

The concept of building anti-crisis management of Ukrainian local government in response to Russian aggression

Brovko Oleh

West University of Timisoara, Faculty of Political Sciences, Philosophy and Communication Sciences, Timisoara, Romania

Abstract: Preventing the collapse of the state during crisis situations such as a large-scale war is of great importance. In such situations, local governments are directly faced with threats and must respond to them appropriately and effectively. The military aggression against Ukraine by Russia in 2014, which caused significant damage and led to the loss of control over the Autonomy Republic of Crimea, part of the Luhansk and Donetsk regions, also initiated a number of important positive changes of a strategic nature. First of all, this concerns a significant increase in the effectiveness of interactions between state authorities and local government bodies, and the successful implementation of the decentralization reform. Despite its incompleteness, this reform led to an increase in the efficiency and independence of local government at the basic level. After the full-scale Russian invasion on February 24, 2022, the work of local governments was very important to ensure the livelihood of Ukrainian cities and villages. The paper examines the activities of local governments in areas where military operations are undergoing, as well as during the occupation. It analyses the readiness of the local government of Ukraine for possible military actions and the peculiarities of its functioning in war conditions and the necessary changes in the organization and functioning of local government in the post-war period. On the basis of in-depth interviews with representatives of the local government of the Kharkiv region - one of the most war-affected regions that suffered from Russian aggression, and secondary sources, the problematic field of crisis management of local government in the conditions of war in Ukraine is explained.