





Civic engagement poll: attitudes & experiences regarding corruption in Ukraine

To use the wealth of information provided by the first wave of the Civic Engagement Poll in the most effective way, USAID/ENGAGE conducted additional analysis of its raw data from the anti-corruption perspective. This analysis was later shared and discussed during the working meeting on December 21, 2017, with our CSO partners and USAID-funded sister project Support to Anti-Corruption Champion Institutions (SACCI) to inform their future anti-corruption activities and ensure common understanding of the corruption-related attitudes and trends in Ukrainian society.

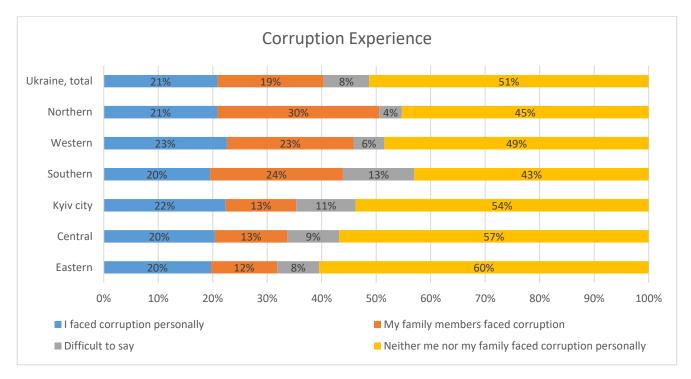
USAID/ENGAGE also uses this analysis to review and update the questionnaire of the bigger Anti-Corruption Poll, which is planned to be launched in the beginning of 2018.

Main issues covered by the analysis were the following:

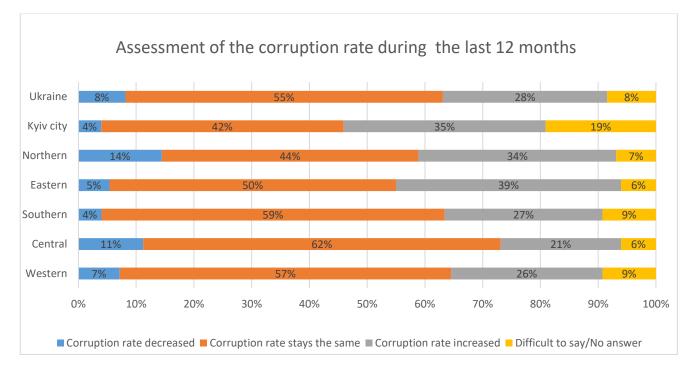
- corruption experience and perception,
- general attitudes towards corruption,
- how corruption is perceived as a policy issue,
- readiness to counteract corruption,
- and, readiness to support work of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau

Corruption experience and perception

According to the data of the first wave of the Civic Engagement Poll, 21 % of Ukrainians faced corruption during the 12 months before they were surveyed (August – September 2017), and other 19 % reported that their family members faced corruption.

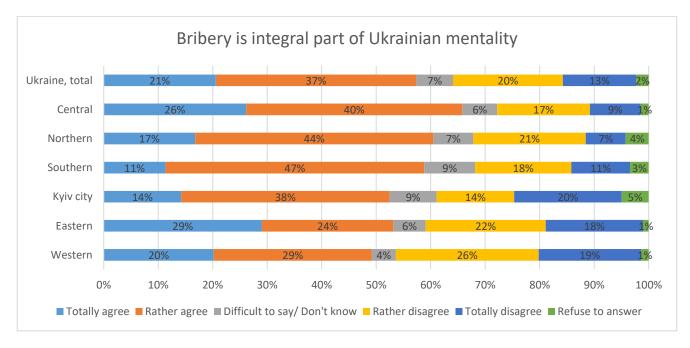


Even though 51% of Ukrainians did not face corruption in the previous year, majority believes corruption level did not change to better: only 8% of Ukrainians believe that corruption rate decreased, while 55% believe it stayed the same, and other 28% think it actually increased (the rest 8% are undecided).



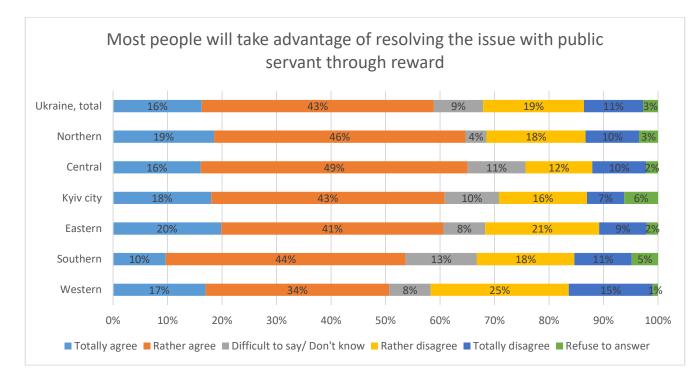
General attitudes towards corruption

Everywhere in Ukraine majority of population believes that corruption is a part of everyday culture: 59% of respondents totally or rather agree that most people will take advantage of resolving the issue with public servant through reward, and 58 % of respondents totally or rather agree that bribery is integral part of Ukrainian mentality.

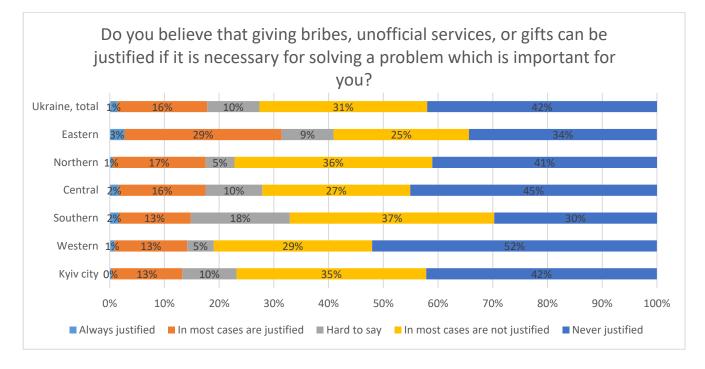


There is no single macro-region of Ukraine where this attitude would be different; only western part of Ukraine is quite close to demonstrating different mindset:

- 51% of respondents from this region totally and rather agree that most people will resolve the issue with public servant through reward (40% rather and totally disagree),
- 49% of respondents from this region totally and rather agree that bribery is integral part of Ukrainian mentality (45% rather and totally disagree).

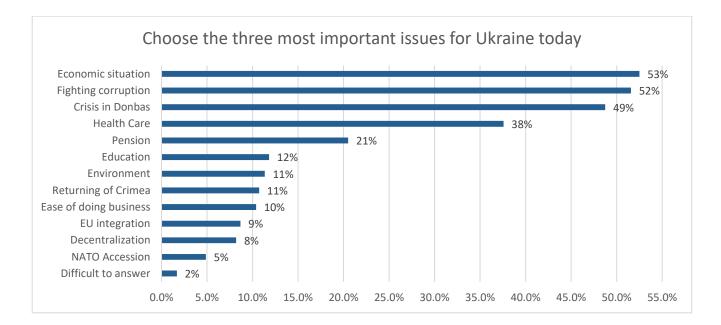


Still, if asked directly, majority of people do not justify bribes in any region of Ukraine.



Corruption as a policy issue

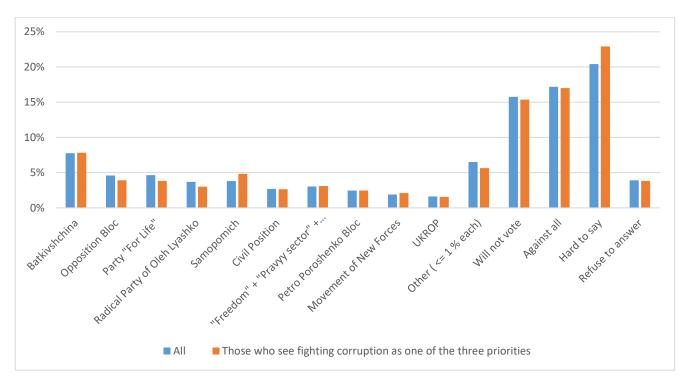
Awareness on corruption as a policy issue is wide-spread across different populations and party lines. Generally, 52% of Ukrainians consider fighting corruption to be among top three issues for Ukraine today; it is the second most popular issue after economic situation (which was named among top three issues by 53% of Ukrainians).



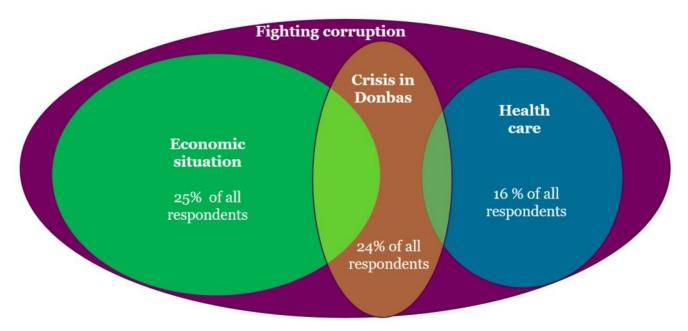
In terms of the regional distribution, corruption is the most popular choice for people in Kyiv, Northern and Western Ukraine.



In terms of the political preferences, it looks that awareness on corruption is almost evenly spread among voters of each political party.

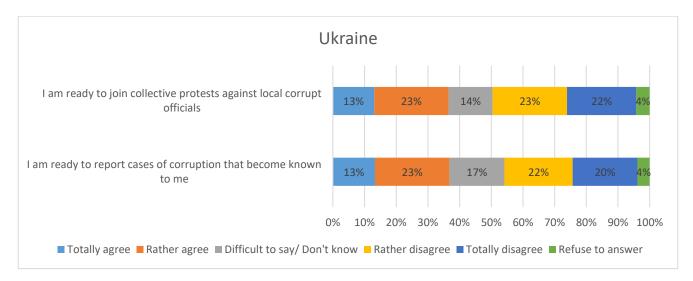


Importantly, there are two distinct groups which perceive problem of corruption differently: 25% believe economic situation is a major issue together with corruption; 16 % believe that health care is a major issue together with corruption; these two audiences do not overlap. Thus, while communication anti-corruption to the general audience, one need to communicate it together with other policy issues and keep in mind that those focused on economic issues do not care about health (and vice versa).

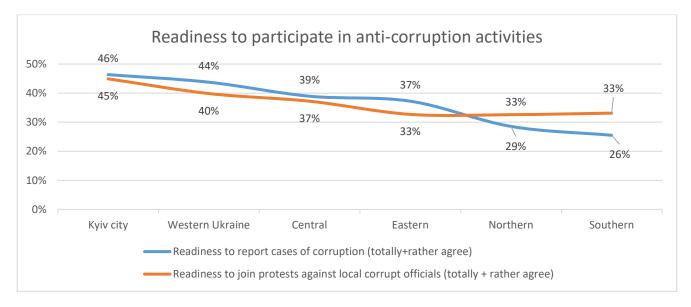


Readiness to counteract corruption

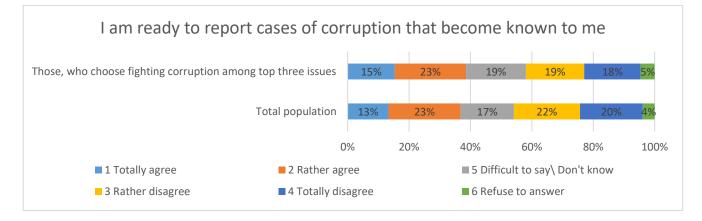
Thirty six percent of respondents are ready to participate in anti-corruption activities. They rather or totally agree to join collective protests against local corrupt officials or to report cases of corruption.

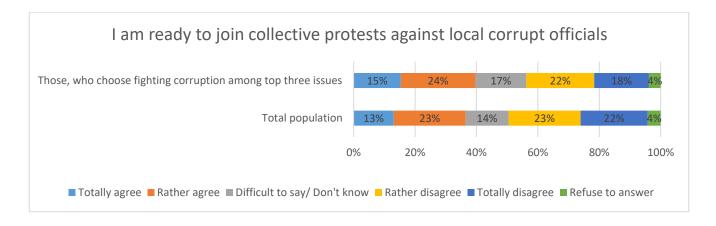


Kyiv and Western Ukraine report bigger readiness to anti-corruption activities: 46% of Kyivans and 44% of population of Western Ukraine are ready to join anti-corruption protests (totally and rather agree). This attitudes decreases in the East, North and South of Ukraine.



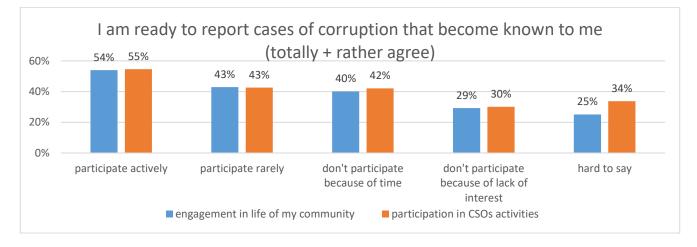
Interestingly, awareness on corruption does not trigger anti-corruption activism. If we compare people who consider that fighting corruption is among three top issues for Ukraine with the general population, their readiness to report corruption cases or join anti-corruption protests does not differ significantly.



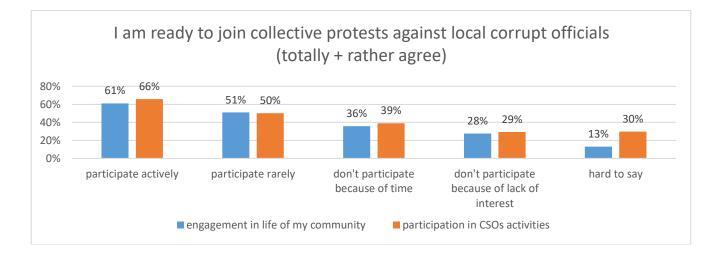


The data suggests that to increase the number of those who will stand against corruption one needs to increase the number of active citizens. Engagement in community life and CSOs are the major factors that increases willingness to participate in anti-corruption activities.

Fifty four percent of those actively participating in the life of community and 55% of people actively participating in CSOs activities are totally and rather agree to report cases of corruption;



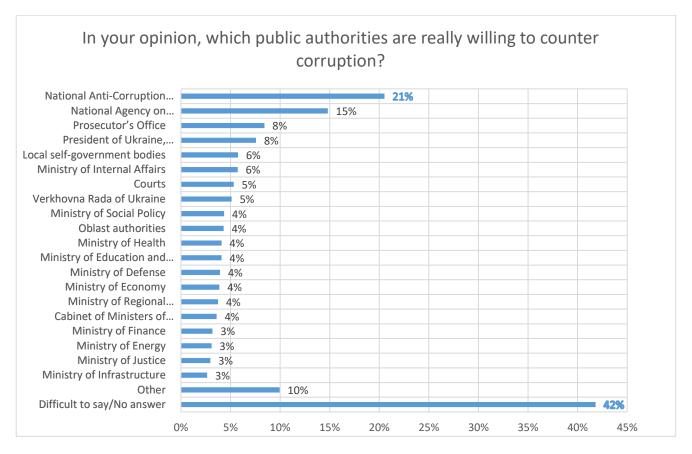
Sixty one percent of those actively participating in the life of community and 66% of people actively participating in CSOs activities are totally and rather agree to join collective anti-corruption protests.



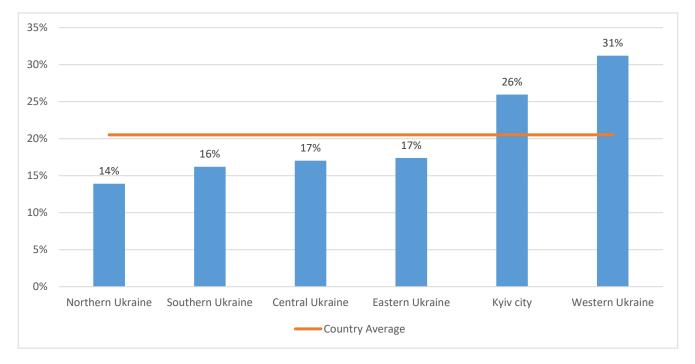
Readiness to support work of the National Anti-Corruption Bureau (NABU)

The poll data revealed that the most popular choice of respondents asked to name the public authority that is really willing to counter corruption was the NABU (21% of respondents). The second most

popular answer was the National Agency on Corruption Prevention (15%), the third most frequent choice was the Prosecutor's Office (8%).



In Kyiv and Western Ukraine, the share of those who believe in NABU's sincerity is above average: 26% and 31% accordingly.



Interestingly, those who think NABU is willing to fight corruption are more likely to join anticorruption protests. Forty seven percent of them are ready (totally and rather) to join collective anticorruption protests and 48% are ready (totally and rather) to report cases of corruption. In general sample 36% of respondents responded the same way to both questions.

