

Prospects for Public Interaction Between National Minority Civil Society Organizations and Territorial Communities in Ukraine

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Abstract: *This article examines the prospects for public interaction between civil society organizations representing national minorities and territorial communities in Ukraine in the context of decentralization, democratic consolidation, and the transition toward a service-oriented state. The study aims to identify the institutional conditions, mechanisms, and risks that determine whether such organizations can act as intermediaries, service providers, and channels of minority participation in local governance. Methodologically, the research combines conceptual analysis of public policy and civil society, analysis of Ukrainian legislation and strategic documents, interpretation of statistical and institutional data, and a structural-functional approach to cooperation among public authorities, local self-government bodies, communities, and non-governmental organizations. The analysis proceeds from the premise that democratic public policy should not be limited to administrative control; it should create an enabling environment for civic participation, mutual accountability, and the representation of public interests. The article substantiates four interrelated dimensions of cooperation: motivational, human-resource, functional, and innovative. It also distinguishes locally rooted organizations from cross-sectoral organizations and identifies regional disparities, institutional distrust, weak coordination, grant dependence, and non-transparent selection practices as major constraints. Particular attention is paid to organizations of national minorities whose participation can strengthen social integration and local cohesion. The findings demonstrate that effective partnership requires predictable legal frameworks, transparent procedures, strategic planning, professional capacity, permanent communication platforms, and recognition of civic organizations as autonomous public actors. The article concludes that institutionalized cooperation between minority organizations and territorial communities can enhance the quality of local services, deepen participatory governance, and contribute to post-war recovery and civic consolidation in Ukraine.*

Keywords: *public governance, civil society organization, national minorities, territorial communities, decentralization.*

Introduction

The relevance of this study stems from the need to modernize Ukraine's public policy for promoting the development of civil society organizations and to institutionalize their interaction with territorial communities. In the context of decentralization, wartime challenges, and the transition toward a service-oriented model of the state, such interaction is particularly important for social consolidation and the integration of citizens of diverse ethnonational backgrounds.

The purpose of the article is to identify promising directions for public interaction among the state, national minority civil society organizations, and territorial communities. The research hypothesis is that recognizing civil society organizations as autonomous actors in public governance, and engaging them in intermediary, service-delivery, and communication activities, enhances community capacity and strengthens trust between public authorities and civil society.

To achieve this purpose, the study pursues the following objectives: to clarify the conceptual foundations of public policy in the field of civil society development; to characterize the territorial community as a space of public interaction; to identify the motivational, human-resource, functional, and innovative dimensions of cooperation; to systematize regional risks; and to substantiate directions for institutional modernization.

The methodological framework combines systems and structural-functional approaches with methods of analyzing legislation and strategic documents, comparison, generalization, and institutional modelling. These methods are used to identify the preconditions, functional dimensions, risks, and prospects of interaction among public authorities, territorial communities, and national minority civil society organizations.

1. Theoretical and Methodological Foundations of the Study

1.1. State of Research on the Problem

The modernization of public policy is a central issue in public governance and remains a major concern for scholars, practicing civil servants, politicians, legal professionals, and civic activists. The substantial body of relevant scholarship attests to the continuing significance of this problem. Particularly important are the works of M. Piren³, V. Tertychka², and V. Andriash⁴, which examine the general concept of policy and the specific nature of state (public) policy. Ye. Shakhnenko demonstrates the complexity of the theoretical and methodological debate concerning public policy and the role of civil society institutions in its formation⁵. The evolution of contemporary civil society in Ukraine is traced and analyzed by M. Kanavets⁶ and O. Korniiievskyi⁷, who identify the cur-

rent priorities of state support for the civic sector.

1.2. Public Policy within the System of State-Civil Society Interaction

Citizens, as recipients of services delivered for the public benefit, are increasingly demanding with regard to service quality and the development of a stable, socially equitable, and service-oriented public policy. The scholarly literature offers different approaches to conceptualizing this notion, reflecting the multidimensional character of state-building and the diversity of societal demands. Nevertheless, these approaches share a common semantic core: a set of both standard and context-specific actions undertaken by the state to meet the interests of its citizens⁸. M. Piren emphasizes the importance of public policy, describing it as increasingly attentive to the European context of administrative culture and progressively reforming public administration in accordance with EU standards⁹. The diversity of approaches to defining public policy is also evident in the extensive work of both theorists and practitioners¹⁰.

As in the state's broader approach to national minorities, it is essential to distinguish clearly between the substantive meanings assigned to public policy under different political regimes, since those meanings directly affect both policy outcomes and citizens' perceptions of public interaction. In a democratic society, public policy is oriented less toward controlling or influencing the partici-

pants in public relations than toward facilitating, supporting, and advancing the public interests of society and its institutions. By contrast, the policies of non-democratic regimes primarily protect the interests of the state and dominant groups rather than those of society as a whole, fundamentally altering the conditions for consensual interaction between government and society. In Ukraine, therefore, changes in political leadership should not radically disrupt the course of democratic reforms, particularly those approaching completion. This is especially relevant to decentralization, in which civil society organizations can play an illustrative role in implementing the emerging tasks of public governance and defining their renewed public-benefit function in communication between public authorities and territorial communities, including communities with compactly settled national minorities.

Under contemporary conditions of democratic development, the growing complexity of public-governance interaction, the increasing specialization of administrative and functional processes, and the routine practice of state-building all require recognition that the public actions of state authorities are interdependent with those of other societal institutions and local self-government bodies. These actors are expected to contribute, with greater commitment, competence, and responsibility, to addressing the many dimensions of human activity and to represent citi-

zens' corresponding societal demands before the state. Despite the resources at its disposal, a democratic state cannot independently design and implement strategies or programmes for every sphere of social life without sustained engagement by the relevant societal stakeholders, who are themselves the principal users of social and public services. The state can, however, support the demands of civil society and use its instruments and mechanisms to facilitate their implementation in public practice.

In this context, the public character of policy reflects the state's capacity to interact with civil society, respond appropriately to its demands, and remain focused on citizens' public interests. Public policy in different sectors should therefore create conditions conducive to their development and sustain a reciprocal communicative relationship between a service-oriented state and civil society. At the same time, the state possesses legal, organizational, and financial instruments through which established priorities may be implemented within the regulatory framework¹¹.

Because public policy passes through several procedural stages, its substance must remain open to continuous and dynamic improvement. Policy adaptability is a requirement of a rapidly changing democratic environment in which interaction among public actors serves both as an instrument for fulfilling citizens' demands and as a means of protect-

ing their public interests. Accordingly, the contemporary toolkit of public policy is a key indicator of the willingness and capacity of a service-oriented state to meet the standards of public culture in a renewed civil society, where every citizen is treated as equal among equals.

Ukraine continues to face a range of internal and external problems that impede the development of an effective public policy for civil society and the sustainable support of civil society organizations. In particular, there remains considerable ambiguity regarding the place and role of such organizations in defining the substance and evaluating the effectiveness of policy across different spheres, including socioeconomic, environmental, civic, and political domains. The actions of the various participants are therefore insufficiently coordinated not only during policy formation, but also during local implementation. This creates a need to improve the instruments and mechanisms of policymaking by fostering mutual trust and establishing public communication platforms whose primary purpose is coordination rather than control. The public environment must be open and genuinely participatory, with broad citizen involvement in governance. The creation of amalgamated territorial communities as an outcome of Ukraine's decentralization reform offers a constructive example of such a synergistic and goal-oriented public space. Within this arrangement, civil society organizations can serve as

intermediary communicators and service providers between the principal actors of a service-oriented state and civil society.

In recent years, official programme initiatives have strengthened the legal and regulatory framework of public policy intended to promote civil society organizations. The Decree of the President of Ukraine of 24 March 2012, No. 212/2012, "On the Strategy of State Policy for Promoting the Development of Civil Society in Ukraine and Priority Measures for Its Implementation"¹², and the related regulatory instruments¹³ were not fully implemented. Nevertheless, their provisions enabled society and the state, following the Revolution of Dignity, to define more clearly and accelerate their orientation toward fundamental democratic values. The National Strategy for Promoting the Development of Civil Society in Ukraine for 2016-2020, approved by Presidential Decree No. 68/2016 of 26 February 2016, established a broad range of state responsibilities for advancing civil society¹⁴. According to experts from the National Institute for Strategic Studies, implementation of the Strategy produced substantial progress, particularly through the legal recognition of opportunities for civil society organizations to cooperate with public authorities and participate in joint projects¹⁵.

The successful implementation of such strategies requires recognition that a state's democratic development depends on forward-looking plans for relations between a service-oriented

state and civil society, grounded exclusively in partnership. Regional imbalances in the implementation of nationwide programmes nevertheless remain significant. At the same time, we agree with the researchers' conclusion that the document "recognized the growing influence of civil society within the state and affirmed its status as a partner in dialogue with public authorities, including in the context of improving interaction with public-governance institutions"¹⁶. This position is fully consistent with our understanding of effective support for civil society organizations in Ukraine and highlights the need for a focused public policy that stimulates their activities and cooperation with communities. Recognizing representatives of national minorities as equal participants in public-governance relations will further reinforce social cohesion in the implementation of such plans.

2. The Territorial Community as a Space of Public Interaction

2.1. Institutional Preconditions and Challenges of Decentralization

In what practical setting can the emerging role of a civil society organization be most clearly expressed? The discussion focuses on its interaction with a new form of civic self-organization - the territorial community - within a modernized relationship with the state. The creation of a field of relations among newly empowered actors is only one component of Ukraine's nationwide decentralization reform. Even so, it

constitutes a practical test of the state's democratic system: its capacity to achieve social consensus, develop an inclusive public policy, and advance the evolution of public governance. It remains premature to declare the process successful because its local implementation continues to encounter evident difficulties. Nevertheless, the potential for positive change is clear when territorial community formation is understood both as a redistribution of public-governance powers and as a channel of cooperation between civil society and a service-oriented state.

The difficulties affecting public interaction among institutional actors in the course of democratic transformation include the psychological unwillingness of authorities at different levels to transfer part of their powers to new forms of local self-government. From the authors' perspective, the following additional problems of decentralization require particular attention:

- interference by regional authorities in, and obstruction of, mechanisms for expressing the popular will, thereby violating the fundamental principle that territorial communities must be formed voluntarily;
- delays in issuing formal conclusions and the obstruction by local authorities of procedures for their approval;
- citizens' distrust of public authorities and disbelief in the possibility of equitable cooperation with them;
- limited understanding of the reform and indifference toward it among some local residents¹⁷.

In this context, civic engagement - and, in particular, the public-benefit activities of civil society organizations - should play an important public role. Functionally, such organizations can both facilitate a smooth transition during this component of decentralization reform and subsequently become key participants in the everyday life of territorial communities.

2.2. Civic Participation and the Capacity of Territorial Communities

At the beginning of 2019, the official Decentralization website reported that 806 territorial communities had been established in Ukraine¹⁸. At that time, 655 communities with direct interbudgetary relations with the state had already undergone an assessment of their performance indicators¹⁹. This was an important measure of the effectiveness of decentralization, confirming the reform's strategic validity and underscoring the need to accelerate its full implementation. Citizens' generally positive reception of the reform and their sense of meaningful participation in addressing socially significant tasks were also evident. This applied especially to social services, regional development and environmental protection, local social infrastructure, and the national and cultural life of communities. In light of these developments, we agree with the view that "the distinctive character of the territorial community lies in the fact that the bearer of self-governing functions is not merely the

object of administrative decisions, but independently adopts and implements them, thereby acting simultaneously as both the object and the subject of governance"²⁰.

The first requirement in this situation is citizens' confidence in their own capacities and opportunities. A sense of being needed within civil society is an important attribute of democracy. Reform must place the individual, their worldview, and their public interests at its centre. Enabling citizens to participate in the exercise of state functions is, at the same time, a significant step in the development of public governance. Unfortunately, many citizens remain unprepared to express an active civic position individually, even though they are willing to articulate it collectively, particularly when addressing public issues that affect their daily lives. National minorities should assert their participation in self-government. National minority civil society organizations should therefore strengthen the effective authority of civic associations as public instruments capable of representing citizens' collective interests in relations between society and the state. Under the auspices of a service-oriented state, cooperation with territorial communities provides a promising mechanism through which civil society organizations can demonstrate their public-benefit potential. Encouragingly, such practices already operate successfully in several regions of Ukraine and have considerable potential for nationwide expansion²¹.

3. A Model of Cooperation between Civil Society Organizations and Territorial Communities

In view of the preceding analysis, we seek to substantiate the possibilities for public cooperation between a public-benefit civil society organization - including an organization representing a national minority - and a territorial community. We propose examining this cooperation across four dimensions: motivational (1), human-resource (2), functional (3), and innovative (4).

3.1. Motivational and Human-Resource Dimensions

1. *The motivational dimension* consists in restoring citizens' trust in public institutions and preventing local authorities from neglecting issues that directly affect community life. A civil society organization can encourage citizens to adopt an active civic position, promote self-organization, and cultivate a culture of public participation in community affairs. Coordinated strategic planning and the alignment of community development strategies through continuous monitoring of specific demands and pressing local problems enable an organization to reconcile the interests of all stakeholders. Close attention must be paid to the many contextual factors on which community development depends, and problem-solving approaches should therefore be adapted to local circumstances. Admittedly, there is still in-

sufficient practical experience and an inadequate legal framework for regulating public-governance relations between civil society organizations and territorial communities²². Nevertheless, such cooperation could reduce the burden on state authorities, optimize their interaction with communities, enhance the effectiveness and public standing of all parties, and promote constructive dialogue.

2. *The human-resource dimension* derives from the capacity of a civil society organization, as an independent institution, to engage specialists and experts from different fields in assessing the realistic prospects for establishing an amalgamated territorial community and subsequently determining its objective place in the territorial environment and in regional life more broadly. This involves not only monitoring and forecasting services designed to assess community conditions and capacity, but also other practical interventions. An organization may, for example, provide legal assistance during community formation, deliver informational and educational support for its activities, and deploy its human and intellectual resources pragmatically for local development. Human-resource capacity can thus be mobilized in multiple ways, in accordance with the community's functional possibilities and aspirations. For a national minority, it also constitutes an important means of collective self-expression.

3.2. Functional and Innovative Dimensions

3. *The functional dimension* concerns the organization's capacity to provide a range of services to the community, particularly social, legal, economic, cultural, and educational services. A civil society organization can become a centre of public dialogue and a focal point for coordinating interests in support of the prospective, dynamic, and sustainable development of an amalgamated territorial community. It may also mobilize other forms of capacity, including identifying benefactors, organizing volunteer work, arranging informational, educational, and recreational activities, supporting specific social groups, and cooperating with educational, cultural, and business institutions.

4. *The innovative dimension* of cooperation among public actors embodies a new vision of civic self-organization. It brings contemporary ideas into public-governance relations, including mobile social services and the development of electronic and networked democracy. Public interaction between civil society organizations and amalgamated territorial communities is manifested in:

- a fundamental transformation of the substantive functioning of the civil society organization as an institution of civil society, ranging from institutional rebranding to the legislative recognition of new forms of public-benefit action and the introduction of managerial and technological innovations;

- the establishment of close relations between the civil society organization and the territorial community, including the reorientation of public-interaction actors toward service provision.

Overall, the use of managerial and innovative approaches constitutes a mechanism for creating fundamentally new conditions for public relations among institutional actors within the state.

Thus, in light of the preceding discussion and the experience already accumulated, we maintain that civil society organizations can and should assume public intermediary functions that facilitate the full implementation of social transformations and reforms, including decentralization²³.

4. Regional Specificities and Risks of Public Interaction

Public interaction also displays regional specificities that affect the engagement of the civic sector in addressing particular problems. These specificities are social in origin, including labour migration and incomplete families, as well as political, including war and internal and external migration.

4.1. Regional Factors Affecting the Participation of National Minority Organizations

In economically disadvantaged regions of Ukraine and in areas with vulnerable social infrastructure, civil society organizations engaged in public-benefit activities encounter numerous problems arising from dis-

trust on the part of the state and, at times, society itself. Although social and related regional problems reflect broader national conditions, civil society organizations in some regions nevertheless face particularly severe difficulties in motivating and mobilizing local participation.

For example, national minority associations, whose primary purpose is to safeguard the interests of a particular ethnonational community and preserve its cultural and everyday traditions, experience considerable difficulty in articulating their collective public rights to participate in governance and in the resolution of local issues within the territorial communities where their members reside. This concerns primarily non-Slavic groups, such as Roma and Jews, although comparable situations also arise in the daily lives of other ethnonational communities. The regional constellation of problems adversely affects the integration of many national minorities into Ukrainian society. It is therefore necessary to coordinate the plans and actions of state authorities, local self-government bodies, and civil society institutions, and to develop a balanced integration policy, particularly at the grassroots level of public governance, where it is most sensitive and vulnerable. Long-term plans for territorial community development should also incorporate public-governance considerations, especially those dependent on the active engagement of all segments of the local population in cooperation with civil

society organizations. Such an approach would help establish effective partnerships and encourage all actors to uphold equality and fairness in the conduct of public policy.

It is equally necessary for state authorities to keep pace with contemporary developments, consistently harmonize national legislation with the requirements of global and European partners, and implement strategic plans for societal development responsibly across all priority areas. Society, in turn, must embrace a corresponding model of public co-existence and develop forward-looking relations among all members of civil society. At Ukraine's present stage of development, however, the psychological transformation required for citizens to accept parity in public governance remains a persistent challenge. This transformation depends largely on the motivational activity of all participants in state-building. Moreover, efforts to promote civil society organizations through their interaction with all participants in public-governance relations are exposed to both internal and external risks that may arise during cooperation.

4.2. Internal and External Risks

Internal risks. A significant risk is the instrumental use of grant funding by certain civil society organizations²⁴. This occurs when an organization is established primarily to secure funding for a topical social issue, while its mission and reporting do not correspond to the needs of the

target groups. The risk also affects some national minority organizations. In response, donor institutions, public authorities, and territorial communities are improving mechanisms for verification, monitoring, and competitive partner selection. Evaluating an organization's institutional history, reputation, alignment of services with target-group needs, and team capacity helps minimize the participation of bad-faith or merely nominal entities in programmes serving the public benefit.

External risks are associated with the non-transparent lobbying of private interests by individual representatives of state authorities and local self-government bodies. These risks manifest themselves in perfunctory partner searches, non-public competitions, undemocratic selection procedures, conflicts of interest, and support for affiliated organizations. Such practices reduce the effectiveness of service programmes, undermine the authority of public institutions, and weaken trust between partners. Their prevention requires transparent criteria, open competitive selection, and independent monitoring.

5. Institutional Typology and Directions for Public Policy Modernization

5.1. A Typology of Civil Society Organizations

Civil society organizations themselves have an interest in public interaction with all participants in public-governance relations. Their ap-

proach to resolving the social problems of territorial communities should be considered in terms of their capacity to position themselves as organizations serving the public benefit. In the authors' view, the territorial community's demand for systematic services provided by institutions independent of the state creates an opportunity to modernize the state-building potential of civil society. Organizations of this kind may be divided into two broad groups.

The first group comprises civil society organizations established directly by the bearers of decentralization values - members of the community - and formally constituted on the basis of their public-benefit work within the local social environment. Their purpose is to resolve problems and protect the public interests of members of a particular amalgamated territorial community. In practice, the community initiates the establishment of an organization that is functionally empowered to defend its members' public interests. The activities of such organizations generally focus exclusively on issues affecting community life. They cooperate closely with comparable organizations, may form organizational coalitions, civic corporations, or unions, and often become permanent partners of donors that prioritize territorial community development.

The second group consists of cross-sectoral civil society organizations. Their activities address a wide variety of democratic-development tasks, while the everyday needs of

territorial communities are not their primary concern. A community becomes the focus of such an organization only situationally, for example when a service programme must be implemented, a relevant thematic or social commission is received, or the organization is engaged as a temporary partner. This practice is widespread because grant providers seek to broaden their public and civic audiences and identify committed partners, as well as proactive and creative actors.

5.2. Directions for Institutional Modernization

In Ukraine, interaction among the state, amalgamated territorial communities, and civil society organizations is therefore a pressing contemporary issue, as demonstrated by the priority accorded to their public-benefit activity within public-governance relations. Such interaction can be advanced through established service mechanisms, including public education and civic learning, managerial and technological innovation, media literacy, creative industries, and social-service support. The motivational dimension of civil society organizations is primarily expressed through public-benefit cooperation with state authorities, local self-government bodies, and territorial communities. In our view, their social-service orientation is mutually beneficial for the emergence of a new model of relations between the state and civil society. Public policy, as an instrument of this synergistic interac-

tion, contributes to embedding democratic values and fostering a civic culture of mutual respect, equality, and justice.

The potential for cooperation between a civil society organization, local self-government bodies, and territorial communities highlights the need to modify public policy intended to promote such organizations. To acquire a practical and genuinely public character, this policy must clearly define their status as actors distinct from other civil society entities, including unions, associations, foundations, and other bodies of citizen self-organization²⁴. Two principal factors support this position: one quantitative and the other qualitative.

The quantitative factor is demonstrated by the growth in the number of civil society organizations in Ukraine: as of 1 January 2018, 80,461 such organizations were registered²⁵. This figure indicates the substantial institutional potential of the civic sector, although the quality and effectiveness of these organizations' activities must also be assessed. Positive indicators include increased citizen and organizational participation in service delivery, particularly in the social sphere, as well as the willingness of public institutions to support civic self-organization. At the national level, greater attention has been devoted to transparency, openness, and cooperation with civil society institutions²⁶.

With regard to qualitative indicators, despite the development of civil

society and the intensification of civic participation in public processes, functional understandings of civil society organizations remain insufficiently defined at the lower, regional and local levels of governance. In our observation, this unjustifiably diminishes assessments of their role in developing both civil society and a service-oriented state. It also weakens the self-confidence, initiative, and activity of civil society representatives themselves. Local authorities often exploit the underestimation of organizational capacity by ignoring requests and initiatives aimed at resolving numerous local and regional problems. In some cases, communication is openly dismissive: owing to entrenched distrust, representatives of public authorities portray cooperation with civil society organizations as futile and retain exclusive control even over matters that could, under appropriate conditions, fall within the competence of such institutions.

It would therefore be appropriate to distinguish, without separating them from the broader civil society system, the particular development challenges faced by civil society organizations, including national minority organizations, and to grant them specific functional opportunities within public governance, the democratization of state-society relations, and decentralization. This would contribute to optimizing public policy support for civil society organizations at every level in Ukraine and stimulate the development of multi-level public governance.

At the legislative level, in particular, there is a growing need for a dedicated law that specifies the legal agency and functional orientation of civil society organizations and defines instruments of public support for achieving synergistic state-building objectives. In practice, these organizations give substantive effect to public governance and consciously orient citizens toward the positive consequences of decentralizing power relations. At territorial levels ranging from the national to the regional and local, they perform informational and educational, social-integration, and service-intermediation functions. In doing so, they consolidate Ukrainian society and help address a substantial range of regional and local problems. Under these conditions, trust in civil society organizations becomes especially important, although their societal potential remains insufficiently studied, particularly in the formation and operation of amalgamated territorial communities²⁷.

In light of the preceding analysis and the available statistical evidence, state authorities and local self-government bodies must fundamentally reconsider their approach to this category of civil society institution. A well-founded account of the place and role of civil society organizations encourages the development of partnerships, supported by appropriate legal recognition of their status, functions, and societal relevance. This issue warrants particular attention in areas where different

ethnonational communities live in compact settlements, especially when those communities are represented by dedicated civil society organizations.

This also brings the modernization of public policy for promoting civil society organizations to the forefront. In the authors' view, such modernization requires a favourable democratic environment, an improved legislative framework, strategic planning of institutional needs, encouragement of the civic sector's public visibility, and effective platforms for practical interaction and public communication. Ukraine's current trajectory, particularly amid the Russian-Ukrainian war and in the anticipated post-war period, demands a systematic and comprehensive approach, together with accountability on the part of all socially oriented state and civil society actors committed to progress.

Conclusions

The analysis confirms the research hypothesis: institutionalized cooperation between national minority civil society organizations, local self-government bodies, and territorial communities can improve the quality of public services, strengthen citizen participation in decision-making, and advance social consolidation. The decisive conditions for such cooperation are legal predictability, transparent procedures, organizational professionalism, permanent communication platforms, and mutual accountability.

The proposed model encompasses the motivational, human-resource, functional, and innovative dimensions of interaction. Its practical application makes it possible to regard civil society organizations not as auxiliary elements, but as autonomous partners in public governance capable of representing the interests of ethnonational communities, delivering services for the public benefit, and supporting integration at the local level. At the same time, reducing regional disparities, non-transparent lobbying, and the instrumental use of

grant resources requires appropriate public and civic oversight.

The study is limited by its predominant reliance on normative and analytical sources and on statistical data reflecting the early stages of decentralization reform. Further research should undertake comparative empirical assessments of cooperation practices across different regions of Ukraine, especially in communities with compactly settled national minorities, and should examine the role of such partnerships in post-war recovery.

Notes

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