

# **Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group (KHPG)**



## **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2022**

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## 1. Executive Summary

In 2022 KHPG has developed the following direction of activities.

*Documenting international crimes allegedly committed in course of full-scale Russian-Ukrainian war.* KHPG jointly with over 20 Ukrainian Human Rights NGOs collected information on more than 40 thousand incidents of allegedly committed war crimes and entered it into the database produced by KHPG. In addition, KHPG entered 1325 cases to the second database for strategic litigations.

*Promoting accountability of the perpetrators of international crimes.* We have provided primary legal aid to 3805 people through KHPG Public Reception Offices (PRO) and field receptions. 2197 crime reports to the Ukrainian law-enforcing bodies in interests of victims of war crimes have been prepared. We have carried out secondary legal assistance within the framework of the activity of the Strategic Litigation Centre (SLC) in 478 criminal proceedings. 40 applications have been sent to the UN mechanisms on human rights.

*Carrying out awareness raising campaign in Ukraine and other countries.* KHPG has created a site of the Tribunal for Putin (T4P) initiative with seven versions in Ukrainian, Russian, English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish. The site is functioning since September 2022. KHPG disseminated own and partners' analytical articles with summarising the war crimes, crimes against humanity and genocide allegedly committed by the Russian military, protests the war in Russia, etc through sites and pages in the social networks. In addition, KHPG has created «Oral histories» – recording, transcribing and distributing in Ukrainian and English interviews both inside and outside of Ukraine from eyewitnesses of the events. KHPG jointly with the partner NGO Magnolia has produced and distributed 35 videos on concrete cases of war crimes committed by the Russian occupants.

*Advocacy activities with national authorities, as well as with the ICC, UN, EU, CoE, OSCE, institutions based on the above activities.* KHPG and its partners have encrised on efforts to organise bilateral and multilateral meetings between themselves, other Ukrainian partners and international stakeholders, in order to report on the results of documentation efforts, share their analysis and legal qualification of the crimes that have been committed, present evidence and argue for the adoption of resolutions, statements, declarations establishing or prolonging accountability mechanisms and enacting countermeasures – sanctions, to deter future violations.

## 2. Documenting international crimes allegedly committed in course of full-scale Russian-Ukrainian war

Our approach to documentation is as follows. We divided all regions of Ukraine among working groups of documenters. We have divided all the days, starting on February 24, among all documenters from Ukrainian organisations and for each day the documenter collects information from all possible sources about the events that took place on that day, if the event shows signs of crimes against humanity and / or war crimes under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, and prepares a chronicle of events for the day. For each event, the approximate location and time of the event (or the time interval when it unknown), as well as the sources from which the information about it was taken, are indicated. Daily chronicles are published on the websites of the Global Initiative members, while all sensitive information is removed for publication: exact addresses, personal data, etc. The most important quality of the chronicles is the maximum completeness and reliability of the information based on which they are formed. Then, based on the information about each event, one or more incidents are formed, each of which is entered into the database according to a certain template using the most complete information about this episode. Each incident is corroborated, accompanied by location, relevant media files and links to Internet resources, as well as personal data of witnesses and victims of crime, if known. We take written information consent to store the use of personal data for publications and for legal procedures from the victims or their relatives in the event of the death of the victims.

Sources of information for compiling daily chronicles and entering information into the database are:

- a) Daily official reports on the situation in the war zone, on human losses, destruction, etc., reports on other information resources, including local, on the consequences of hostilities, including sites and Telegram channels of regional administrations, regional police departments, the State Emergency Service, the regional prosecutor's office and others;
- b) Messages and reports of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine, other international and national human rights organisations;
- c) Information resources that regularly publish information about events in the zone of military conflict, in particular, Telegram channels;
- d) Media files related to the episodes: photos, video blogs on the YouTube platform, short videos shot for TikTok and Instagram, etc.

Sources of information are stored: web pages – in the Web-archive, posts on social networks or messengers through screenshots that are indexed (for example, the name of the screenshot is linked to the episode number). Also, the sources of information are stored on external data carriers.

For some regions, where the fighting took place within the settlements and with which there was no contact for a long time, there is very little information in open sources (Mariupol, Kyiv region, Chernihiv and others). Therefore, the focus in documenting crimes is shifted to reporting witnesses and victims of crimes and collecting evidence. Sources of information include testimonies of witnesses and victims of crimes; these testimonials are collected in the form of answers to questions of the google-form which corresponds to a template of record in a database; and interviews with witnesses and victims.

In order to realise direct communication with victims and fixation of places of crimes, KHPG created four mobile group consisted of 3 documenters each for trips to areas of hostilities, including groups jointly with investigators of the Kharkiv regional department of the Security Service of Ukraine. We realised 261 such trips to Kharkiv city, Kharkiv, Kyiv, Chernihiv and Sumy regions during the first year of the project.

In 2022 KHPG and its partners entered over 40 thousand incidents of allegedly war crimes committed by the Russian military into the database.

In addition, KHPG created a second database for incidents where KHPG lawyers are carries out cases as representatives of victims in the criminal proceedings. It was necessary for providing access to testimonies, evidences and other sensitive data only for lawyer. KHPG lawyers entered the second database 1325 incidents.

### **3. Promoting accountability of the perpetrators of international crimes**

This activity supposes identification of victims of international crimes, initiation of investigation and prosecution of these crimes in Ukraine and in cooperation with international, such as UN Committee on Human Rights (UNCHR), UN Working Group on Enforced Disappearances and Arbitrary Detentions (UNWGED) as well as International Criminal Court (ICC). KHPG realised it through direct communication with victims and witnesses of the international crimes and various assistance to victims: legal, psychological, social, charitable and other.

Communications were carried out by electronic appeals to the KHPG on the website, pages on social networks and appeals at the reception at the KHPG offices in Kharkiv and Kyiv (it was opened on November 1, 2022) and at field receptions in settlements on the de-occupation territory during monitoring visits. A total of 3805 people applied, all of them received primary legal aid in the form of consultations. Many who applied received other forms of assistance.

KHPG lawyers prepared 2197 crime reports on behalf of victims of crimes and sent it to law enforcement agencies in order to open criminal proceedings and obtain the status of a victim in criminal proceedings. All victims received such status.

In 2022 KHPG lawyers presented interests of victims in the 478 criminal proceedings, including:

115 on illegal detention and disappearances.

36 on victims of torture (including 7 victims of sexual violence);

144 on death of civilians;

183 on wounded civilians.

Also, KHPG lawyers prepared and sent 39 individual complaints to the UNCHR and UNWGED. All complaints were approved. We look forward to a consideration of these cases and relevant actions of the UN bodies.

During the reporting period, the first version of the submission to the Office of the ICC Prosecutor on the genocide in Mariupol was prepared and discussed. Furthermore, data was collected from the database for the following submissions:

- on indiscriminate and other shelling of civilian objects;
- on enforced disappearances;
- on "imprisonment or other severe deprivation of physical liberty in violation of fundamental rules of international law";
- on forcibly transferring children of the group to another group.

These submissions will be prepared and sent to the Office of the ICC Prosecutor in 2023.

### **4. Carrying out awareness raising campaign in Ukraine and other countries**

Awareness raising campaign engaged dissemination of information daily about:  
human rights violations, in particular, violations of national law, international humanitarian law and international criminal law in Ukrainian and English;

the course of military operations in the context of human rights observation in Ukrainian and English;  
protests the war in Russia in Ukrainian and English.

The campaign also included the following measures:

a. Creation of a site of the T4P coalition with seven versions in Ukrainian, Russian, English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish; it started in the beginning of September 2022;

b. Disseminating partners' analytical articles with summarising the war crimes, committed by the Russian military, statements of the T4P coalitions, reports in Ukrainian, Russian, English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish, through T4P site, T4P pages in the Facebook, Twitter, Telegram and YouTube;

c. Creation of «Oral histories» – recording, transcribing and distributing in Ukrainian and English interviews both inside and outside of Ukraine from eyewitnesses of the events (with the view to building a case for non-accountability transitional justice mechanisms, fulfilling the right to truth);

d. Translation of oral histories into Russian, French, German, Italian, and Spanish, and dissemination it through T4P site;

e. Creating short clips focused videos about the victims of the war, and on other related topics in Ukrainian, Russian, English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish subtitles, using T4P site, T4P pages in the Facebook, Twitter and YouTube;

f. Regular publication of articles in question on the KHPG and partners organisations' websites and pages in Facebook and Twitter in Ukrainian and in English, translation of part of the publications from English into Ukrainian, Russian, English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish and dissemination of these translations through T4P coalition website and pages in the Facebook and Twitter;

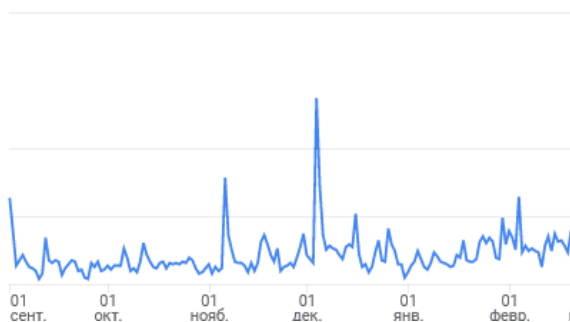
g. Usage of Facebook ads to spread information on how to inform on war crimes and others, support permanent dialog with visitors of the KHPG pages in the social networks;

h. Demonstration at least two times per month of information video on the Magnolia TV channel, «Suspilne TV» and other TV channels.

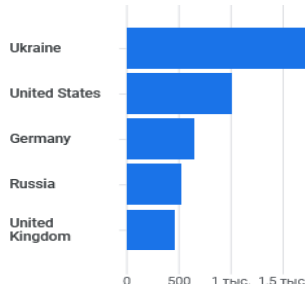
The statistics of visits to the T4P site and the KHPG sites are presented in tables, graphs and diagrams below.

Site <b>t4pua.org</b>	Total visitors / views	Daily visitors / daily views	Average interaction time
September 1, 2022 - March 17, 2023	8200 / 35141	39 / 167	1m 52s

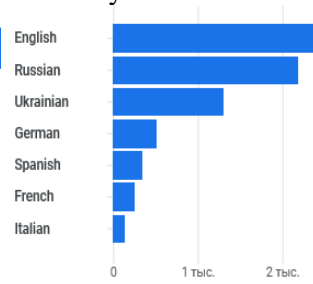
Dynamics of visits over time



Number of visitors from countries



The language of the visitor system

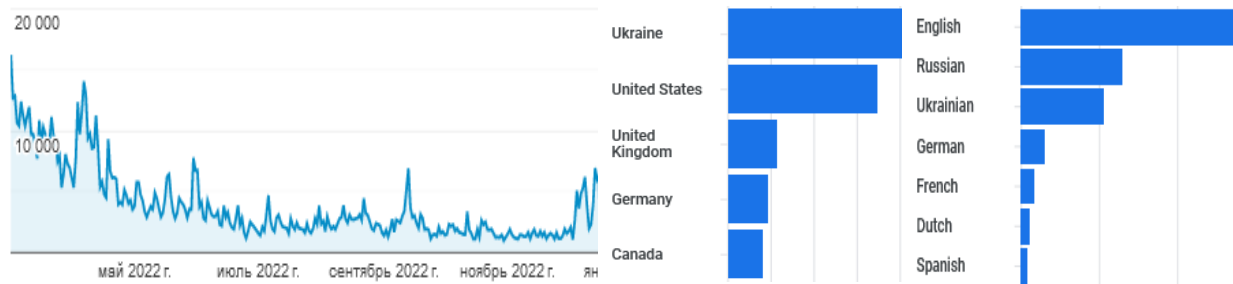


Site <b>khpg.org</b>	Total visitors / daily views	Daily visitors / daily views	Average interaction time
March 1, 2022 - March 17, 2023	1 144 768 / 1 801 599	2890 / 4549	48s

Dynamics of visits over time

Visitors from

The language of the visitor system



### Development of the KHPG social media

During the year, the KHPG social media grew significantly. Complementary to KHPG’s main social medium, Facebook pages, a Telegram channel was created (August 2022) and a new strategy was applied to the Instagram page (August 2022).

Total number of followers on Twitter increased from nearly 600 to 2800. Starting from September 2022, approximately 600 tweets are published monthly. Twitter does not allow to extract annual analytics, thus the data for two last month is provided below as a cross-section.

As the new website of the T4P initiative was launched, the KHPG created the initiative's social media accounts. [YouTube channel of the T4P](#) is used as a multilingual platform to distribute T4P Shorts: each video has seven titles and descriptions, as well as seven captions tracks which are chosen automatically by user’s IP address location or user interface language. T4P’s social media yet remain small as the website was the main objective of the project. Dedicated social media strategy should define ways to promote T4P’s unique content for different audiences.

The YouTube channel is considered as the most promising social network for the KHPG. After some optimization in Summer 2022, the videos grow organically, gathering dozens of thousands of viewers. Five of the most popular videos are the interviews with Ukrainians about their war stories and the war crimes they have seen. three of them are Mariupol residents:

Valeriia Kaminska — 230,158 views

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EfOGE6q\\_K8Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EfOGE6q_K8Y)

Liudmyla Sokolovska — 149,166 views

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QN05tPy1bok>

Hanna from a village near Sloviansk — 70,304 views

<https://youtu.be/dFPWNbcteQw>

Yevhen Sosnovskyi — 57,856 views

<https://youtu.be/xz8aN3oYgC8>

Zinaida Kostenko from Moshchun — 23,273 views

<https://youtu.be/8utkXtNZ4F8>

Please, see more detailed description of the KHPG media activities here: <https://khp.org/en/1608811814>

### **5. Advocacy activities with national authorities, as well as with the ICC, UN, EU, CoE, OSCE, institutions on the basis of the above activities**

KHPG and its partners have encrised on efforts to organise bilateral and multilateral meetings between themselves, other Ukrainian partners and international stakeholders, in order to report on the results of documentation efforts, share their analysis and legal qualification of the crimes that have been committed, present evidence and argue for the adoption of resolutions, statements, declarations establishing or prolonging accountability mechanisms and enacting countermeasures – sanctions, to deter future violations.

Information on advocacy meeting within the T4P initiative is given in the following table:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Link to the event/Photo</b>
05.16.22	Vienna (Austria)	Moscow Mechanism report on Ukraine - Next steps for the OSCE	<a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1s03LcYWWo6W4daZV3bJepSBs29io0pFj">https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1s03LcYWWo6W4daZV3bJepSBs29io0pFj</a>

05.17.22	Vienna (Austria)	Side event SHDM OSCE: War crimes and prisoners of war. Speech by Oleh Buriak	<a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1s03LcYWWo6W4daZV3bJepSBs29io0pFj">https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1s03LcYWWo6W4daZV3bJepSBs29io0pFj</a>
10.03.22	Warsaw (Poland)	Side event at the Warsaw Human Dimension Conference	<a href="https://ccl.org.ua/news/genoczyd-v-ukrayini-ponyattya-sklad-zlochynu-ta-mizhnarodna-vidpovidalnist/">https://ccl.org.ua/news/genoczyd-v-ukrayini-ponyattya-sklad-zlochynu-ta-mizhnarodna-vidpovidalnist/</a>  <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/125KEfNWGewaAKv6MAZqDomqX31hPuTIN">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/125KEfNWGewaAKv6MAZqDomqX31hPuTIN</a>
10.06.22	Warsaw (Poland)	Side event at the Warsaw Human Dimension Conference	<a href="https://ccl.org.ua/news/specialnyj-trybunal-povynen-rozglyanuty-zlochyn-agresiyi-rf-proty-ukrayiny-oleksandra-romanczova/">https://ccl.org.ua/news/specialnyj-trybunal-povynen-rozglyanuty-zlochyn-agresiyi-rf-proty-ukrayiny-oleksandra-romanczova/</a>
11.16.22	Berlin (Germany)	Fourth International Forum of European Ukraine	<a href="https://ccl.org.ua/news/rosiya-porushuyepolozhennya-zhenevskoyi-konvenzii-pravozahysnyky/">https://ccl.org.ua/news/rosiya-porushuyepolozhennya-zhenevskoyi-konvenzii-pravozahysnyky/</a>
11.27.22	Prague (Czech Republic)	Speech at Charles University	<a href="https://ccl.org.ua/news/ukrayini-potribnimizhnarodno-pravovi-mehanizmy-oleksandra-romanczova/">https://ccl.org.ua/news/ukrayini-potribnimizhnarodno-pravovi-mehanizmy-oleksandra-romanczova/</a> <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1adev_HYRuKJhvxJDWX039twnjrRmqnN3">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1adev_HYRuKJhvxJDWX039twnjrRmqnN3</a>
11.30.22	Lodz (Poland)	OSCE Civil Society Parallel Conference 2022	<a href="https://ccl.org.ua/news/paralelna-konferenciya-gromadyanskogo-suspilstva-obsye-2022/">https://ccl.org.ua/news/paralelna-konferenciya-gromadyanskogo-suspilstva-obsye-2022/</a> <a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1miCRGFpRsDpKRpe1-h6iVxfWXikIW7qw">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1miCRGFpRsDpKRpe1-h6iVxfWXikIW7qw</a>
12.01.22	Lodz (Poland)	Joint Actions for Ending Russia's Impunity and Delivering Justice for Victims (Side event with Foreign Minister Kuleba on the sidelines of the OSCE)	
12.15.22	Gothenburg (Sweden)	Speech at the University of Gothenburg	<a href="https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13FzXeSPnhET4fWWKA80kkDxUQ-716p8U">https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/13FzXeSPnhET4fWWKA80kkDxUQ-716p8U</a>

In 2022 there were many publications where KHPG and KHPG workers were mentioned and many interviews to journalists of the Ukrainian and foreign media. See the list of publications in the foreign media: Le Monde (France)

[https://www.lemonde.fr/international/article/2022/04/05/la-methode-d-execution-des-crimes-en-ukraine-determinera-leur-qualification\\_6120673\\_3210.html](https://www.lemonde.fr/international/article/2022/04/05/la-methode-d-execution-des-crimes-en-ukraine-determinera-leur-qualification_6120673_3210.html)

Limmattaler Zeitung (Germany)

<https://limmattalerzeitung.ch/international/interview-ukrainischer-experte-fuer-kriegsverbrechen-gefangener-russen-sagen-sie-wuerden-besser-behandelt-als-in-ihre-armee-ld.2290000>

Der Standard (Germany)

<https://www.derstandard.de/story/2000135951498/ngo-sprecher-zu-russischen-kriegsverbrechen-wir-koennen-systematik-erkennen>

LGBTQ Nation

<https://www.lgbtqnation.com/2022/07/ukraines-oldest-human-rights-group-fights-lgbtq-equality/>

inews (UK)

<https://inews.co.uk/news/world/a-ukrainian-doctors-mariupol-horror-i-was-saving-one-child-to-the->

[detriment-of-another-1757328](#)

RFE/RL

<https://www.rferl.org/a/ukraine-russian-atrocities-shmatov-kharkiv--schemes/32021534.html>

inews (UK)

<https://inews.co.uk/news/world/ukraine-liberated-towns-fears-russia-collaborators-kharkiv-offensive-1861307>

Amnesty Deutschland

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CkGn2AZqq51/>

The Globe and Mail (Canada)

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/world/article-russia-ukraine-war-kharkiv/>

TV Channel Espresso (Kyiv)

<https://espresso.tv/nobelivskiy-komitet-zavzhdi-pidtrimuvav-tikh-kogo-represuvali>

Radio «Novoe vremia» (New Time)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CCaclXOF2Pc>

Radio «Novoe vremia» (New Time)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DTXDjEnkBO8>

Visit of German journalist Bernhard Clasen to Kharkiv in August:

<https://www.facebook.com/bernhard.clasen/posts/pfbid02CkxWDwX8Ygu6KRmp8Lrt6hQrXpLUNqRKY8jGNP52RUkxvk4rtuB6jkMnnDjjD7iil>

<https://taz.de/Berichte-aus-russischer-Gefangenschaft!/15878214/>

<https://taz.de/Abfalltrennung-in-der-Ukraine!/15878066/>

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=5557155851012727&set=a.161587240569642>

<https://www.facebook.com/bernhard.clasen/posts/pfbid02CkxWDwX8Ygu6KRmp8Lrt6hQrXpLUNqRKY8jGNP52RUkxvk4rtuB6jkMnnDjjD7iil>

«Харьковские известия» («Kharkiv News»)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YLLUewa82VY&feature=youtu.be>

In addition, list of the media and NGO received comments and interviews with KHPG workers is as follows:

Slovak public broadcaster RTVS

Human Rights Watch

American TV channel MSNBC

Canadian news agency CBC News

Italian news agency Ansa

Norwegian newspaper "Klassekampen" (article in the issue of October 8, 2022, pages 30-31)

## 6. KHPG charitable activities

In 2022 KHPG was carried out own charitable activities through the Charitable Foundation “Human and Law”.

Please, see a short description of their activities here: <https://khp.org/en/1608811862>

## 7. Financial data

In 2022, KHPG turnover amounted to 16 746 901 UAH.

Grants fulfilling by KHPG in 2022 are given in the following table.

Donors	Name of the project, project date	Project amount
European Commission via EPLN	Support of the institutional and basic activities of the CO «Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group», 04/03/2022 – 04/12/2022	€ 20,000
European Council	Documenting international crimes committed by the Russia’s armed forces following the re-invasion of Ukraine, 18/03/2022 – 17/09/2024	€ 720,000

People in Need	Legal aid for victims of the Russian occupiers and collection of evidence of their crimes, 04/03/2022 – 03/03/2023	€ 50,000
Freedom House	Cooperation of civil society and law enforcement agencies in order to comprehensively and fully record war crimes and crimes against humanity, bring criminals to justice and ensure compensation to victims, 01/04/2022 – 30/11/2022	\$15,934
U.S. Embassy	Collect data on the war crimes by Russian army in Ukraine and to prepare several submissions to ICC, 08/07/2022 – 07/07/2023	\$35,000
Centre Dignity (Denmark)	Reducing suffering of detainees in the context of war in Ukraine, 01/07/2022 – 31/12/2023	2 852 200 UAH
Prague Civil Society Centre	Documenting war crimes committed by the Russian army in Kharkiv region via field visits, 01/07/2022 – 31/12/2022	€ 53,850
Subgrant USAID through Ukrainian Helsinki Human Rights Union	Documentation of international crimes committed in Ukraine by the Russian military from February 24, 2022, 1/11/2022 – 30/10/2023.	\$200,000
Centre Dignity (Denmark)	Pursuing justice for international crimes in Ukraine, 01/10/2022 – 30/09/2025	21 321 600 UAH
Open Archive	Institutional Support	\$10,000
PANORAMA GLOBAL	Institutional Support	\$70,000