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**Big picture:**  
SeeD's approach to  
understanding of Social  
Cohesion in Ukraine, and in  
other contexts

Presented by:  
Dr. Kateryna Ivashchenko-Stadnik  
Seed

## SEED's JOURNEY IN UKRAINE

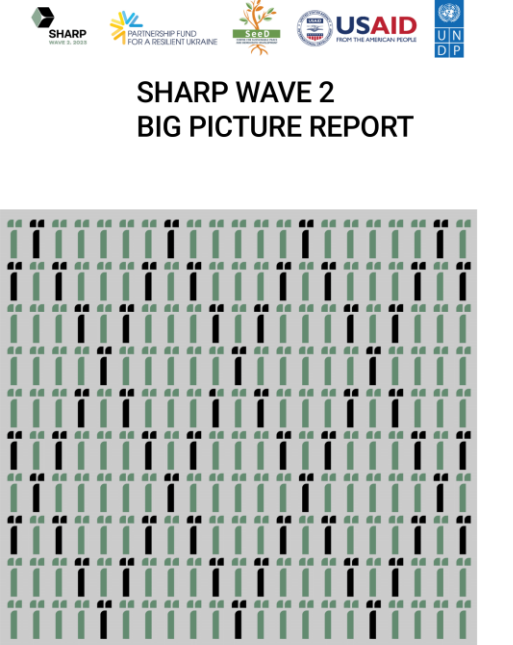
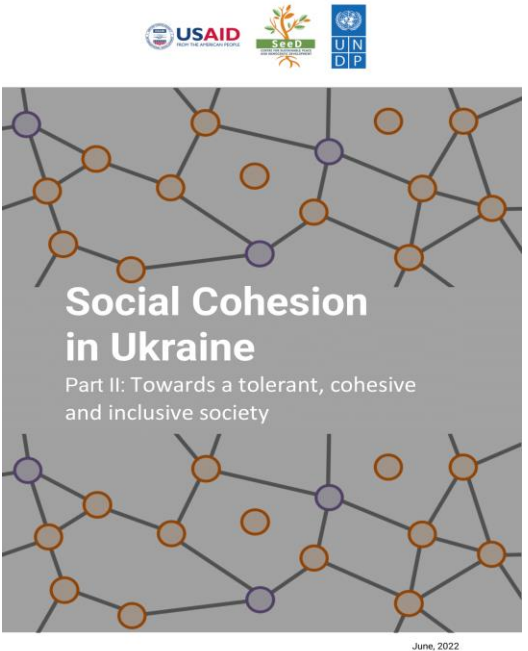
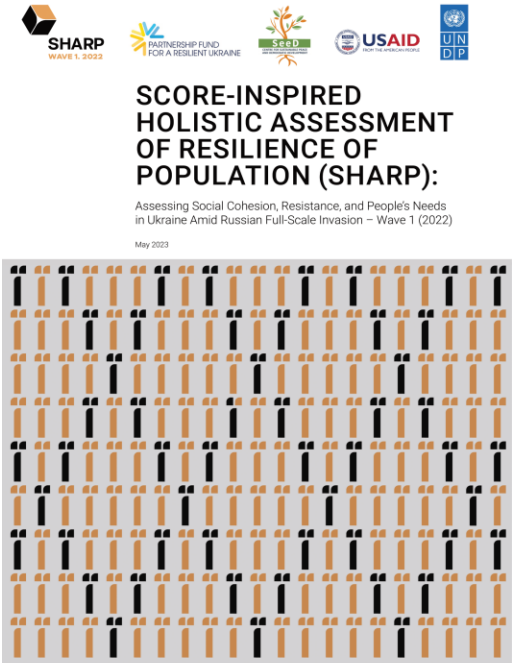
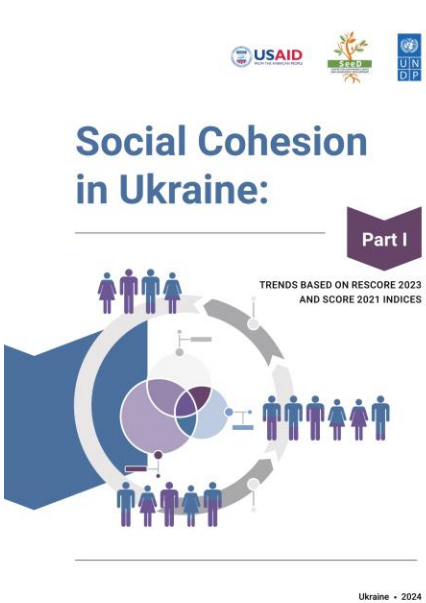
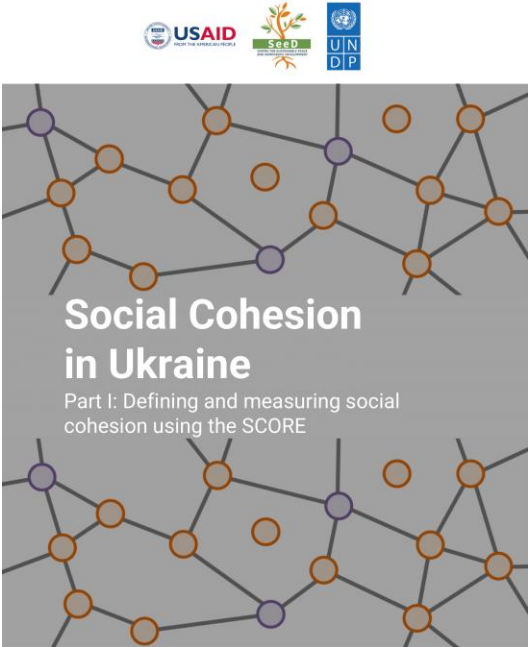
Since 2015, SeeD has been trying to inform Social Cohesion efforts by providing methodological, analytical, and empirical contributions to the concept.

### **Goals:**

- Based on SeeD's learning in Ukraine (and beyond) and relying on consultations with Ukrainian stakeholders, draw a definition that remains sensitive to the specificities of social dynamics in Ukraine.
- Define the concept and its measurement in a trackable and scalable way (from the national to the local levels).
- Propose a Social Cohesion model that is measurable using indicators from the SCORE library, helping to tailor decision-making and targeted programs accordingly.

SeeD's PUBLICATIONS ON SOCIAL COHESION in UKRAINE

<https://seedsofpeace.eu>



PROPOSED  
DEFINITION of  
SOCIAL  
COHESION

**Social Cohesion**

***can be defined as a state of vertical and horizontal connections between actors in a society and as a process of society functioning***

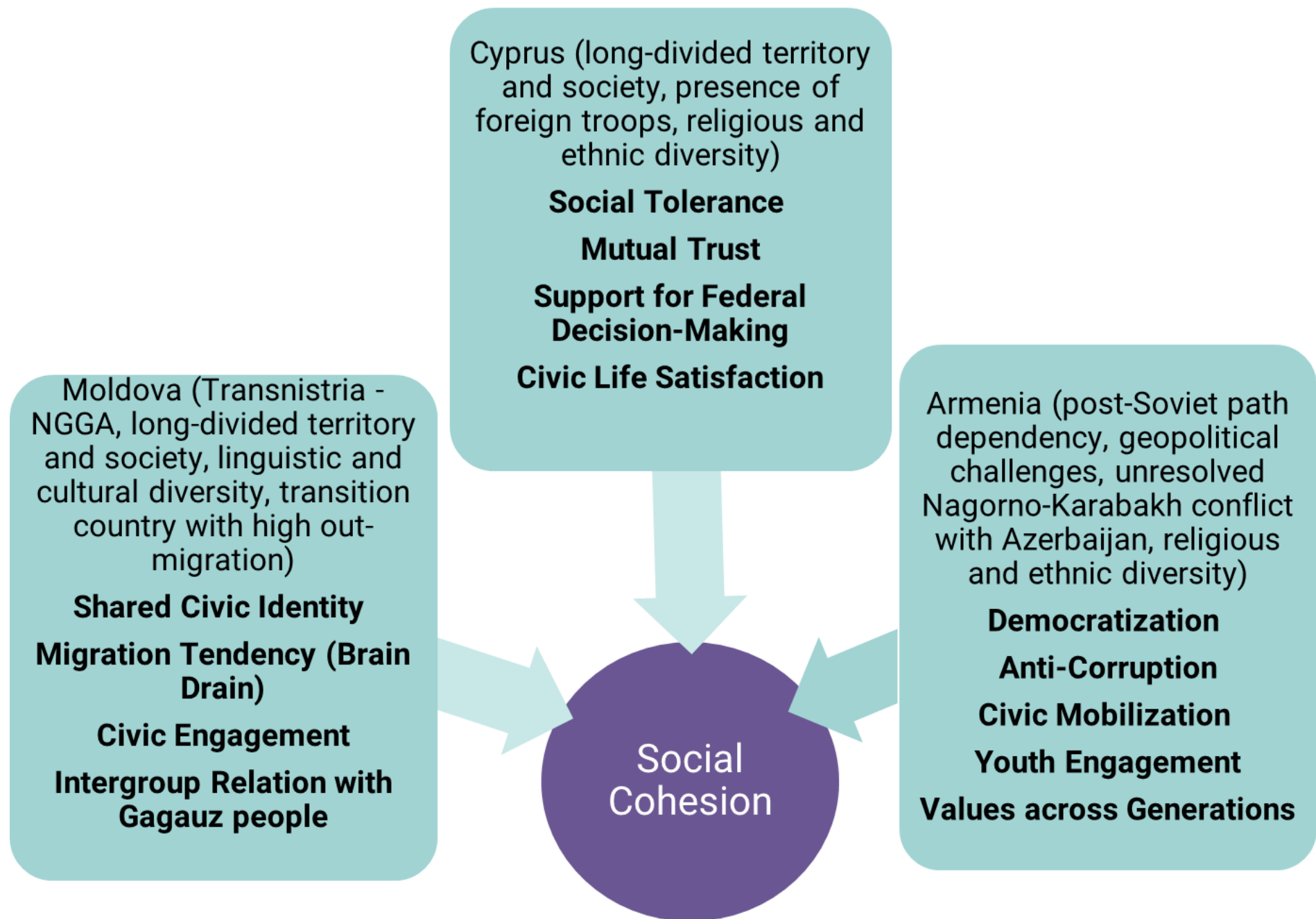
- acts as the "glue" that binds together diverse or dissimilar parts of a vibrant society;
- refers to interconnectedness and harmonious relations among individuals, communities and institutions;
- implies presence of strong social bonds, shared values, and a common identity(ties) or sense of belongings among citizens (which might at the same time belong to different social, ideological, ethnic, religious etc. groups);
- encompasses willingness to collaborate and work together towards common goals;
- relies on inclusion and integration of groups with special needs (including internally displaced persons, veterans, people living with disabilities etc.) and marginalized groups (Roma, LGBTQI+ etc.) etc.
- **How to make it measurable? ➡ Defining Key Elements...**



# DEFINING KEY ELEMENTS OF SOCIAL COHESION: Comparative insights

(overall SeeD has experience of working with SCORE in 20+ countries)

NB! Note that the Integral Index of Social Cohesion is employed primarily in countries where the number of social cohesion indicators is relatively limited.



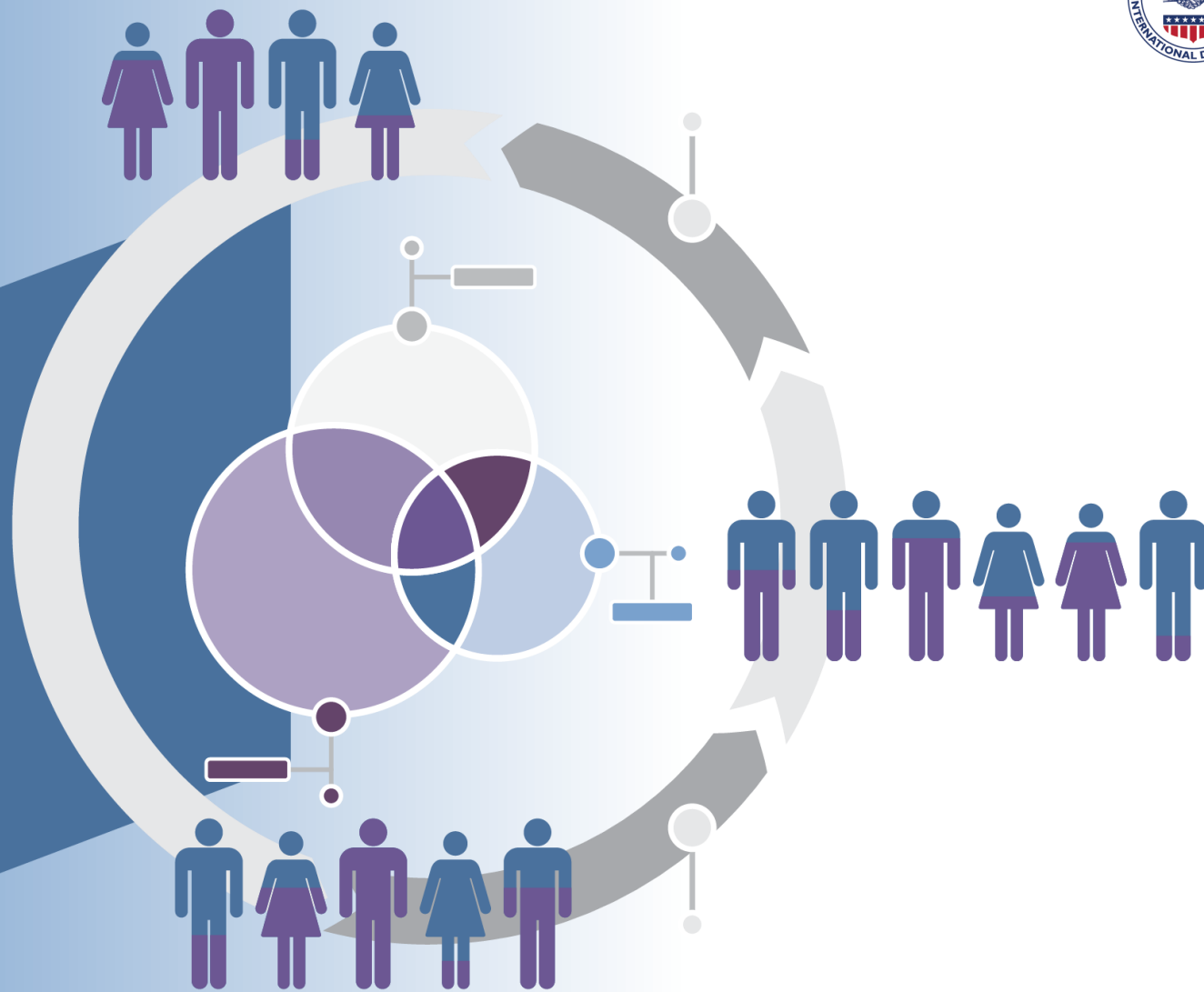
## CONCEPTUALIZING SOCIAL INCLUSION FOR UKRAINE:

### MAIN CHALLENGES

- **Broad and Multisystemic:** Social Cohesion concept is intricately linked to Social Inclusion but encompasses a broader scope. While social inclusion focuses on ensuring that all individuals have equal access to resources and opportunities within society, social cohesion goes further by emphasizing the interconnectedness and sense of belonging among diverse groups within a community or society as a whole, as well as their relations with state institutions.
- **Brings diverse parts together.** While solidarity emphasizes the unity and support within a group or society, cohesion focuses on the interconnectedness and interactions among its diverse components.
- **Highly contextual and evolving:** During wartime, factors such as displacement, destruction of social infrastructure, economic disruption, trauma, mental health issues, as well as polarization and division significantly impact the dynamics of social cohesion. Social cohesion is time and context bound.



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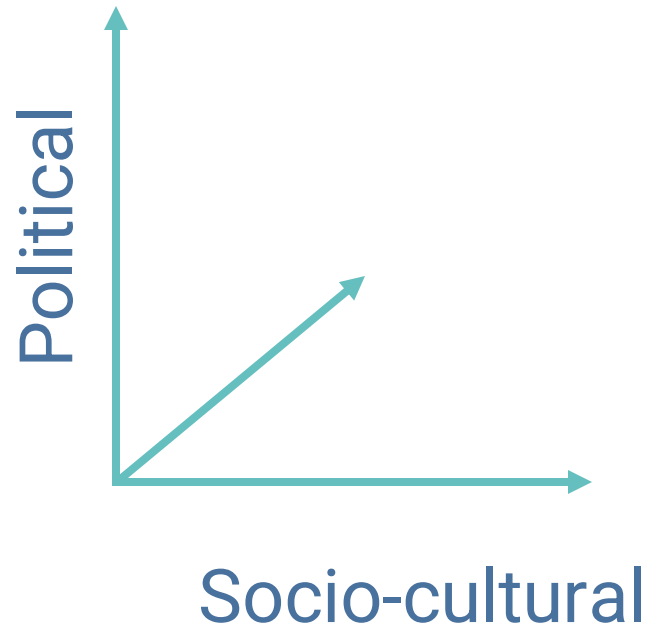


# Unveiling Social Cohesion Analysis in Ukraine: Conceptualisation

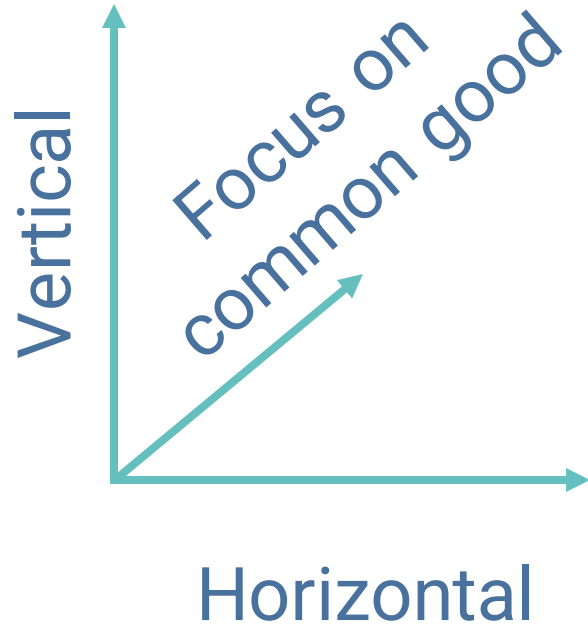
Presented by:  
Ruslan Minich  
Seed



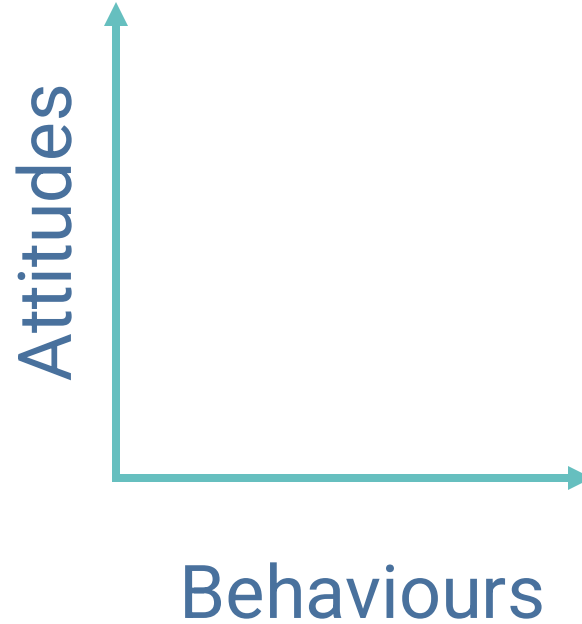
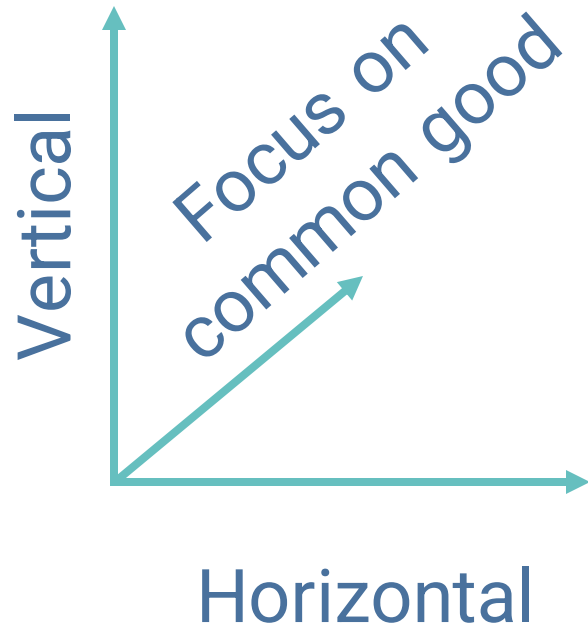
# DIMENSIONS OF SOCIAL COHESION



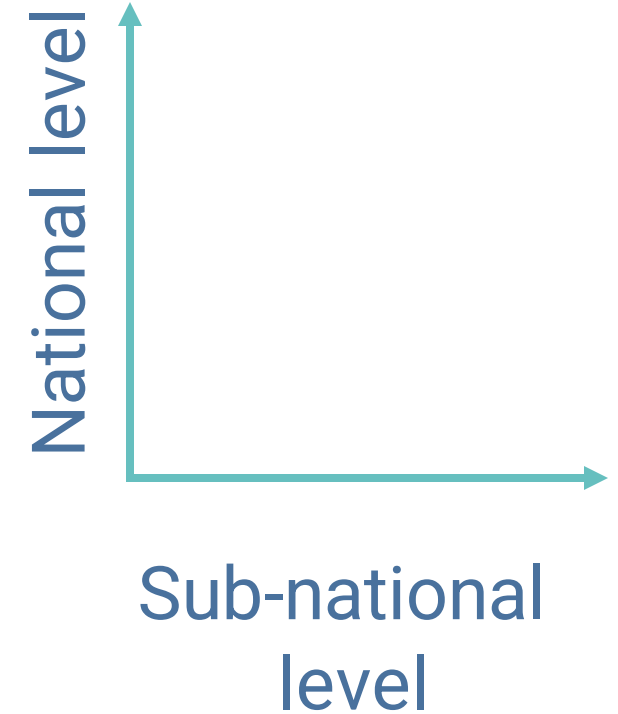
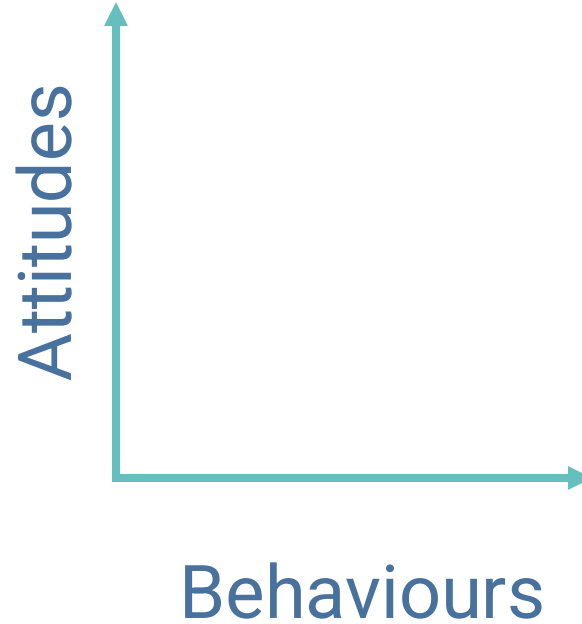
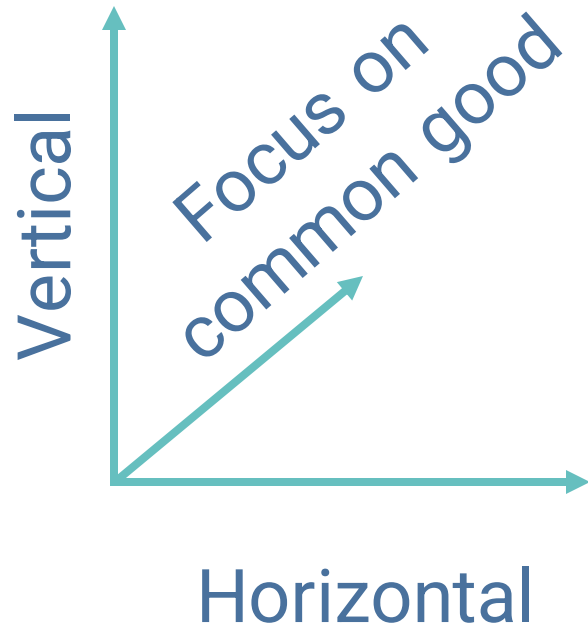
# DIMENSIONS OF SOCIAL COHESION



# DIMENSIONS OF SOCIAL COHESION



# DIMENSIONS OF SOCIAL COHESION



# SOCIAL COHESION INDICATORS

Accountability of  
authorities

Pluralistic Ukrainian  
identity

Social proximity

Community  
cooperation

Sense of belonging to  
country

Social tolerance

Lack of social threat

Sense of civic duty

Ukrainian authorities  
care

# INDICATORS & DIMENSIONS

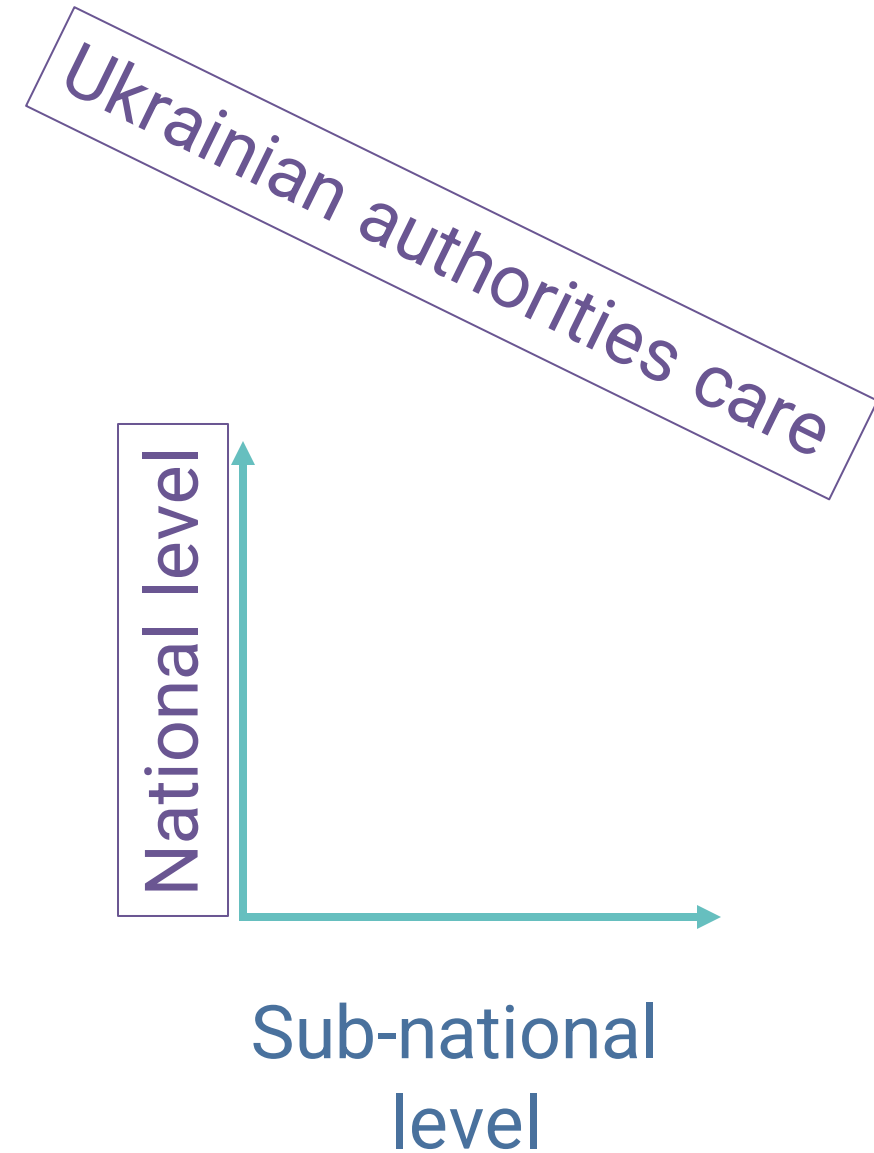
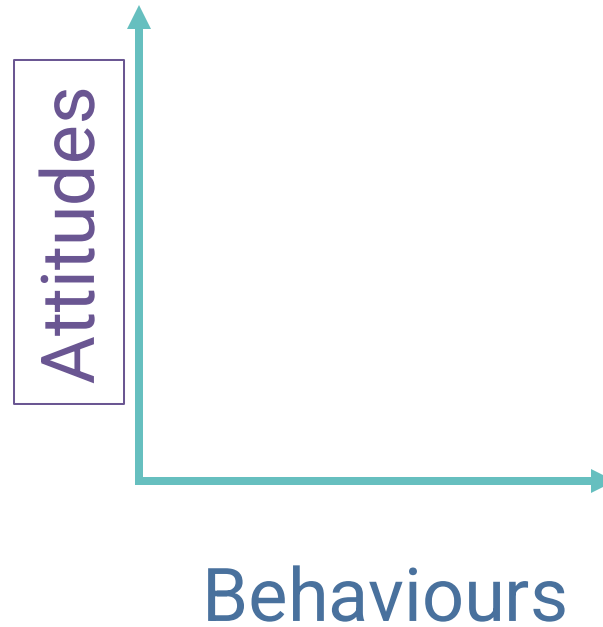
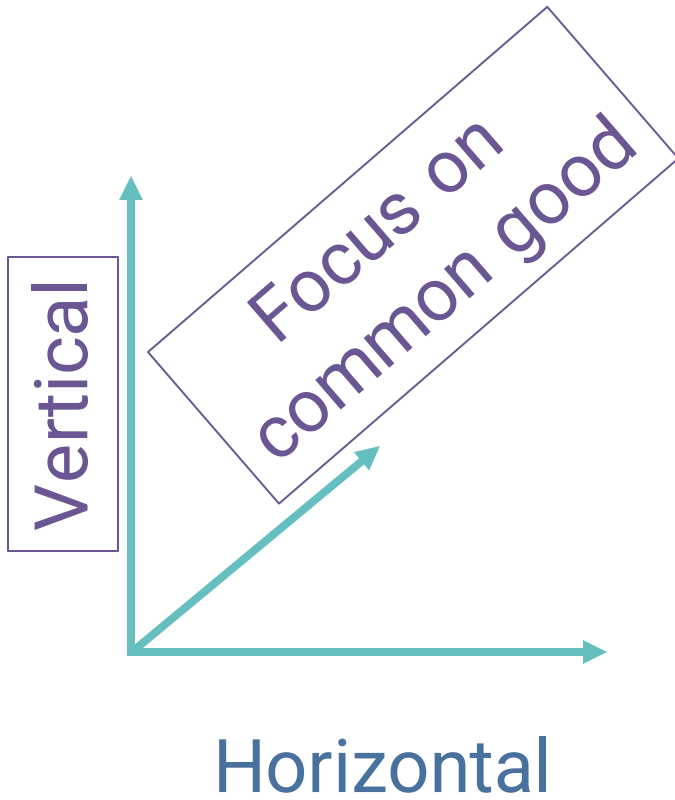






Image source: freepik.com



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# Social Cohesion in Ukraine:

## TRENDS & DRIVERS

Presented by: Dr. Ilke Dagli-Hustings  
SeeD Director General

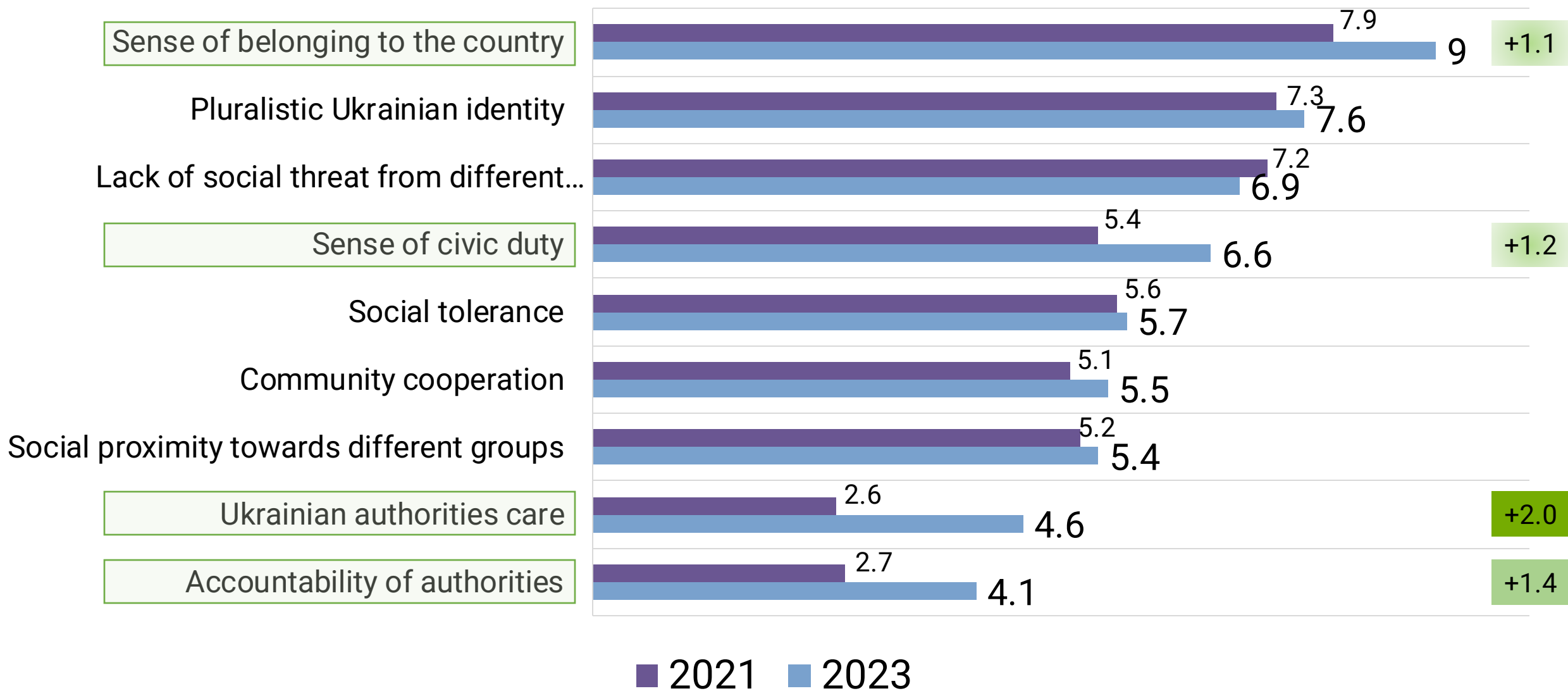
# Methodology

2024 is due to start in April

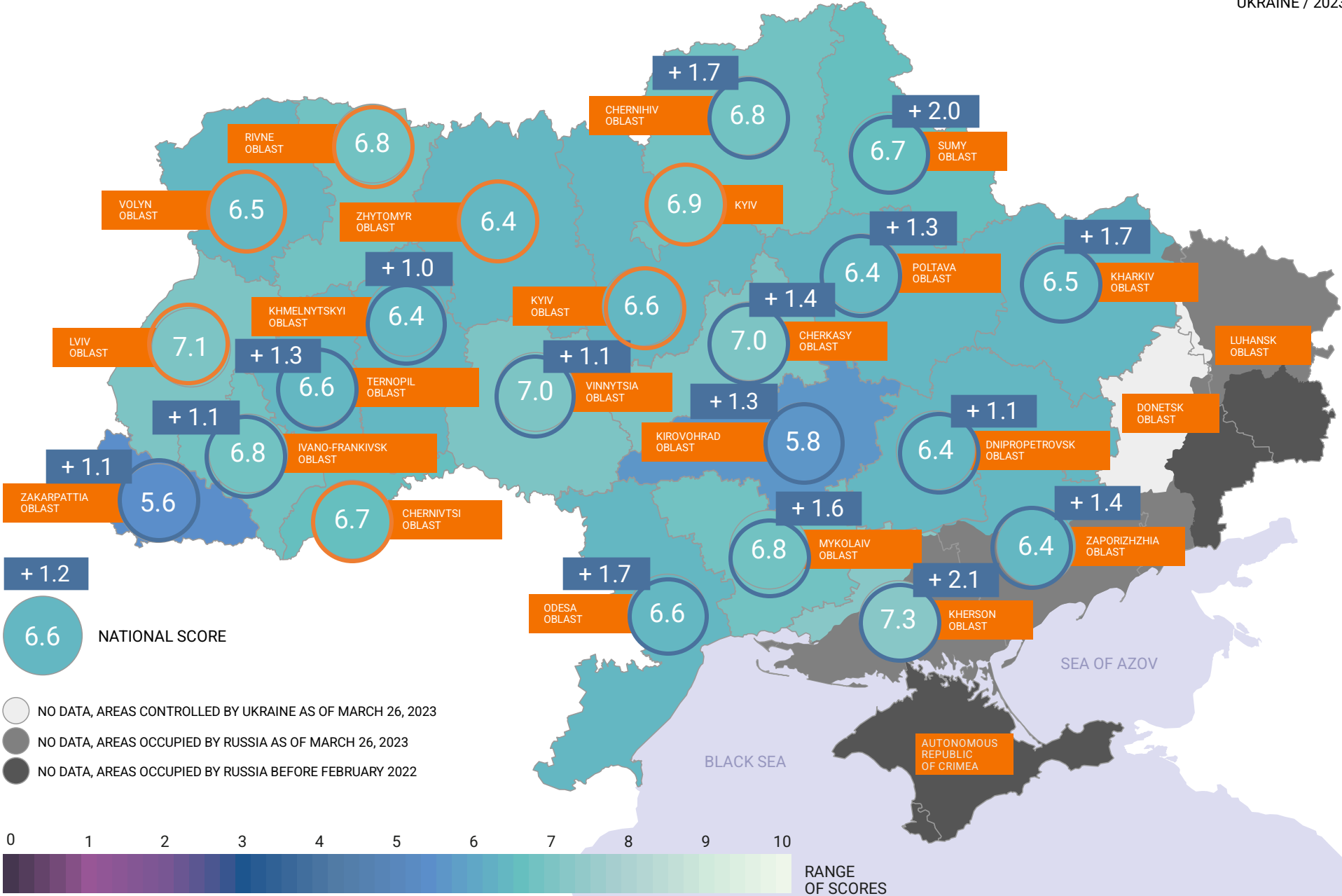


	2023	2021
Sample size after cleaning	5,914	12,482
Fieldwork period	March – June 2023	January – May 2021
Method(s) of interviewing	F2F at respondents’ place of residence	F2F at respondents’ place of residence
Coverage	All government controlled territories except for the Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts and Autonomous Republic of Crimea.	All government controlled territories including the Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts except for Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

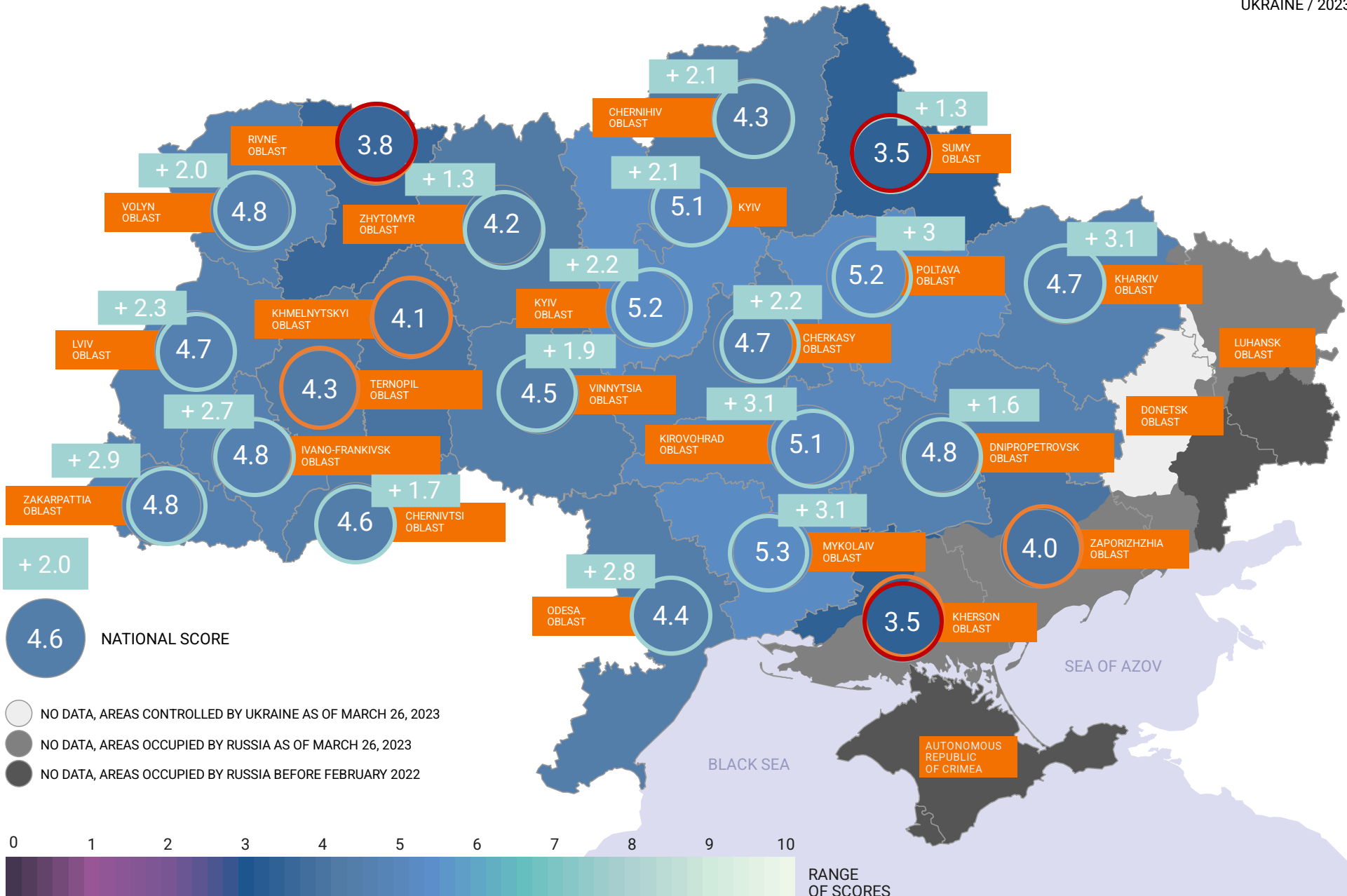
# National Level Trends



# Sense of civic duty



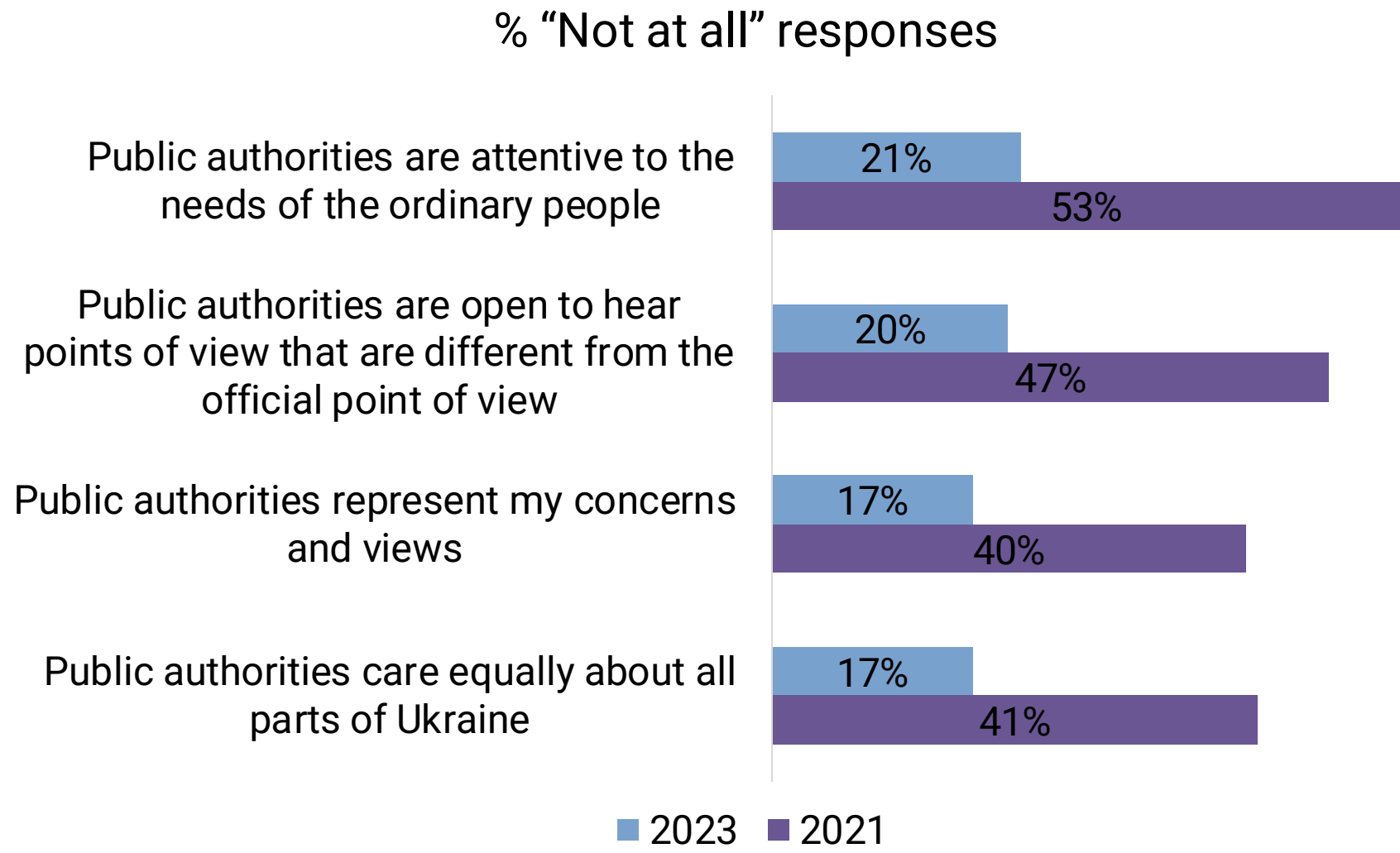
## Ukrainian authorities care



# UKRAINIAN AUTHORITIES CARE

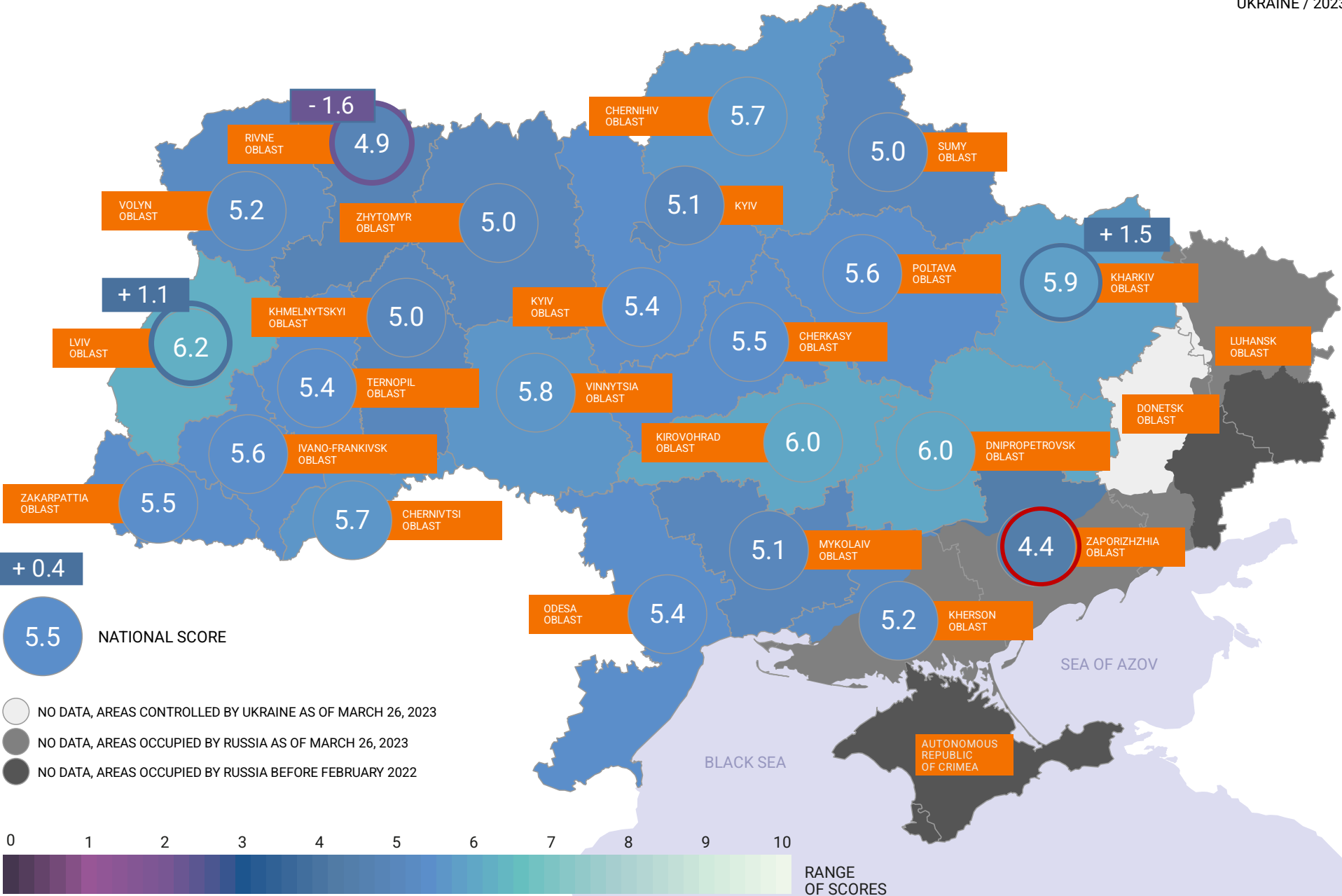
4.6

Less people feel neglected by authorities compared to 2021 but still 2 out of 10 are sceptical nation wide, and more in Sumy, Kherson & Rivne oblasts.

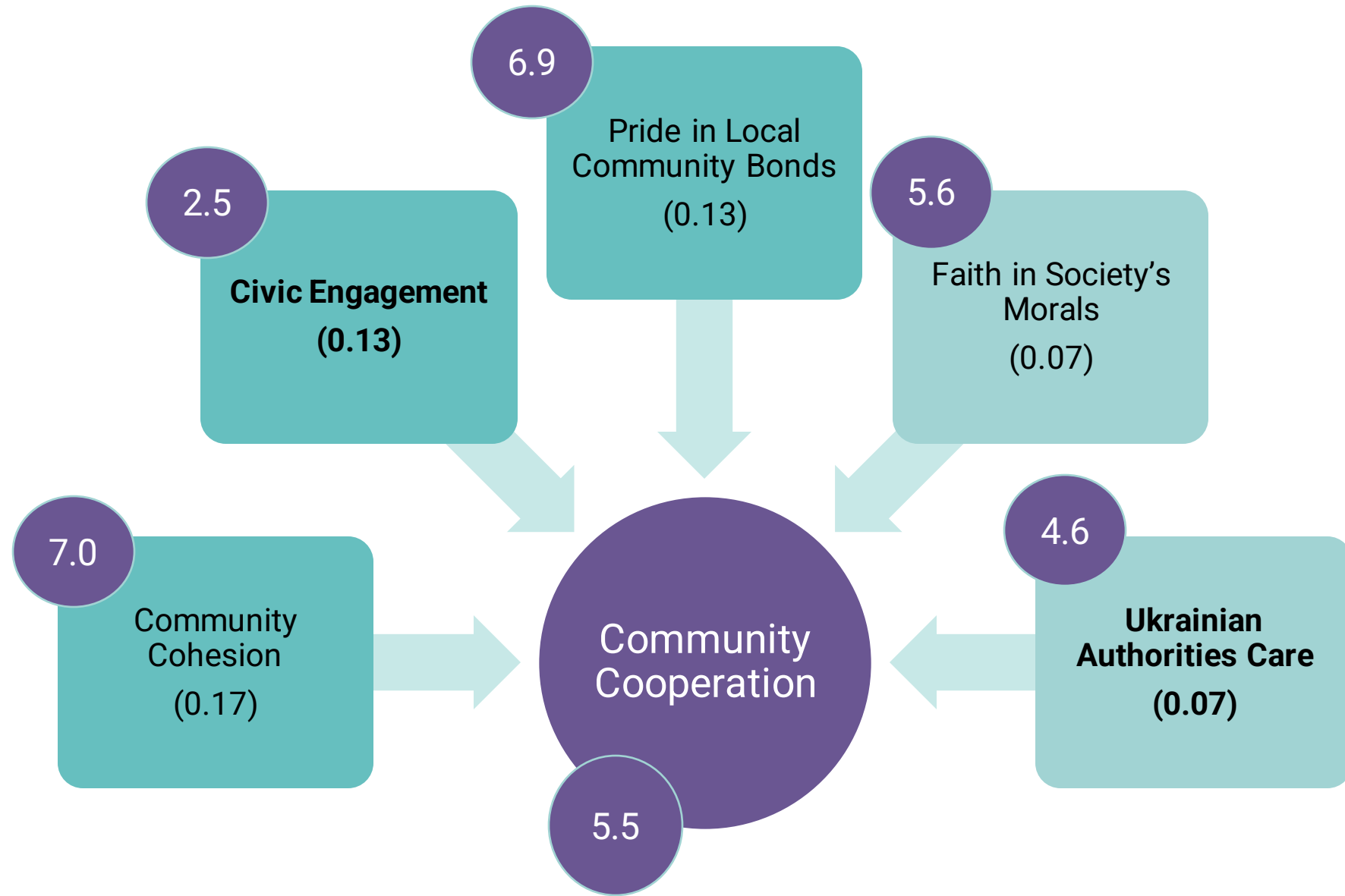




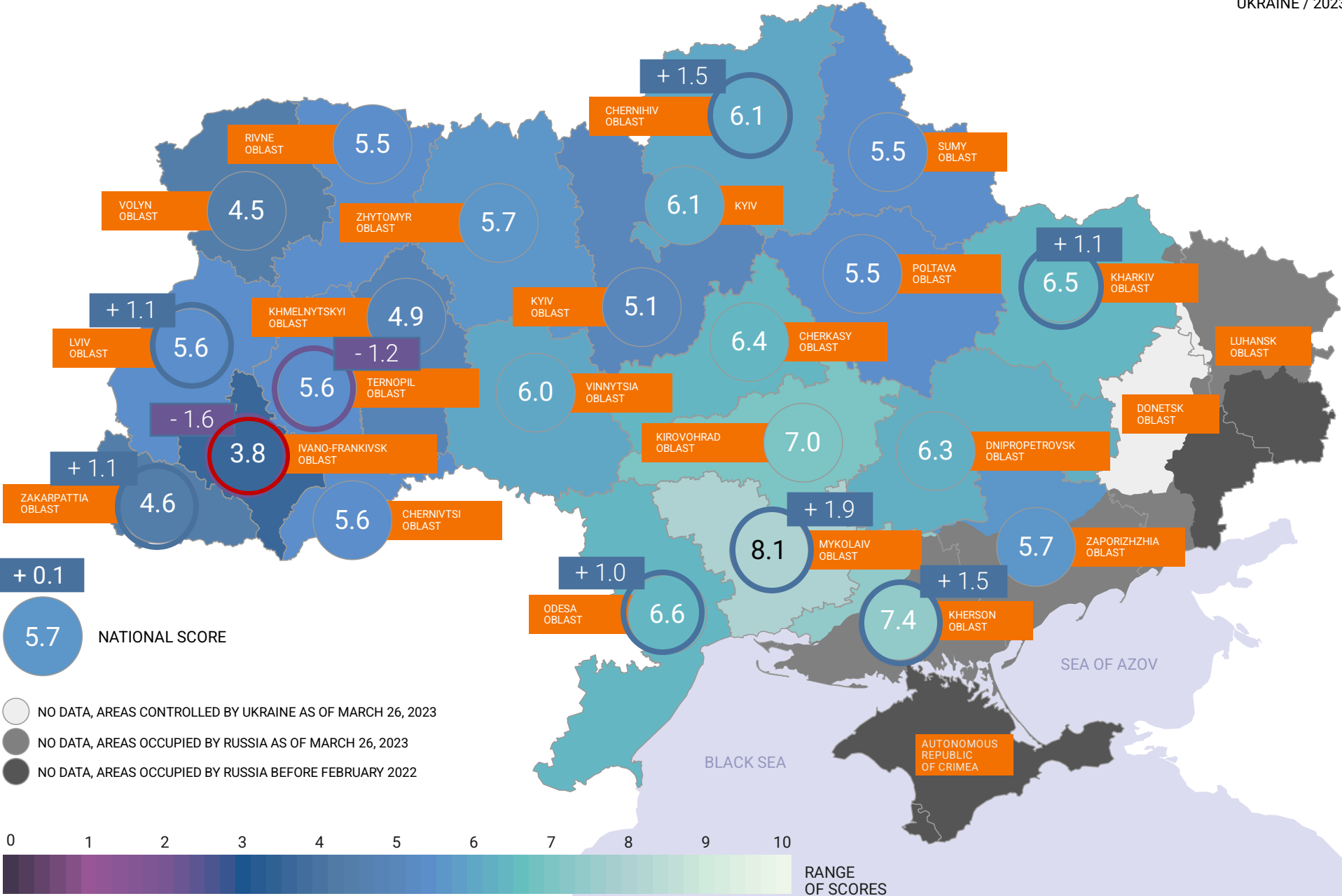
# Community cooperation



# DRIVERS OF COMMUNITY COOPERATION

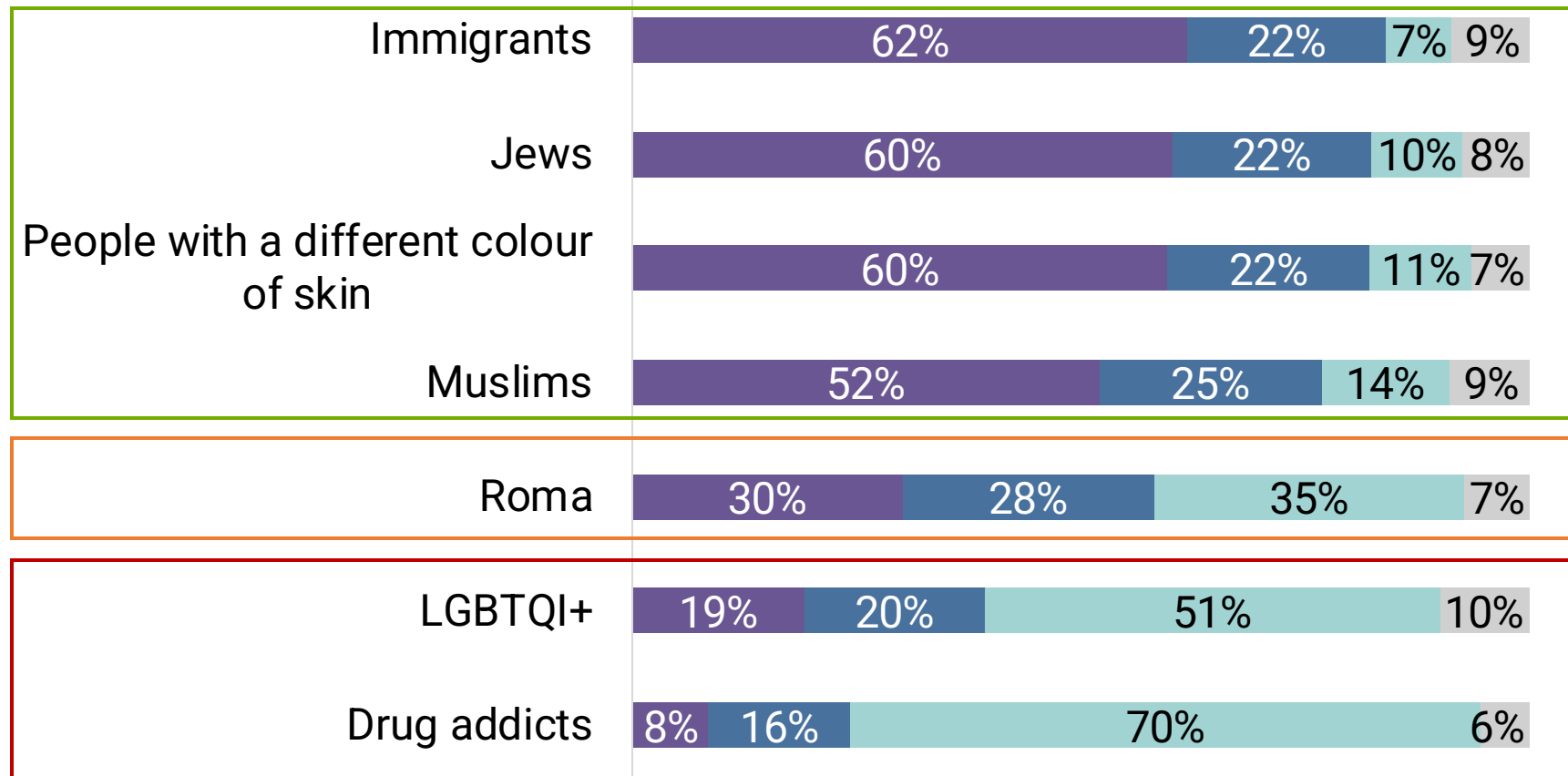


Social tolerance



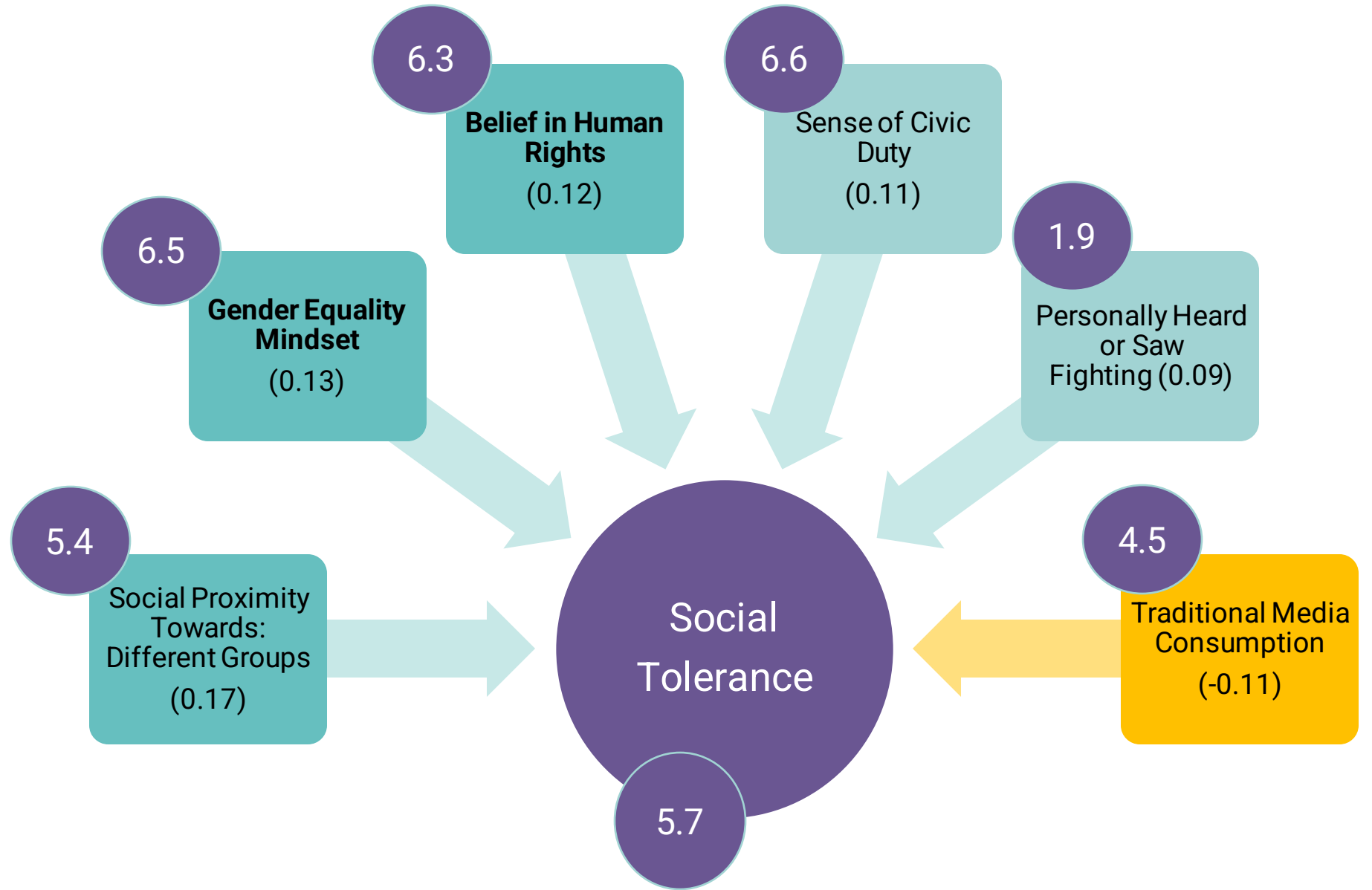
# SOCIAL TOLERANCE

## reSCORE 2023



- I would accept to interact with them personally
- I would accept them in the community, but personally avoid communication
- I would not want to have them in my community at all
- DK

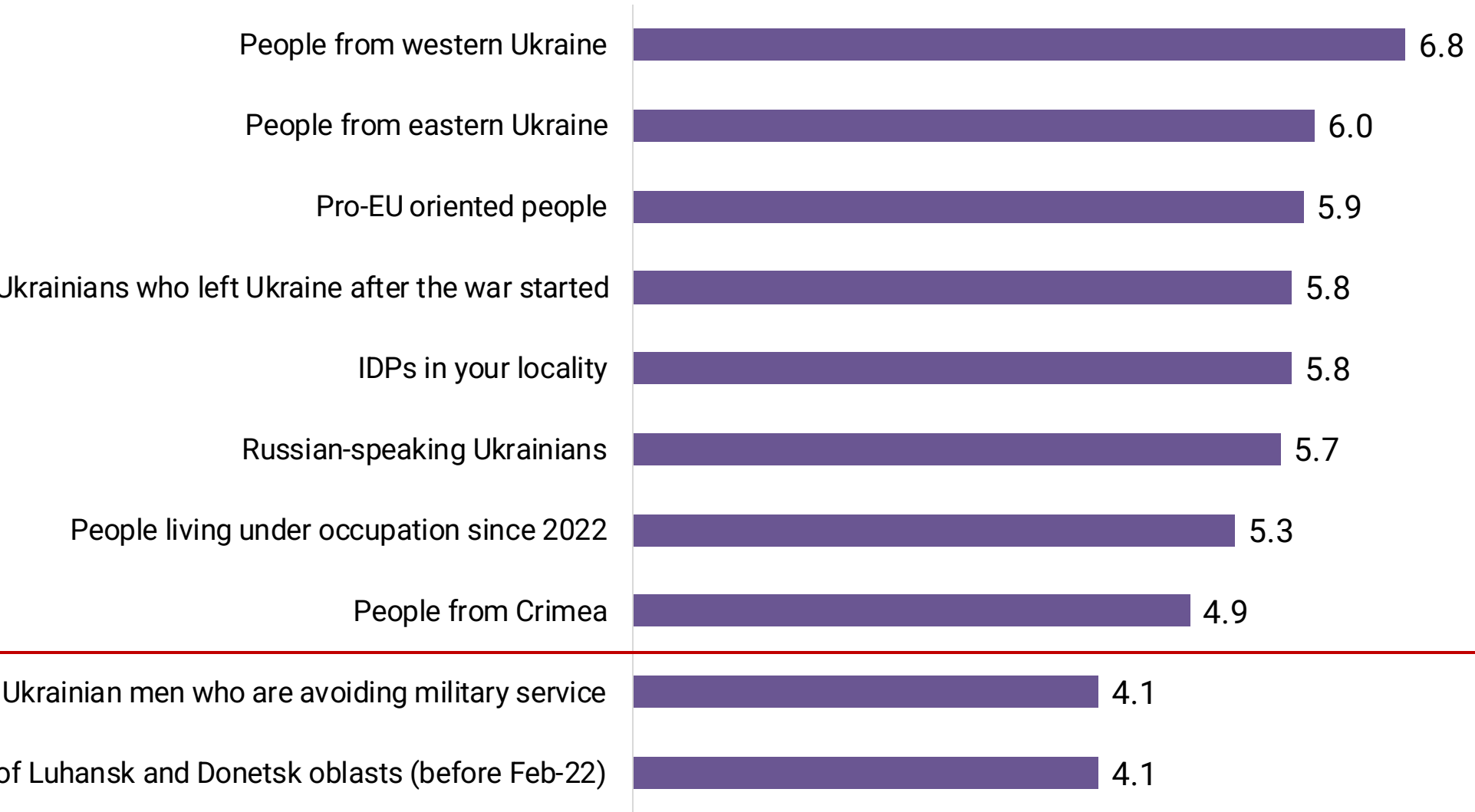
# DRIVERS OF SOCIAL TOLERANCE



Social Proximity (reSCORE 2023)

Would you accept members of the following groups as your close friends?

5.4





# KEY TAKEAWAYS

4 out of 9 social cohesion indicators increased in 2023 compared to 2021. The rest remained the same on the national level. Although **vertical cohesion indicators** increased, they are still **lowest ranking** and at risk of erosion.

- **Invest in citizen - state relations** and sense of representation

Increases in civic duty and belonging did not translate into an **increase** in **Community Cooperation**. Improvements in vertical cohesion via the Authorities Care indicator would have a direct positive influence on Community Cooperation.

- Invest in meaningful and frequent **public consultation mechanisms** on the local level

**Social Tolerance**, especially towards LGBTQI, Roma community and drug addicts, **is about building an inclusive and rights based society**. Gender inclusion and human rights are significant drivers of tolerance.

- Invest in **cooperative relationships across different groups** such professional or academic twinning programmes, family support hubs.
- Create **positive media content** that transforms stereotypes and prejudices towards minority groups.