

POLICY REPORT  
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# Long-Term Effects of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence

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## NEW LINES INSTITUTE FOR STRATEGY AND POLICY

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(Center L-R) Ukrainian First Lady Olena Zelenska, Deputy Prime Minister Olha Stefanishyna, and Deputy Chair of the Verkhovna Rada Olena Kondratiuk attend the International Platform Restoration of the Conflict-Related Sexual Violence Survivors' Rights on March 4, 2024, in Kyiv. (Andrii Nesterenko/Global Images Ukraine via Getty Images)

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Ukraine's long-term recovery from Russia's invasion must center around justice for survivors of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV). Sexual violence has been systematically used as a weapon of war since 2014, escalating sharply after the full-scale invasion in 2022. Despite progress in legal and institutional reforms, such as the establishment of a Specialized CRSV Division within the Office of the Prosecutor General and the adoption of Law No. 10132 recognizing survivors' rights, systemic barriers persist. Survivors continue to face stigma, fragmented services, limited legal aid, and inadequate psychosocial support. This report calls for a survivor-centered, multisectoral approach to CRSV accountability and recovery as a cornerstone of Ukraine's national reconstruction. Key recommendations include adopting a binding instruction for law enforcement, ensuring specialized prosecutorial capacity, implementing interim reparations, securing long-term state funding, and expanding trauma-informed and inclusive survivor services. Addressing the long-term effects of CRSV is essential not only for achieving justice and recovery for survivors but also for building a more resilient, equitable, and democratic postwar Ukraine.

## Introduction

Ukraine's long-term recovery from its war with Russia depends not only on rebuilding its infrastructure and economy but also on ensuring justice and resilience for victims of the war, among them survivors of conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV). Efforts to address the psychological, social, and economic impact of CRSV and survivor well-being must be integrated into national recovery frameworks alongside physical and economic reconstruction efforts.

Sexual violence is systematically used in armed conflicts as a method of domination, humiliation, and destruction of individuals and communities. In Ukraine, sexual violence and torture have been consistently documented since the onset of the armed conflict in 2014. However, Russia's full-scale invasion in February 2022 has significantly escalated both the frequency and severity of CRSV incidents across the country.<sup>1</sup>

The full scope of these crimes remains difficult to determine because law enforcement representatives have limited or no access to occupied territories, and many survivors of CRSV hesitate to engage with the justice system, doubting its value. The main fears expressed by survivors of all genders are universal:<sup>2</sup>

- **Instrumentalization and exploitation:** Survivors fear being treated merely as sources of information, rather than as rights-holders whose dignity must be respected.
- **Safety and trauma:** Feelings of shame, fear, and anxiety are common among survivors, and the absence of trauma-informed, psychologist-supported procedures often intensifies harm and deters participation.
- **Rights and information gaps:** Many survivors must navigate the justice system alone, without adequate guidance or accessible legal representation, which makes the process confusing, overwhelming, and intrusive.
- **Harmful first contact and poor coordination:** Insensitive interviewing practices and jurisdictional confusion, for example between the Security Service of Ukraine and local investigators, erode trust in the system.
- **Inadequate legal aid:** Legal support is often limited to trial proceedings, with little assistance during investigations or post-judgment enforcement. It is

1 ZMINA, "Щонайменше 206 осіб є жертвами сексуального насильства на окупованих територіях, але поліція не фіксує ці випадки – дослідження, (At least 206 people are victims of sexual violence in the occupied territories – study)," ZMINA Human Rights Centre, April 19, 2017, [https://zmina.info/news/shhonajmenshe\\_206\\_osib\\_je\\_zhertvami\\_seksualnogo\\_nasilstva\\_na\\_okupovanih\\_teritorijah\\_ale\\_policija\\_ne\\_fiksuje\\_ci\\_vipadki\\_doslidzhennja-2/](https://zmina.info/news/shhonajmenshe_206_osib_je_zhertvami_seksualnogo_nasilstva_na_okupovanih_teritorijah_ale_policija_ne_fiksuje_ci_vipadki_doslidzhennja-2/).

2 Global Rights Compliance, "Global Rights Compliance Releases Report Following the Roundtable on Justice for Survivors of Conflict-related Sexual and Gender-Based Violence," December 24, 2024, 4–6, <https://globalrightscpliance.org/global-rights-compliance-releases-report-following-the-roundtable-on-justice-for-survivors-of-conflict-related-sexual-and-gender-based-violence/>.

also rarely tailored to the needs of male survivors or other underrepresented groups.

- **Privacy and practicality:** Survivors report that scheduling of interviews frequently ignores work and family responsibilities, while breaches of confidentiality – such as contacting employers – can directly compromise safety.
- **Family and children:** There are no clear procedures for accommodating children during justice processes, and survivors often fear that involvement may expose relatives in occupied territories to additional risks.

Investigations of reported CRSV cases by the Office of the Prosecutor General (OPG) of Ukraine are ongoing. Since the launch of Russia's full-scale invasion, the OPG has reported 376 registered cases of CRSV against civilians, a figure that likely significantly underrepresents the scale of these crimes, which are estimated to number in the thousands. Moreover, this data excludes cases involving members of the Ukrainian military held by Russia as prisoners of war,<sup>3</sup> which does not imply the absence of such crimes in that category but rather highlights persistent gaps in reporting and documentation.<sup>4</sup>

To date, only 46 cases have proceeded to trial – indictments were issued, involving 60 alleged perpetrators, of whom 21 individuals were sentenced to imprisonment.<sup>5</sup> These figures point to critical limitations in the current justice response and the broader need for a victim-centered, multisectoral approach.

## Coordinated Policy Responses

While emergency responses have focused on criminal accountability and urgent medical care, resources for long-term needs, such as psychological recovery, social reintegration, and sustained support for survivors remain underfunded and overlooked. Without these interventions, survivors face heightened risks of being traumatized again, worsening mental health, and socio-economic exclusion. Embedding structured, long-term support for CRSV survivors into Ukraine's national recovery strategy is essential. This requires coordinated policies, dedicated funding, and cross-sectoral cooperation among law enforcement, ministries, international partners, and civil society.

A positive example is the May 2022 launch of the U.N. Interagency Project in 2023 under the Implementation Plan for the Framework of Cooperation between the Government of Ukraine and the United Nations on the Prevention and Response to CRSV.<sup>6</sup> The project, aligned with Ukraine's National Action Plan for the Implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325 "Women, Peace and Security" (until 2025) and other international commitments, is jointly implemented by U.N. agencies and Ukrainian government partners to address CRSV-related gaps and challenges.

## Ukraine's Response

Since the full-scale invasion began, Ukraine has taken steps to lay the groundwork for a comprehensive and survivor-centered response to CRSV. Recognizing its devastating and long-term impacts, the Ukrainian government and civil society actors began developing institutional, legal, and policy frameworks aimed at ensuring justice, redress, and meaningful support for survivors – not

3 Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), *Report on the human rights situation in Ukraine; 1 February-31 July 2022*, United Nations, 2022, p. 15, <https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/report/auto-draft/ReportUkraine.pdf>

4 United Nations Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine (HRMMU), *Report on the Human Rights Situation in Ukraine*, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), September 2024, 3, <https://ukraine.un.org/en/201055-report-human-rights-situation-ukraine>.

5 Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, *Results of Activities*. <https://www.gp.gov.ua/ua/posts/rezultati-diyalnosti>

6 UNFPA Ukraine, *United Action to Empower Victims of CRSV (2023-2025)*. [https://ukraine.unfpa.org/en/StopRapeNow-Project\\_Eng](https://ukraine.unfpa.org/en/StopRapeNow-Project_Eng)



Blood is present in the corridors of an administrative building in Trostyanets, near the Russian border, on April 20, 2022. The town was liberated from Russian occupation. Torture, summary executions, rape, abductions, and deportations have been part of the practices of the Russian military and separatist forces. (Gaelle Girbes / Getty Images)

only as a response to immediate harm but also as an integral part of the country's broader recovery and reconstruction process.

In September 2022, the OPG operationalized a Specialized Division on CRSV within its War Crimes Unit.<sup>7</sup> This division leads strategic and investigative efforts to strengthen Ukraine's capacity in investigating and prosecuting conflict-related sexual and gender-based crimes effectively. This division's establishment marked a significant institutional commitment to addressing these crimes systematically and in accordance with international standards. The momentum was reinforced in June 2023 when the prosecutor general adopted a strategic plan on the criminal prosecution of CRSV<sup>8</sup> that lays out a multistakeholder implementation strategy, involving Ukrainian and international civil society, international organizations, and expert advisers, all coordinated through a dedicated Working Group on CRSV.

### Implementation of a Victim-Centered Approach

To ensure consistency and clarity in investigative practice, a national task force of prosecutors and investigators was also created in 2023<sup>9</sup> to develop standard operating procedures for CRSV-related cases and binding instructions for prosecutors and investigators working on CRSV cases. Supported by the Global Rights Compliance foundation and the U.K.'s Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative, this task force was actively shaping the operational tools needed to address complex forms of violence. The OPG has also issued practical guidance for investigating war crimes such as illegal deprivation of liberty and torture.<sup>10</sup> Additional tools are in development to help prosecutors identify gendered and sexualized forms of torture, including those targeting reproductive autonomy.

At the same time, Ukraine has made significant advances in placing survivors at the center of justice processes. The establishment of the Victims and Witnesses Coordination Center within the OPG<sup>11</sup> created an institutional anchor for survivor support. Through this mechanism, survivors who consent to engagement can be accompanied throughout criminal proceedings and referred to essential services, including psychological, legal, and social assistance. This is part of a broader interagency referral system that connects law enforcement, ministries, NGOs, and service providers to ensure survivors are supported holistically. These developments reflect a growing understanding that justice for CRSV cannot rely solely on prosecution – it must also address survivors' psychosocial needs, promote agency, and reduce the risk of secondary victimization.

### Legal Developments

One of the most important milestones to date was the adoption of Law No. 10132 in November 2024. It formally recognizes survivors of sexual violence committed during Russia's armed aggression against Ukraine as a

7 Ukrinform, "В Офісі генерального прокурора створено управління, яке займатиметься розслідуванням фактів сексуального насильства, вчиненого російськими військовими в Україні (The Prosecutor General's Office created a department for the investigation of sexual crimes of the Russian army in Ukraine)," September 25, 2022, <https://www.ukrinform.ua/rubric-ato/3579034-v-ogp-stvorili-upravlinna-z-rozsliduvannya-seksualnih-zlociniv-armii-rf-v-ukraini.html>.

8 Офіс Генерального прокурора України. Стратегічний план реалізації повноважень прокуратури у сфері кримінального переслідування за сексуальне насильство, пов'язане з конфліктом. (Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine. Strategic plan for the implementation of the prosecutor's office's powers in the field of criminal prosecution for conflict-related sexual violence.) Accessed October 22, 2025. <https://www.gp.gov.ua/ua/posts/specializovani-dokumenti>.

9 Anna Sosonska and Julia Tétrault-Provencher, "Putting Survivors First: Ukraine's Evolving Approach to Justice for Conflict-Related Sexual Violence," *Ukrainska Pravda*, June 19, 2025, <https://www.pravda.com.ua/eng/columns/2025/06/19/7517752/>.

10 Стандарт розслідування катувань. (Torture investigation standards) Kyiv: JUST Group, May 2023. Accessed October 16, 2025. [https://justgroup.com.ua/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/standart-rozsliduvannya\\_katuvannya.pdf](https://justgroup.com.ua/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/standart-rozsliduvannya_katuvannya.pdf)

11 Офіс Генерального прокурора України. Підсумки роботи Координаційного центру підтримки потерпілих і свідків за 2024 рік. (Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine. "Results of the work of the Coordination Center for Victim and Witness Support in 2024) accessed October 22, 2025, <https://gp.gov.ua/ua/posts/pidsumki-roboti-koordinacijnogo-centru-pidtrimki-poterpilix-i-svidkiv-za-2024-rik>.

distinct category entitled to state support.<sup>12</sup> The law establishes a framework for urgent interim reparations, setting a precedent in Ukraine for a broader reparations system. Importantly, it enables survivors to access medical, psychological, legal, and financial assistance without the obligation to participate in criminal proceedings – aligning with international best practices that prioritize survivor autonomy and choice. By institutionalizing immediate support measures, the law creates a foundation for developing a comprehensive, long-term reparations system in line with Ukraine’s transitional justice commitments.

In parallel, survivors may submit claims to the Register of Damage for Ukraine (RD4U),<sup>13</sup> a mechanism established to collect, verify, and organize evidence of damage suffered by individuals and entities. This register is expected to inform decisions by the forthcoming Claims Commission for Ukraine, expected to become operational in 2026. Together, the interim reparations law and the RD4U represent a two-tiered reparations approach that balances immediate assistance with future adjudicated claims, offering a model that could be replicated in other postconflict settings.

### Evaluative Policy Response

Ukraine has also demonstrated a strong commitment to institutional accountability and transparency. The launch of the digital platform “Було так” (“It Happened This Way”)<sup>14</sup> enables individuals to report unprofessional or deficient treatment by domestic justice system actors, including police, prosecutors, civil society organizations, and legal aid providers. Reports can be submitted anonymously and are reviewed and referred to appropriate institutions for follow-up. By documenting patterns of mistreatment and identifying gaps in service delivery, this platform contributes to a culture of accountability and strengthens survivors’ trust in the justice system.

### Persistent Challenges

Despite unprecedented levels of national and international support, Ukraine’s response to CRSV continues to face systemic and structural barriers. Initial momentum in policy reform, institution-building, and legislative change has laid an important foundation. However, earlier progress toward survivor-centered implementation is now at risk, as recent changes have disrupted consistency and stability.

A key obstacle is the absence of a binding official instruction that would provide standardized guidelines for all law enforcement officials working with victims and survivors of CRSV. This instruction is essential to ensure clarity, uniformity, and accountability across the justice chain. While such work was initiated jointly by the OPG and one of its key international partners, Global Rights Compliance, in 2022, the order has still not been finalized or signed.<sup>15</sup> The delay contributes to ongoing fragmentation across institutions and risks undermining trust in available mechanisms.

At the institutional level, recent structural changes within the OPG present additional challenges. The specialized CRSV Division established in 2022 has been reorganized, and many trained prosecutors have been reassigned to other

12 Law of Ukraine “On legal and social protection of persons affected by sexual violence related to the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, and provision of urgent interim reparations to them of November 11, 2024. <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/4067-IX#Text%E2%80%9393>

13 Council of Europe, Register of Damage for Ukraine of CoE, <https://www.rd4u.coe.int/en/>

14 Було так. (It Happened This Way), “Feedback Jurfem,” <https://feedback.jurfem.com.ua/>

15 Global Rights Compliance, “Validating SOPs for Addressing Conflict-Related Sexual Violence in Ukraine,” December 9, 2024, <https://globalrightscpliance.org/validating-sops-for-addressing-conflict-related-sexual-violence-in-ukraine/>

“Referral pathways among investigators, prosecutors, social services, and NGOs are often informal, inconsistent, or underdeveloped, creating further obstacles for survivors seeking comprehensive support.”

thematic casework.<sup>16</sup> While a consolidated unit will remain responsible for CRSV cases with a mandate to review all ongoing CRSV investigations, provide coordination and support to regional prosecutors, and sustain cooperation with the Victims and Witnesses Coordination Center, the actual number of prosecutors dedicated to CRSV has not been publicly communicated. Early indications suggest a reduced capacity compared with previous levels, even though prosecutors were already overstretched. This contraction risks undermining the quality and timeliness of CRSV investigations and prosecutions.

The lack of official instruction establishing binding procedures for law enforcement, adequate staffing, and stable institutional arrangements puts the sustainability of recent achievements at risk. Addressing these challenges requires a long-term, adequately resourced, and coordinated policy response that strengthens institutional capacity, ensures continuity of specialized expertise, and prioritizes accessibility and accountability for survivors.

### Lack of Coordination and Guidelines

Institutional coordination across justice, health, and social sectors remains fragmented. Referral pathways among investigators, prosecutors, social services, and NGOs are often informal, inconsistent, or underdeveloped,<sup>17</sup> creating further obstacles for survivors seeking comprehensive support. Local-level professionals are frequently undertrained or lack the tools to respond effectively to CRSV cases. In practice, survivors often cannot access support from the government unless they have a registered case. The regulatory framework<sup>18</sup> establishing the Victims and Witnesses Coordination Centre stipulates that its services are available exclusively to individuals who possess an official procedural status within ongoing proceedings — namely, as victims or witnesses. This approach delays immediate protection and excludes those not ready to involve law enforcement.

These systemic weaknesses mean the quality and timeliness of support is highly dependent on individual actors or external support rather than a predictable, survivor-centered system. Without stronger coordination mechanisms, clearer protocols, and survivor-first policies, the system risks re-traumatization and undermining trust in both justice and support services.

### Lack of Sustained Commitment and Funding

Another key constraint is the lack of sustained political and financial commitment to long-term service provision.<sup>19</sup> While Ukraine has demonstrated political will in enacting laws and establishing support mechanisms, there remains a critical gap in resourcing survivor-centered services, particularly psychosocial support. Mental health services are scarce in rural and conflict-affected areas, and even where services do exist, they are often not equipped to respond to the complex needs of CRSV survivors. Civil society organizations working with victims of CRSV, like Numo Sestry<sup>20</sup> and Alumni, and local authorities stress that the biggest challenge is the lack of stable, long-term funding. Most support comes through short projects or one-year grants, which limits efforts to build

16 Відбулось засідання експертної групи за напрямком СНПК Міжвідомчої робочої групи з питань розслідування злочинів, вчинених в умовах збройного конфлікту, при ОГП. (A meeting of the expert group in the direction of CRSV of the Interagency Working Group on the Investigation of Crimes Committed in the Armed Conflict under the Prosecutor General's Office was held) Асоціація жінок-юристок України «ЮрФем», Aug. 4, 2025, accessed Oct. 16, 2025, <https://jurfem.com.ua/zasidannya-ekspertnoyi-hrupy-snpk/>.

17 Amal Nassar, Kateryna Busol, and Alexa Sydor-Czartorysky, *Ukraine Study on the Status of and Opportunities for Reparations for Survivors of Conflict-Related Sexual Violence* (Global Survivors Fund, June 2022), [https://www.globalsurvivorsfund.org/fileadmin/uploads/gsf/Documents/Resources/Global\\_Reparation\\_Studies/GSF\\_Report\\_Ukraine\\_EN\\_June2022\\_WEB.pdf](https://www.globalsurvivorsfund.org/fileadmin/uploads/gsf/Documents/Resources/Global_Reparation_Studies/GSF_Report_Ukraine_EN_June2022_WEB.pdf).

18 Про організацію діяльності органів прокуратури з питань підтримки потерпілих і свідків: Наказ; Офіс Генерального прокурора (On the organization of the activities of prosecutor's offices on issues of supporting victims and witnesses: Order; Office of the Prosecutor General), Oct. 28, 2024, № 263. Accessed Oct. 16, 2025. <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/v0263905-24#Text>.

19 Global Survivors Fund, "Ukraine's Urgent Interim Reparations: historic milestone must become reality for all survivors of conflict-related sexual violence," <https://www.globalsurvivorsfund.org/latest/articles/ukraines-urgent-interim-reparations-historic-milestone-must-become-reality-for-all-survivors-of-conflict-related-sexual-violence/>.

20 Global Survivors Fund, "Ukraine's Urgent Interim Reparations: historic milestone must become reality for all survivors of conflict-related sexual violence," September 24, 2025.

real continuity. As a result, trained professionals often leave when funding runs out, even though developing the skills for trauma-informed care takes time and effort. In the end, valuable expertise is lost just when survivors need it most.

### **Stigma and Misconceptions as Barriers to Justice**

Survivors continue to face deep-rooted social stigma and community rejection, particularly in conservative or rural settings. Stigmatization, victim-blaming, and ostracization contribute to silence and underreporting. Survivors may be blamed for their assault, abandoned by family members, or discouraged from seeking justice or services due to fears of public exposure.<sup>21</sup> The lack of confidentiality safeguards in legal and support processes compound these societal attitudes, making it unsafe or emotionally unbearable for many to engage. As seen in other postconflict contexts such as Bosnia and Herzegovina,<sup>22</sup> failure to address societal stigma and to provide meaningful community-based reintegration can leave survivors marginalized and retraumatized for decades.

Justice processes themselves also remain difficult to navigate and, at times, re-traumatizing. Survivors may encounter procedural delays, insufficient protection, or a lack of trauma-informed protocols during interviews and trials. While Ukraine has taken steps to improve victim and witness participation, including through the Victims and Witnesses Coordination Center, implementation is not yet consistent across all regions. Legal barriers, including gaps in the Criminal Procedure Code, continue to prevent many survivors from accessing justice or reparations in a timely and dignified manner.

Further compounding these challenges is the limited visibility and tailored support for specific survivor groups, including male survivors, children born of rape, and LGBTQ+ individuals. These populations often fall outside of conventional victim support systems, and little targeted outreach or specialized services exist to address their unique needs. Their continued exclusion reinforces social invisibility and deepens trauma, perpetuating patterns of neglect and inequality.

While Ukraine has made substantial and commendable progress in establishing the legal and institutional architecture for CRSV accountability and support, the current response relies heavily on external support, lacks financial sustainability, and struggles with structural fragmentation. Bridging the gap between policy and practice requires not only further international backing but also a recalibration of national priorities to include long-term funding, multisectoral coordination, and survivor engagement at every level of the justice and recovery process. Without such measures, survivors risk being left behind – again – despite the progress made.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### **1 ADOPT A BINDING INSTRUCTION ON CRSV FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT**

The OPG should finalize the process of adoption and issue the instruction to provide mandatory, standardized guidelines for all Ukrainian law enforcement actors engaging with CRSV survivors. Its adoption would ensure consistency, accountability, and survivor-centered practice across the justice chain, preventing further fragmentation.

21 Global Rights Compliance, "Putting Survivors First: Ukraine's Evolving Approach to Justice for CRSV" (2024), <https://globalrightscpliance.org/putting-survivors-first-ukraines-evolving-approach-to-justice-for-crsv-op-ed/>

22 "Національна служба соціального захисту України (НССЗУ). Аналітична довідка: Комплексна допомога постраждалим від СНПК та репарації: Балканський досвід для України. (National Social Protection Service of Ukraine (NSSPU). Analytical Brief: Comprehensive Assistance to Victims of the SNPK and Reparations: Balkan Experience for Ukraine)" Accessed October 22, 2025. <https://nssu.gov.ua/storage/app/sites/22/uploaded-files/Analytical%20Report.pdf>.

## 2 GUARANTEE SPECIALIZED PROSECUTORIAL CAPACITY

Ukraine must secure a minimum number of prosecutors dedicated exclusively to CRSV cases, with transparent public reporting on staffing levels and case-loads. To protect institutional knowledge and expertise, these prosecutors should receive continual professional development, mitigating the risks posed by staff reassignments and restructuring.

## 3 FULLY IMPLEMENT THE INTERIM REPARATIONS LAW

To operationalize survivors' rights under the law, Ukraine must urgently adopt implementing regulations, designate responsible agencies, and allocate budget lines for the disbursement of interim reparations. Without enforcement mechanisms, the law risks becoming symbolic rather than functional.

## 4 CENTRALIZE RESOURCES FOR CRSV SURVIVORS

Establish a confidential physical and digital hub where survivors can obtain clear, up-to-date information about available services, their rights, and the steps required to access support – including legal aid, mental health, relocation assistance, or reparations – without needing to navigate fragmented systems. This hub should also track application progress and provide case management support. Inspired by the Victims and Witnesses Coordination Center and GBV referral pathways by UNFPA, this system would streamline referrals and promote continuity of care. Government, civil society, and international partners must collaborate under a common platform for data sharing, referral tracking, and geographic service mapping. This ensures accountability, avoids duplication, and strengthens coverage.

## 5 TRAIN AND DEPLOY TRAUMA-INFORMED SOCIAL WORKERS

Specialized training with tailored modules for diverse survivors should include instruction on responding to CRSV among men, LGBTQ+ individuals, former prisoners of war, and children born of rape. These groups often face additional barriers and are underrepresented in survivor outreach.

## 6 ALLOCATE STABLE AND DEDICATED FUNDING FOR SURVIVOR SUPPORT

Shift from dependency on international donor cycles to sustainable state-backed funding, particularly for mental health services, housing, reintegration, and legal aid.

## 7 NATIONAL PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN TO COMBAT STIGMA

Design and implement long-term public messaging efforts, especially in conservative communities, engaging religious leaders, educators, and local influencers. Messaging should promote survivor dignity, address myths, promote support-seeking, and reinforce community responsibility.

## 8 SCALE UP SOCIO-ECONOMIC REINTEGRATION AND RELOCATION PROGRAMS

Develop programs (e.g., entrepreneurship support, relocation grants, education access) not only for women but also for male survivors, POWs, and those unable to return home. This should be embedded in Ukraine's national recovery plans and linked to housing and employment initiatives.




### AUTHOR

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