Public Opinion in Ukraine 2014

Findings from the IFES 2014 survey in Ukraine

Fieldwork conducted from April 8-15, 2014

Sample size, n=2039

Funding provided by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID)
**Methodological Details**

| Sample size: | • 1 respondents representing the voting-age population in Ukraine (18 years+). |
| Margin of error: | • ±2.2% within a 95% confidence interval. |
| Sample area coverage: | • All the administrative divisions of Ukraine; observations were allocated proportionately at the national level with an over-sample of observations in Kyiv. |
| Fieldwork dates: | • April 8-15, 2014 |
| Survey firm: | • IFES contracted with the Kiev International Institute of Sociology (KIIS) to conduct fieldwork and data processing for the survey. |
| Funding: | • The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) provided funding for this survey. |
| Weights: | • Data was weighted by age, region and gender to bring the realized sample in line with target population parameters in order to be nationally representative of the adult (18+) population of Ukraine. |
Unity in Ukraine

“Please tell me how you would characterize the current situation in Ukraine with regard to the unity of division of the country? Do you think Ukraine is currently...” (n=2,039)
“And how would you characterize the current situation in Ukraine in terms of stability? Do you think the current situation in Ukraine is...” (n=2,039)
“How much control do you think the current Ukrainian government exercises in the country?” (n=2,039)
The government is carrying out its responsibility in a transparent manner

The Yatseniuk government is the legitimate government of Ukraine

The government represents all regions and people of Ukraine

“Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements about the current government led by Prime Minister Yatseniuk?” (n=2,039)
Legitimacy of Yatseniuk Government (in the East)

Strongly Agree  
Somewhat Agree  
Somewhat Disagree  
Strongly Disagree  
DK/NR

Kharkiv  
36% 18% 14% 9% 19%

East  
34% 19% 12% 7% 17%

Donetsk  
52% 28% 8% 9% 14%

Luhansk  
31% 28% 20% 17% 4%
Does Government Represent All Ukraine? (in the East)

Who does the government represent (n=526):
- Western Ukraine (51%)
- Oligarchs (41%)
- Maidan (20%)
- Nationalists (18%)
- Kyiv (16%)
- Central Ukraine (14%)
- Radicals/Fascists (13%)

“If Presidential election were held today, in your opinion would they be:” (n=2,040)
Likelihood of Voting in Presidential Election

“How likely are you to vote in the May 25 presidential elections?” (n=2,039)
“If the presidential elections were held today, which declared candidate would you vote for?”
Perceived Integrity of Presidential Election

“How likely are you to vote in the May 25 presidential elections?” (n=2,039)
“Now we want to talk about your experience with things that happen in everyday life. In the last twelve months have you...”
Corruption in Ukraine

“Do you agree or disagree with this statement: ‘Ukrainians consider corruption as a fact of life.’?” (n=2,039)

- Yes, to a great extent: 21%
- Yes, to some extent: 35%
- No, to a very limited extent: 18%
- No, not at all: 13%
- DK/NR: 14%

“Do you think that given the way things are in Ukraine, sometimes paying a bribe is justified?” (n=2,039)

- Yes: 28%
- No: 57%
- DK/NR: 15%
What Can be Done about Corruption?

Survey

Do you think it is possible for ordinary people to live a life in Ukraine without corruption or bribery? (If Yes) What actions or policies do you think can be taken by the government to achieve this?

- No (26%)
- Don’t know (29%)

Yes

- Strict punishment for corruption (29%)
- More transparency (26%)
- Change those in power to those who will fight corruption (10%)
- Changes in legislation (10%)
- Change people’s attitudes toward corruption (9%)
- Ban corruption officials from public office (7%)
- Better salaries for public officials (5%)
- Other (9%)

Focus Groups:

- Better salaries
- Sufficient legislation
- Independent authority to pursue corruption
- Public information/socialization
- Punishment for public officials, especially higher levels
- Several mentions of examples set by Georgia (electronic records) and Belarus (strict punishments)
- People will not stop paying bribes because it is necessary, and they need to see some action by the government to show that it is serious
Values Most Closely Associated with Ukrainian Way of Life

When you think of the Ukrainian way of life, do you associate it more closely with Western values or with Russian values? (n=2,039)

- Russian: 33%
- Western: 25%
- Neither: 16%
- Both: 9%
- DK/NR: 17%

Differences by Region

- East: 51R, 9W, 11B
- North: 25R, 25W, 6B
- Center: 37R, 26W, 6B
- South: 44R, 12W, 14B
- West: 7R, 53W, 18B
### Values Ukraine Shares with the West

**“What values does Ukraine share with the West?”**

(n=499)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Rights and freedoms</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Democracy</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rule of law</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respectful of people</td>
<td>14%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic devp.</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social protection, services</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stability</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respect for traditions</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independent, patriotic</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peaceful</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DK/NR</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**“What values does Ukraine share with Russia?”**

(n=675)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>History, traditions</td>
<td>46%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Culture</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic heritage</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion, morality</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Same outlooks, interests</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kinship, friendship</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Language</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic relationships</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DK/NR</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Opinions on the European Union

I'll read you several statements, and you tell me to what extent you agree or disagree with each. To what extent do you agree or disagree that the EU...

- Treats Ukraine with respect
  - Agree: 59%
  - DK/NR: 14%
  - Disagree: 27%

- Promotes democracy in Ukraine
  - Agree: 58%
  - DK/NR: 16%
  - Disagree: 26%

- Tries to impose its culture on other countries
  - Agree: 30%
  - DK/NR: 19%
  - Disagree: 51%

- Has a culture and values that Ukraine should aspire to
  - Agree: 61%
  - DK/NR: 17%
  - Disagree: 22%

- Interferes in the affairs of other nations for its own economic benefit
  - Agree: 40%
  - DK/NR: 19%
  - Disagree: 41%
Opinions on Russia

Interferes in the affairs of other nations for its own economic benefit

- Agree: 71%
- DK/NR: 10%
- Disagree: 24%

Has a culture and values that Ukraine should aspire to

- Agree: 30%
- DK/NR: 19%
- Disagree: 51%

Tries to impose its culture on other countries

- Agree: 53%
- DK/NR: 15%
- Disagree: 33%

Promotes democracy in Ukraine

- Agree: 16%
- DK/NR: 13%
- Disagree: 71%

Treats Ukraine with respect

- Agree: 21%
- DK/NR: 10%
- Disagree: 69%
“Do you think that Ukraine would be better off if it had closer economic and political relations with Europe or Russia?” (n=2,039)

- **Europe, 44%**
- **Russia, 21%**
- **Neither, 9%**
- **Both, 21%**
- **DK/NR, 5%**

**Future Orientation of Ukraine**

- **West** – Eur. (82%), Rus. (2%), Both (9%)
- **Center** – Eur. (59%), Rus. (4%), Both (17%)
- **North** – Eur. (50%), Rus. (8%), Both (22%)
- **East** – Eur. (16%), Rus. (46%), Both (26%)
- **South** – Eur. (27%), Rus. (24%), Both (28%)
Opinions on Discrimination against Russian Language in Ukraine

"Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements:" (n=2,039)

The Russian language is discriminated against in Ukraine
- 63% Strongly Disagree
- 19% Somewhat Disagree
- 9% Somewhat Agree
- 3% Strongly Agree
- 9% DK/NR

Some government services are not provided for Russian speakers in Ukraine (e.g. schools, public service jobs, etc.)
- 64% Strongly Disagree
- 17% Somewhat Disagree
- 9% Somewhat Agree
- 2% Strongly Agree
- 9% DK/NR
A lot of discussion has been given to the status of Russian as a language in Ukraine. Which of the following do you think is the appropriate status of the Russian language in Ukraine? (n=2,039)

- Russian should have no official status in Ukraine
- Russian should not be recognized as an official language, but the state should make Russian language services available
- Russian should be recognized as an official regional language
- Russian should have the status of an official language

UKRAINE

North + Kyiv

Center

South

East

West

DK/NR

Russian should have no official status in Ukraine

Russian should not be recognized as an official language, but the state should make Russian language services available

Russian should be recognized as an official regional language

Russian should have the status of an official language
Ukrainian nationalism represented by figures like Bandera is a dangerous historical phenomena presenting a threat to non-ethnic Ukrainians.

"Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statements:" (n=2,039)

**Agree/Disagree**

- East: 57/23
- South: 50/33
- Center: 11/61
- North: 26/56
- West: 8/79
Opinion on Whether Current Divisions in Ukraine will be Overcome

Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following statement: ‘Although recent events have brought out divisions between different groups of people in Ukraine, we all still live in one country and will be able to repair our divisions in the long run.’” (n=2,039)
Which of these two kinds of system of government do you think is best for Ukraine:

- A system in which national government makes most decisions on cultural, political, and economic issues, and regional government do not have much authority, 16%
- A system in which regional governments have substantial decision-making authority on cultural, political, and economic rights, 65%
- DK/NR, 19%

“Which of these two kinds of system of government do you think is best for Ukraine:...?” (n=2,039)
Opinions on More Powers for Oblast and Resolution of Differences

“There has been recent discussion of changing the political system in Ukraine to one in which each oblast government would have more control over decision-making on important cultural, political, and economic issues within the oblast. Do you agree or disagree with this approach” (n=2,039)

- Strongly Agree: 32%
- Somewhat Agree: 41%
- Somewhat Disagree: 4%
- Mostly Disagree: 2%
- DK/NR: 21%

“Do you think this system of government can help to resolve differences between different regions of Ukraine?” (n=2,039)

- Not At All: 1%
- Not Likely: 6%
- DK/NR: 12%
- Yes, Probably: 56%
- Yes, Definitely: 25%
Language and cultural policies should be decided at the oblast level
Oblast Head of Local Administration should be directly elected
Oblasts should keep a greater share of their resources
Oblasts should be allowed to determine certain economic policies

"Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with the following actions to reform governing structures in Ukraine:"