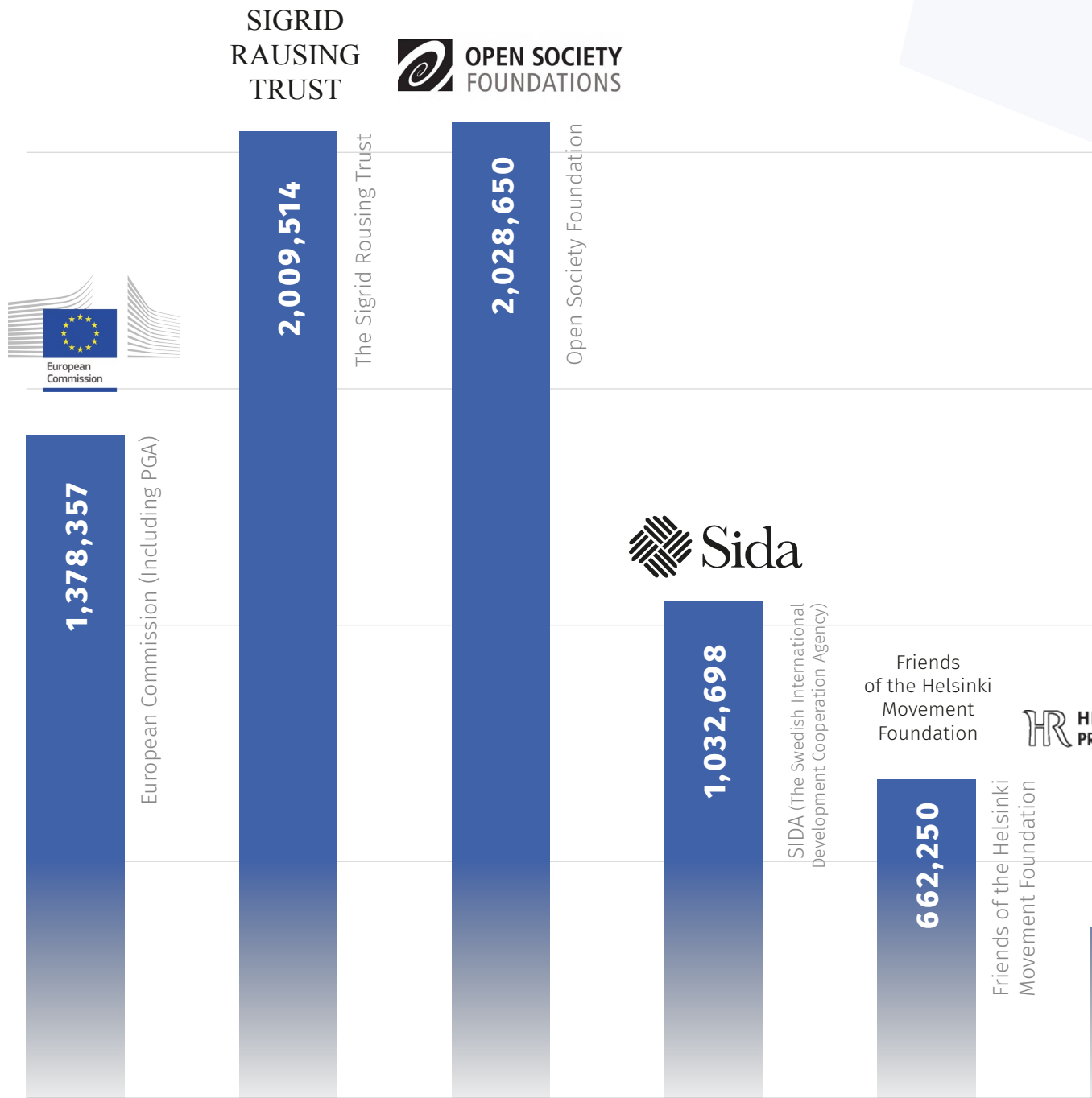
In 2019, our organisation increased the coverage of its own work in social networks and mass media. We held dozens of press conferences where we told about the results of our work. All the Facebook pages of our initiatives received a strong boost.



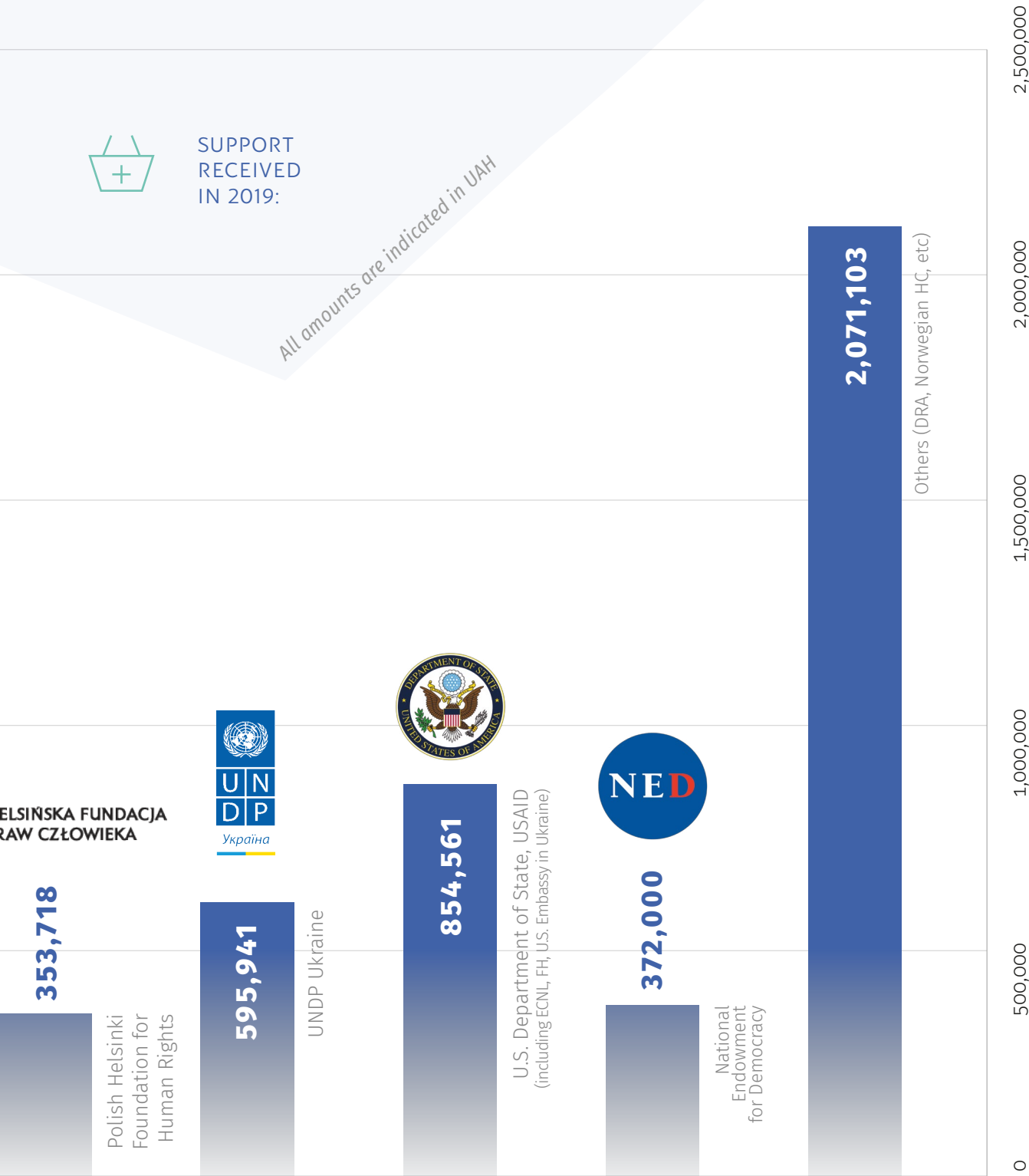
In addition, over the year we actively conducted information events with the support of Hromadske Radio and Hromadske Telebachennia, Radio Svoboda, the Week Magazine, and other media.

In summer 2019, we launched a joint information project with Radio Svoboda — #Nezabuti (Unforgotten) — a series of publications dedicated to hostages in the occupied

territories unknown to the general public. 15 different cases were published, and our Center helped find the information thereon.

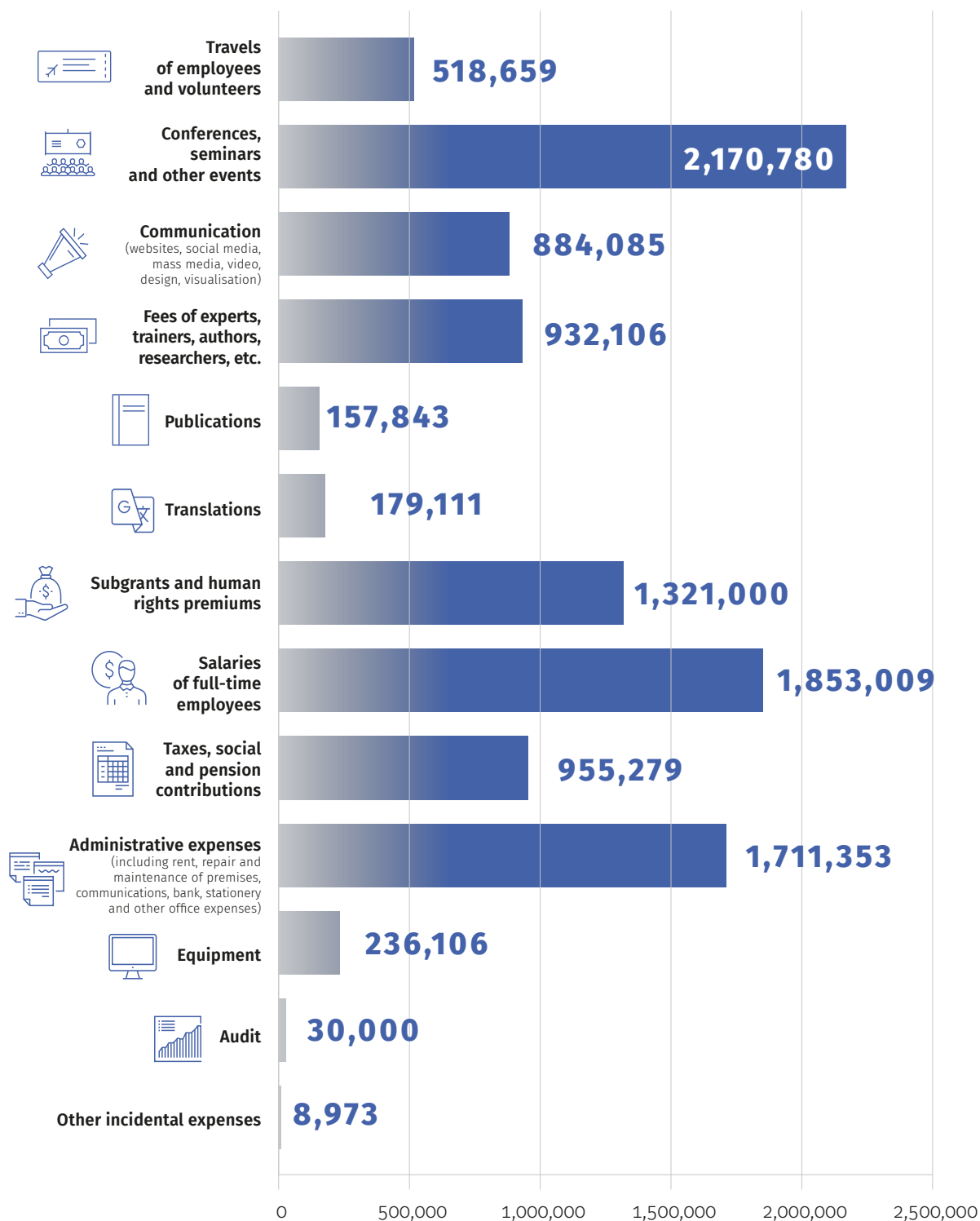


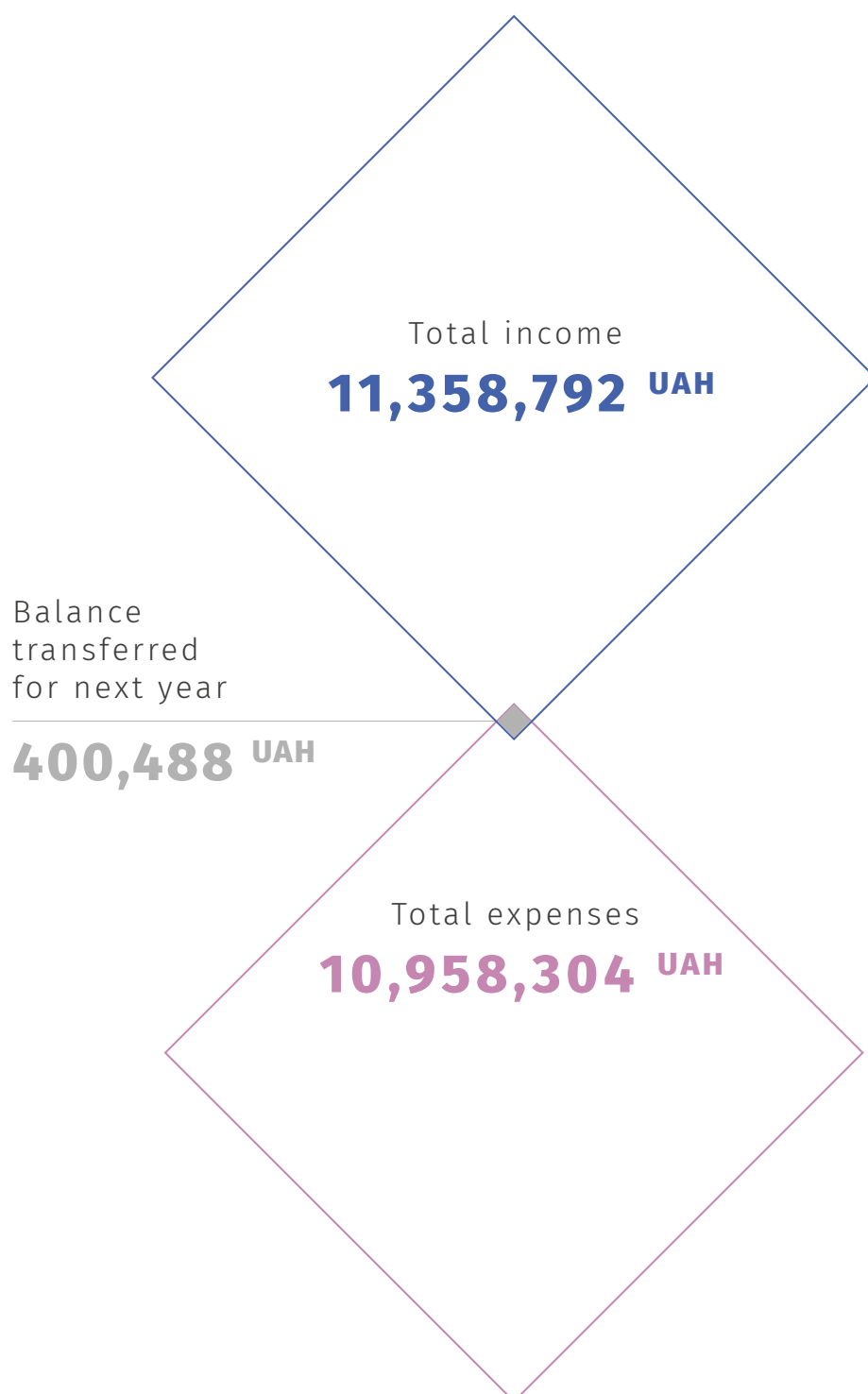
11. FINANCIAL REPORT 2019

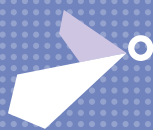




EXPENSES (ALL AMOUNTS ARE INDICATED IN UAH)







Center
for Civil
Liberties