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OPPORTUNITIES

Campaign News

Education and youth campaign: Participants summarise and discuss the results



Engaging quizzes, inspiring speeches, and meaningful communication – that's how the EU's 'Together We Learn and Grow' communication campaign's networking event unfolded in March. The event was attended by 50 representatives of EU-funded projects, along with diplomats, educators, and journalists.

"Following Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the EU has intensified its efforts to support youth through educational initiatives in Ukraine, with a total of over €350 million, including humanitarian funding," said Henrik Wittfelt, Head of the Public Finance, Business Support and Social Policy Unit of the EU Delegation to Ukraine, at the event's opening.

"The EU strives to create the best learning conditions for students. We are providing educational institutions, constructing shelters, rebuilding school buses and textbooks, and facilitating access to modern educational platforms and international exchanges."

The European Union has provided €100 million for the reconstruction of schools and the construction of shelters. 100 school buses, worth €40 million, have been procured for secondary education institutions, and over 11,000 laptops have been distributed to school children and teachers. Through the Erasmus+ programme, 147 Ukrainian universities have received support, and over 8,000 students and teachers have participated in academic mobility programmes.

"We constantly require support with promotion, because our target audience changes annually. This includes students entering their first or second year, and those progressing to master's or postgraduate studies," says Kateryna Zhdanova.

Project News

GENDER EQUALITY

New initiative to support women announced



A call for proposals for Ukrainian NGOs to implement grant projects aimed at developing women's leadership and addressing gender-related consequences of the war will be launched in May 2025. The European Union will provide funding in the amount of €6 million for this purpose.

The call for proposals was announced at the 'Women for a Stronger Ukraine' forum, organised by EU Ambassador to Ukraine **Katarina Matheronová** with the support of the 'Communicating EU for Ukrainians' (CEU4U) project.

"In these challenging times, we have secured additional resources to support Ukrainian NGOs engaged in women's rights and issues related to gender-based and domestic violence," the Ambassador emphasised.

The issues that the new funding aims to address are indeed pressing.

Since 2022, the incidence of gender-based violence has risen 36%, while the role of women in society has also expanded. They are increasingly assuming leadership positions in government, becoming leaders of civil society, entrepreneurs, and humanitarian workers. According to 2025 data, half of all enterprises in Ukraine are founded by women. New opportunities are emerging for them in sectors traditionally dominated by men, notably in security, transport, and farming.

"Women have become the driving force of Ukraine's resilience, spearheading community efforts across the entire country to recover and overcome the devastating impact of this war. The new funding will not only empower women from all walks of life and amplify their voices, but also challenge taboos and contribute to addressing the unique hardships faced by women during this brutal war," states Katarina Matheronová.

The 'Women for a Stronger Ukraine' forum was attended by the Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine and Minister of Justice of Ukraine, Oksana Zholnovska, the Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine, Oksana Zholnovska, 2022 Nobel Peace Prize laureate and Head of the Centre for Civil Liberties, Oleksandra Matviychuk, Strategic Development Director of the Ukrainian Women's Fund, Natalia Karbovska, former Russian prisoners Lennie Fumero and Lyudmyla Huseinova, and others.

"We are continuing to implement the programme to combat domestic violence, and we are working to amend legislation concerning crimes related to gender-based sexual violence during wartime. We also provide support to victims."

The European Union supports these endeavours," noted Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine, and Minister of Justice of Ukraine, Oksana Zholnovska.

The allocation of €6 million for the development of women's leadership and addressing the gender-related consequences of the war forms part of Team Europe's comprehensive aid package, amounting to €44 million, financed by the EU, Germany, and Sweden.

€14 million of the total sum will be allocated to developing gender leadership and conflict resolution strategies. A further €30 million will be designated for direct grants to civil society projects in the fields of gender equality, accountability for war crimes, access to information, democratic development, social cohesion, and sustainable development.

This funding will reinforce the EU's long-term strategy aimed at empowering civil society in Ukraine, enhancing resilience to Russian aggression and ensuring the efficacy of the European Union's humanitarian and integration efforts.

For more information:

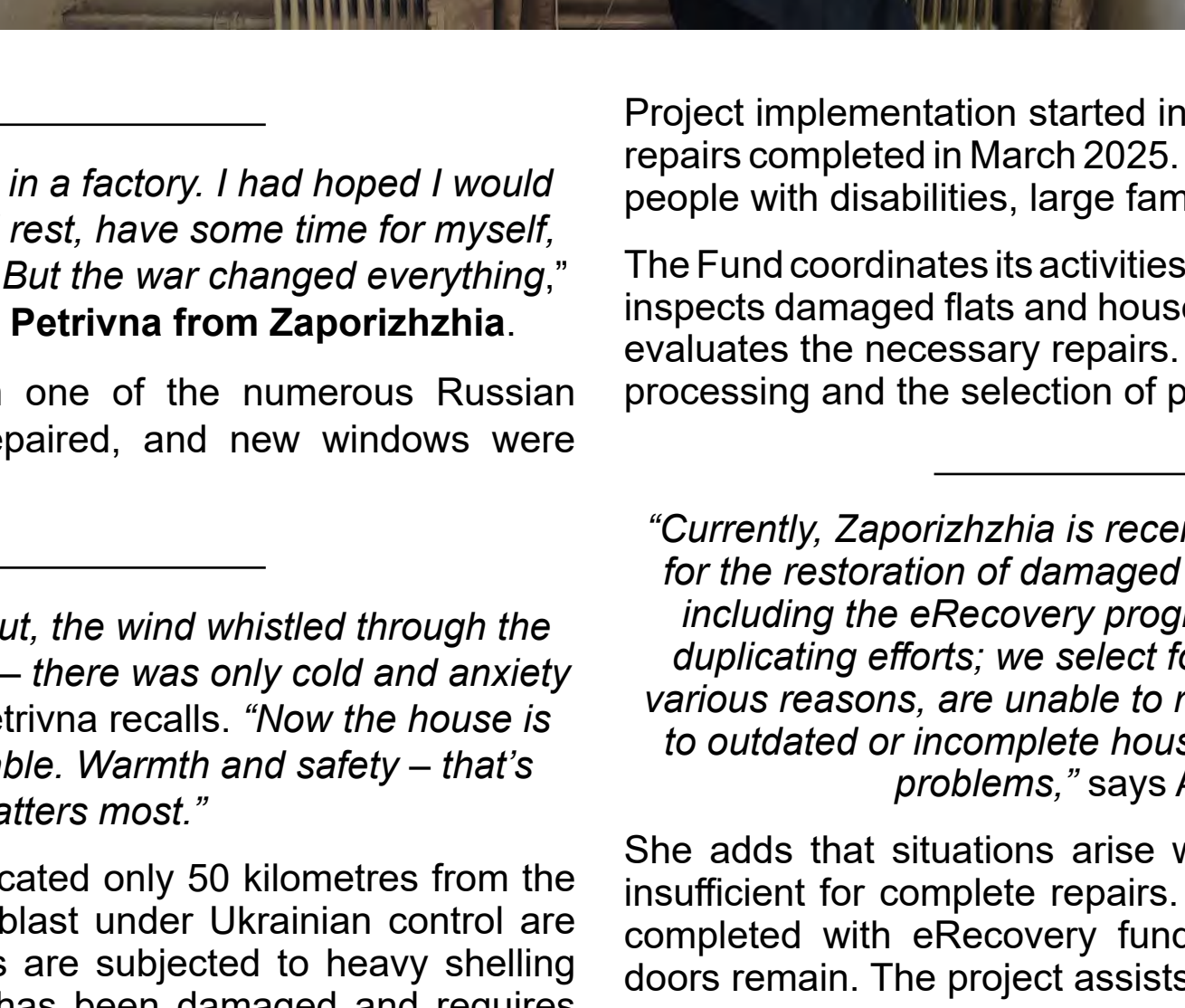
[EU Delegation press release](#)

[Facebook page of Katarina Matheronová](#)

Publication about the 'Women for a Strong Ukraine' forum [on the Detector Media website](#)

RECOVERY

Repairs assistance provided to vulnerable people in Zaporizhzhia



"Before retirement, I worked in a factory. I had hoped I would finally enjoy a well-deserved rest, have some time for myself, my grandchildren, my home. But the war changed everything," says 71-year-old Natalia Petrivna from Zaporizhzhia.

Her home was damaged in one of the numerous Russian shelling. It was recently repaired, and new windows were installed.

"The windows were blown out, the wind whistled through the rooms, and instead of peace – there was only cold and anxiety about the future," Natalia Petrivna recalls. "Now the house is warmer and more comfortable. Warmth and safety – that's what matters most."

The city of Zaporizhzhia is located only 50 kilometres from the front line, and parts of the city under Ukrainian control are even closer. These territories are subjected to heavy shelling almost daily. Much housing has been damaged and requires repair. This is being addressed by the project 'Ensuring proper living conditions for families living in the Zaporizhzhia Oblast through light and media repairs and insulation of damages', implemented by the Charity Fund 'World.Ukraine.Polohy' with the support of Acted-Ukraine and funding from the European Union.

"The project includes the installation of window units, doors, and other repair work for households whose homes were damaged by shelling and which include vulnerable individuals. We plan to assist at least 43 households," says Project Manager Anna Alfimova.

Project implementation started in December 2024, with the first repairs completed in March 2025. Priority is given to older people, people with disabilities, large families, and single parents.

The Fund coordinates its activities with local authorities. The team inspects damaged flats and houses, conducts assessments and evaluates the necessary repairs. This is followed by digital data processing and the selection of properties for assistance.

"Currently, Zaporizhzhia is receiving considerable assistance for the restoration of damaged housing from several funds, including the eRecovery programme. Naturally, we avoid duplicating efforts; we select for the project those who, for various reasons, are unable to receive assistance: either due to outdated or incomplete housing documentation, or other problems," adds Anna Alfimova.

She adds that situations arise where the allocated funds are insufficient for complete repairs. For instance, the roofing was completed with eRecovery funds, but windows or damaged doors remain. The project assists people in these instances.

For more information:

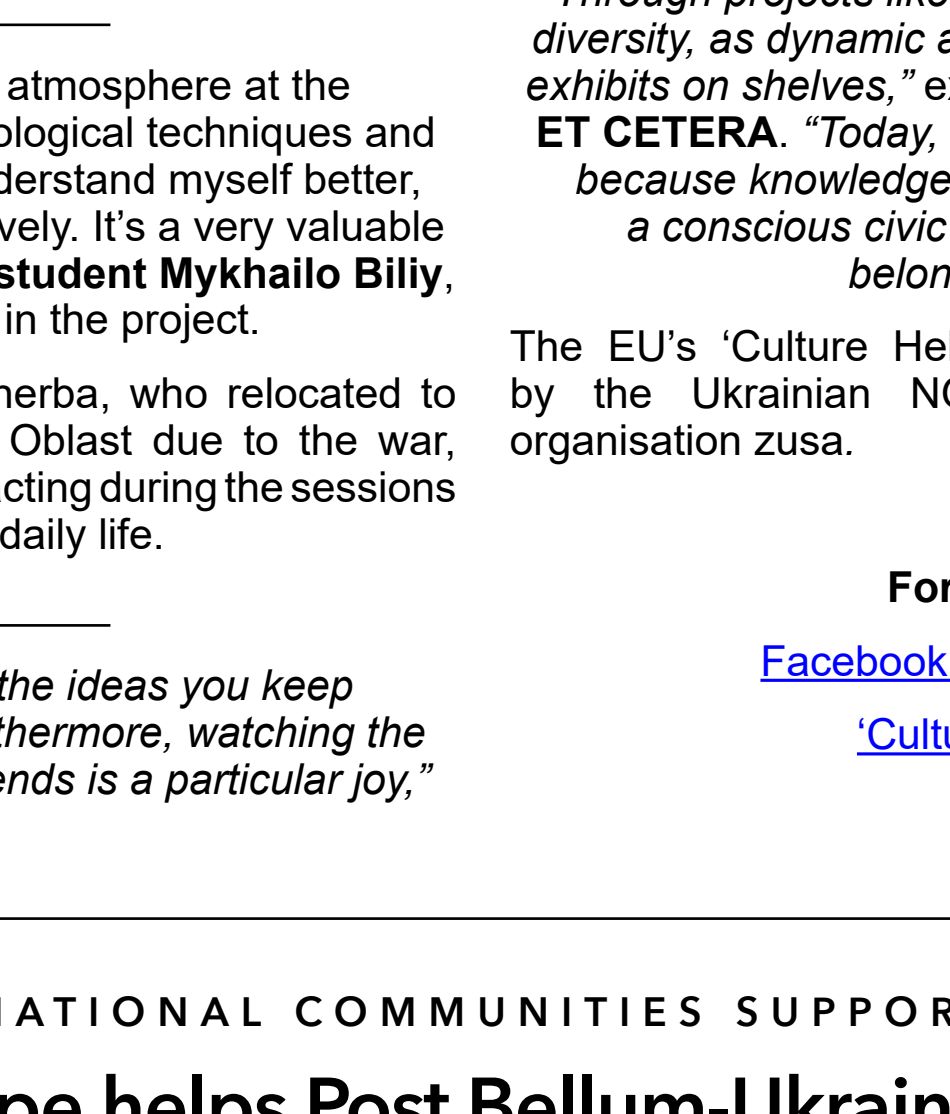
[EU Delegation press release](#)

[Facebook page of Charity Fund 'World.Ukraine.Polohy'](#)

Publication about the 'Women for a Strong Ukraine' forum [on the Detector Media website](#)

YOUTH SUPPORT

Training, quests, and tabletop role-playing games held for teens



In February and March, 'ET CETERA', a non-governmental organisation, held a series of workshops on creation of animation for teenagers aged 13 - 17 in Rivne. This training formed part of the 'CultBIT' project, implemented with financial support from the EU's 'Culture Helps' programme.

"Animation enables you to express your feelings, even when words are elusive. Teenagers convey their thoughts, dreams, and aspirations through characters, which helps them to see themselves objectively and process emotions through creative expression," says psychologist Viktoriia Stasyuk, who works on the project. "It's also about the shared experience – when they listen to and support one another, understanding that their emotions resonate with others."

The sessions involved initial introductions, followed by creation of animation and filming, culminating in a group screening of the produced work and subsequent discussion.

"I was pleasantly surprised by the atmosphere at the workshops. The combination of psychological techniques and art therapy allowed me to not only understand myself better, but also to express my emotions creatively. It's a very valuable experience!" says 15-year-old school student Mykhailo Billy, reflecting on his participation in the project.

14-year-old school student Sofia Shcherba, who relocated to Rivne from Rodynske in the Zaporizhzhia Oblast due to the war, shared her experience and insights during the sessions helped her relax and add variety to her daily life.

"This training is ideal for realising the ideas you keep postponing and eventually forget. Furthermore, watching the animation you've created with new friends is a particular joy," Sofia enthuses.

"It wasn't boring or stressful, because everyone was open to communication, and the exercises and discussions were easy and natural. There was no negativity – only support and the chance to learn something new in a friendly setting!"

Bohdan recounts.

Besides the animation workshops, the 'CultBIT' project also featured a quest and tabletop role-playing games. All events centred on the theme of cultural heritage. In total, almost 100 teenagers took part in the workshops, games, and quests.

"We use a playful format that's familiar to teenagers to discuss cultural heritage, mythological beings, and historical events. Through projects like these, young people see culture in its diversity, as dynamic and vibrant narratives, rather than static exhibits on shelves," explains Anna Shcherba, Head of NGO ET CETERA. "Today, implementing such initiatives is crucial, because knowledge of cultural heritage helps to manage, or a conscious civic stance and a sense of community belonging in young people."

The EU's 'Culture Helps' programme is jointly implemented by the Ukrainian NGO Insha Osvita and the Donetsk organisation zusa.

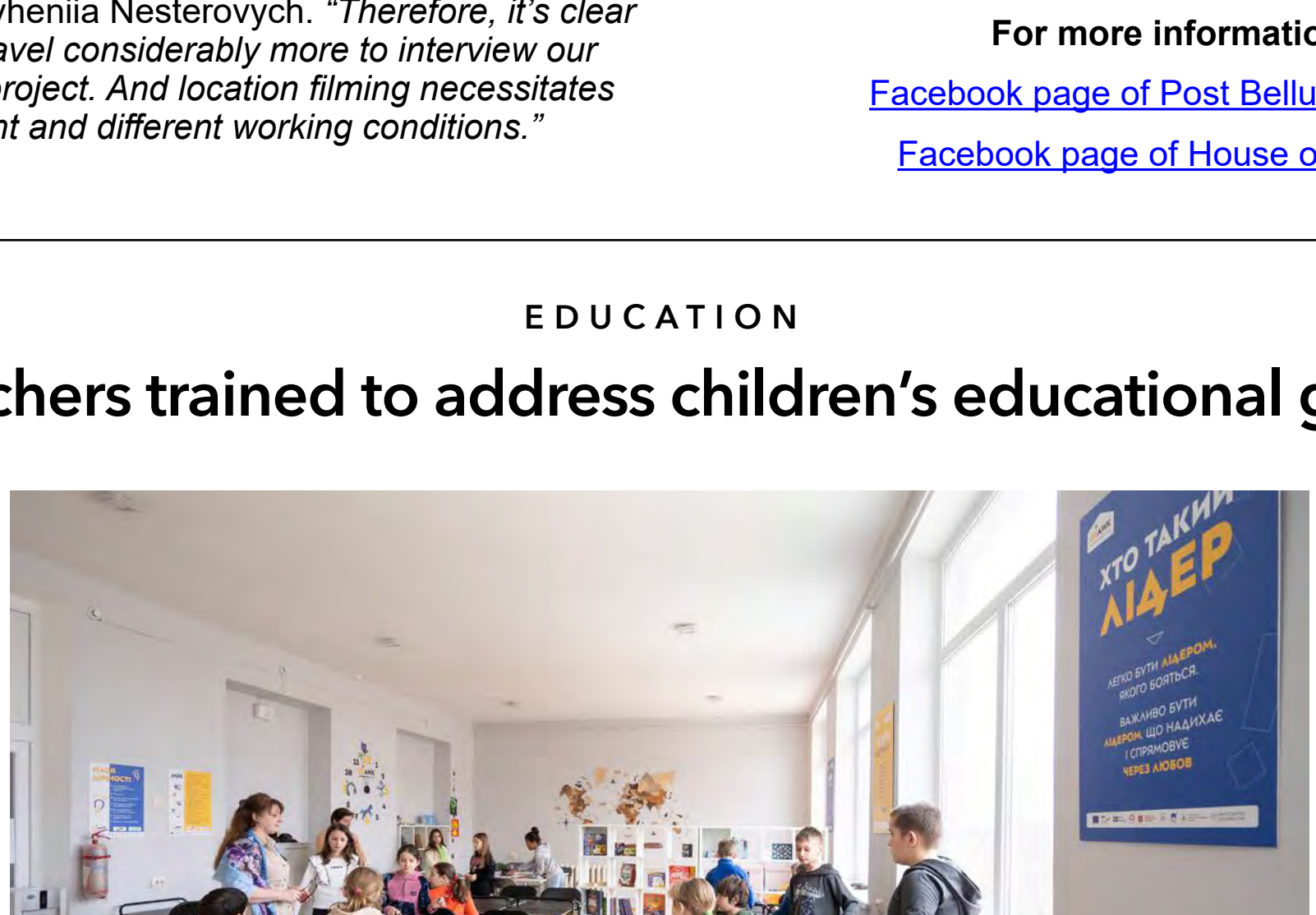
For more information:

[Facebook page of NGO ET CETERA](#)

['Culture Helps' programme](#)

NATIONAL COMMUNITIES SUPPORT

House of Europe helps Post Bellum-Ukraine set up studio and train operators



Eleven female camera operators completed training in March as part of the EU-funded project 'National communities and indigenous peoples of Ukraine: Technical support for expeditions', implemented by the NGO Post Bellum-Ukraine. The training was one of its components, and the project itself is a key element of the organisation's broader strategy to document testimonies from the Romani community.

The Lviv-based organisation Post Bellum-Ukraine is a sister organisation to the namesake Czech initiative, whose mission is to preserve the memory of historical events through eyewitness accounts. The Ukrainian team also documents testimonies about the war.

"We have been operating since 2022. Notably, we implemented the project 'Memory of Ukraine's national communities' during this period. The collected interviews formed the basis for the film 'Vkorineni' (Rooted), which examines the situation of Ukraine's national communities during the Soviet era and the period of independence," explains Yevheniia Nesterovych, Director of Post Bellum-Ukraine.

At the end of 2024, the organisation received funding to continue this work – specifically, to record 15 interviews with representatives of various Romani subgroups in Ukraine. However, it required additional support to organise filming at the locations and subsequent material processing.

"The biggest challenge in documenting testimonies from the Romani community is their reluctance to engage with external researchers and their resistance to video and photo documentation. In particular, studio video recording will be problematic," says Yevheniia Nesterovych. "Therefore, it's clear that we'll need to travel considerably more to interview our interviewees in this project. And location filming necessitates lighter equipment and different working conditions."

The EU's House of Europe programme, as were other needs, namely, securing a sufficient number of qualified female camera operators for on-location interview recording, and improving the facilities for working with the filmed material at the House of Sound studio in Lviv.

"We arranged a residency a year ago. It's convenient and promising, because the House of Sound has a podcasting studio and sound engineers. And that's why we were keen to be based there, given the potential for implementing other projects," says Yevheniia Nesterovych. "But the renovations there were proceeding very slowly. Consequently, in the infrastructure grant application to the House of Europe, we requested funding to complete the repairs – plastering and electrical wiring."

By mid-March, Post Bellum-Ukraine had purchased the necessary equipment and completed the studio renovations at the House of Sound, where the camera operator training took place.

For one of the trainees, **Tetiana Dudareva**, this was a completely novel experience.

"The camera operator course has already provided me with invaluable camera skills and an understanding of how to frame shots effectively. What I appreciate most is the practical application and the instructors' willingness to share their expertise," Tetiana shared. "I'm passionate about documenting history, as it's a means of preserving the truth. Participating in this project is not only a chance to learn a new profession, but also to contribute something truly significant."

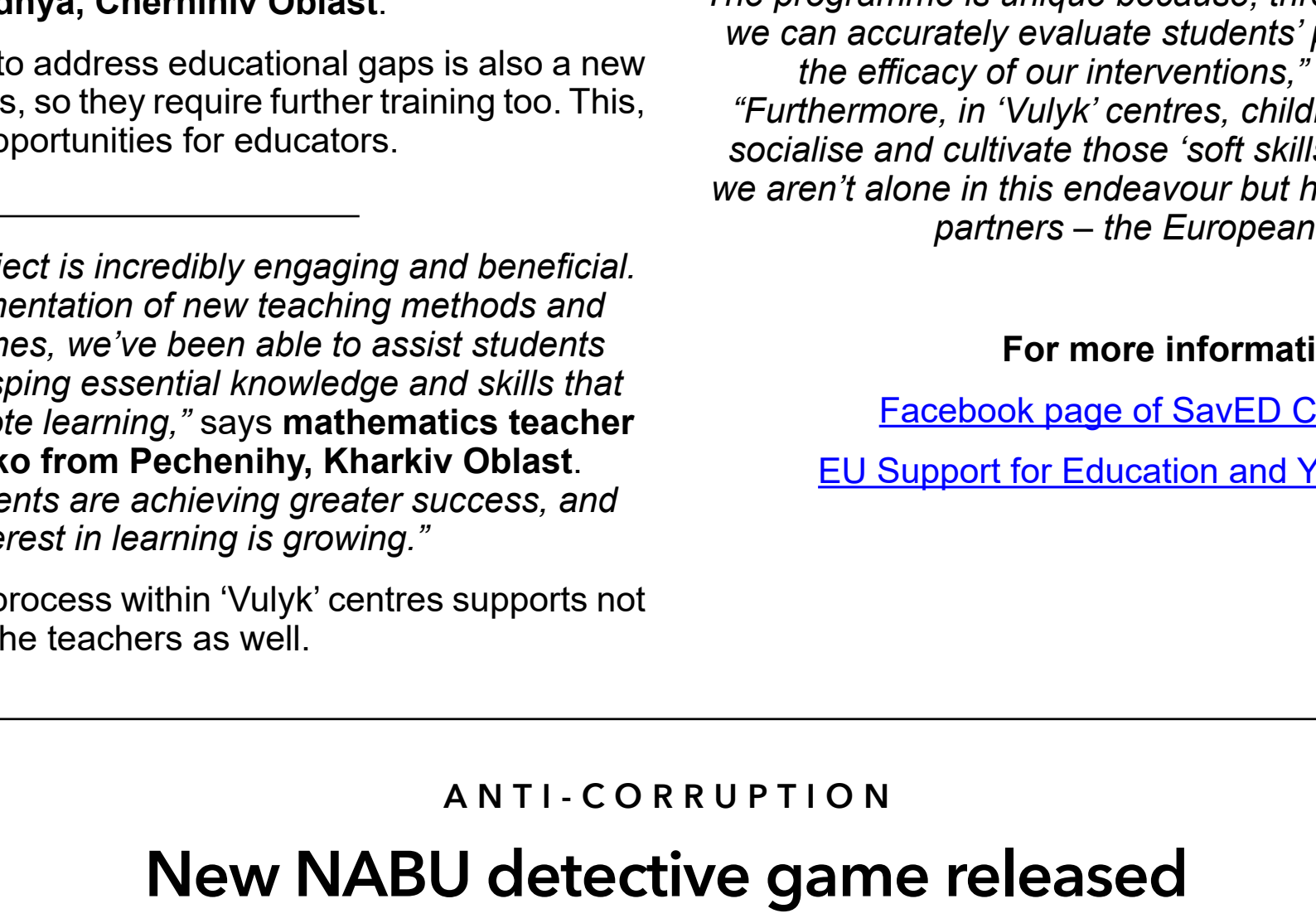
For more information:

[Facebook page of Post Bellum-Ukraine](#)

[Facebook page of House of Europe](#)

EDUCATION

Teachers trained to address children's educational gaps



The SaVED Charity Foundation held a series of webinars in March for teachers on organising the learning process to address students' educational gaps. The webinars centred on creating non-typical lessons, fostering critical thinking through historical sources, utilising graphic digital tools, and employing specialised approaches to Ukrainian language studies.

Addressing educational gaps is a critical concern during wartime, when children frequently lack access to comprehensive education. This training – catch-up programmes – is a key component of 'Vulyk' spaces designed for children's learning and interaction. These currently operate in communities across the Kyiv, Chernihiv, Mykolaiv, Kharkiv, and Dnipropetrovsk oblasts. 'Vulyk' spaces also function as hubs for non-formal education and recreation.

The European Union provides financial support for the operation of 15 'Vulyk' spaces, as well as teacher training – this is the project 'Educational Recovery for Ukraine – Testing a Catch-Up Approach in Digital Learning Hubs'.

"I chose subjects that are more challenging to learn independently. Lessons are conducted in a gamified format, so we're always engaged, and the material is more easily absorbed. For example, in a recent Ukrainian language session, we had to discuss which bird each of us would like to be and why. And in the English session, we practised poem reading on each other," says 15-year-old Nastya from Horodnyia, Chernihiv Oblast.

Working with children to address educational gaps is also a new experience for teachers, so they require further training too. This, in turn, creates new opportunities for educators.

"The work on this project is incredibly engaging and beneficial. Through the implementation of new teaching methods and innovative approaches, we've been able to assist students in acquiring and grasping essential knowledge and skills that were lost due to remote learning," says mathematics teacher Tetiana Levchenko from Pechenihy, Kharkiv Oblast.

"Consequently, students are achieving greater success, and their interest in learning is growing."

At times, the learning process within 'Vulyk' centres supports not only the children, but the teachers as well.

"It's a fantastic project, encompassing everything from direct engagement with children to online support from curators and tutors. Personally, the project has helped me to manage, or at least mitigate, the effects of burnout," shares Olena Hutnyk, a mathematics teacher from Bakaliia, Kharkiv Oblast.

According to research conducted by the SaVED, students' academic achievement increased by 84% thanks to the 'Vulyk' sessions. In total, over 2,600 children participated, and over 470 teachers received training in organising catch-up learning.

"Educational losses encompass not only academic gaps, but also the social aspect. Children are also experiencing the global pandemic, our beyond are also the experience of a full-scale war," says Anastasiia Onatly, Head of the Educational Programmes and Analytics Department at the SaVED Charitable Foundation. "For some, their entire schooling has been remote. This impacts their capacity to negotiate, socialise in new teams, engage in group interactions, and find collaborative solutions. Therefore, it's essential to address this problem now."

Formal and non-formal education within 'Vulyk' spaces is specifically designed to address this.

"The programme is unique because, through diagnostic testing, we can accurately evaluate students' progress and analyse the efficacy of our interventions," adds Anastasiia.

"Furthermore, in 'Vulyk' centres, children are finally able to socialise and cultivate those 'soft skills' we're grateful that we aren't alone in this endeavour but have the support of our partners – the European Union."

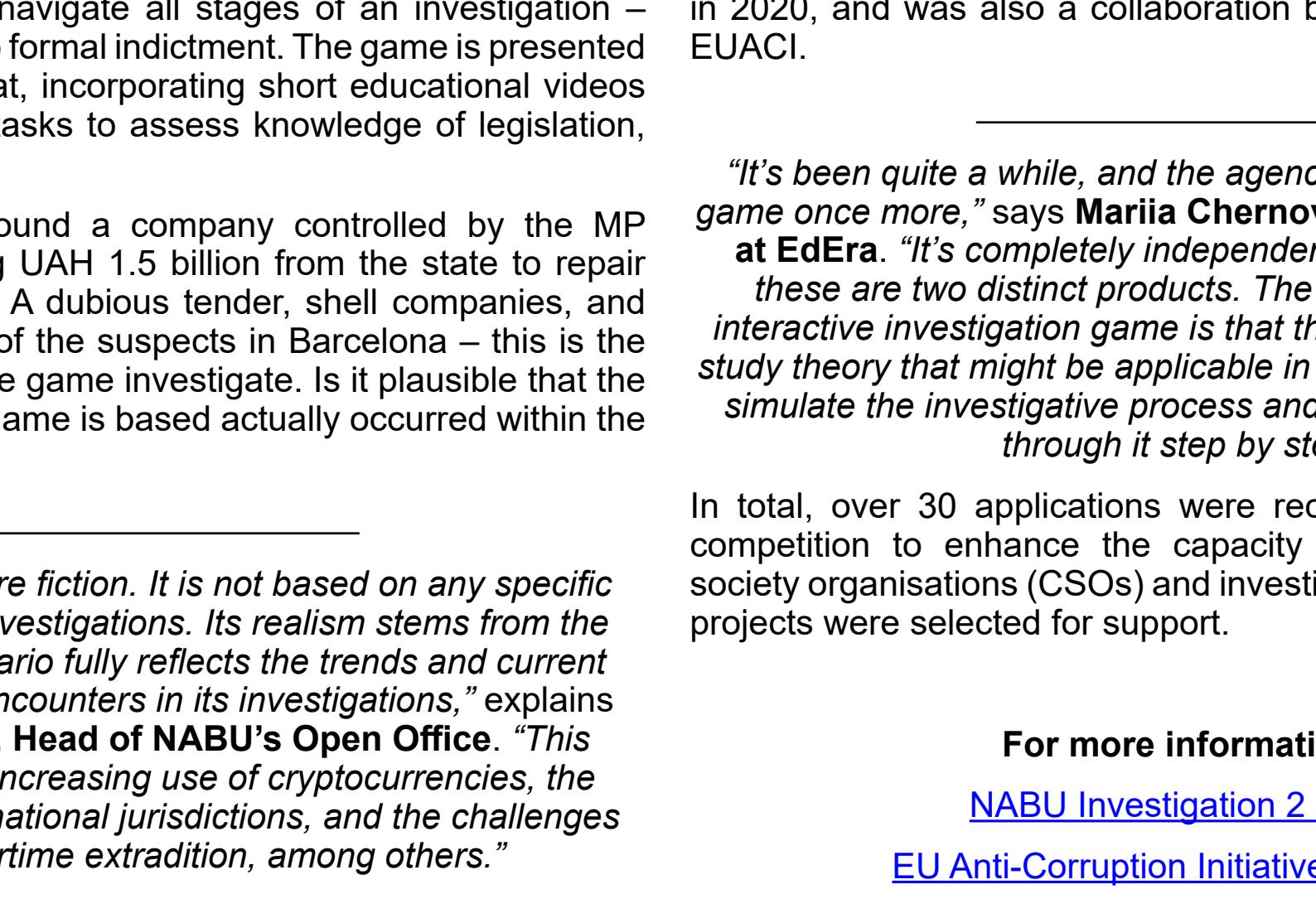
For more information:

[Facebook page of SaVED Charity Fund](#)

[EU Support for Education and Youth in Ukraine](#)

ANTI-CORRUPTION

New NABU detective game released



The head of a state-owned road construction company, a member of parliament (MP) sympathetic to him, the MP's aide, and the head of a private company controlled by the same MP – all are suspects in the investigation by the National Anti-Corruption Bureau of Ukraine (NABU) featured in the interactive game NABU Investigation 2.

The game was developed and launched in March by the Ukrainian edtech company EdEra in collaboration with NABU. The project was among the winners of a grant competition organised by the EU Anti-Corruption Initiative (EUACI) at the end of last year.

In the NABU Investigation 2 game, users assume the role of a NABU detective and navigate all stages of an investigation – from initial suspicion to formal indictment. The game is presented in an interactive format, incorporating short educational videos from real detectives, tasks to assess knowledge of legislation, quizzes, and so on.

The plot revolves around a company controlled by the MP receiving a staggering UAH 1.5 billion from the state to repair a mere 8 km of road. A dubious tender, shell companies, and a villa owned by one of the suspects in Barcelona – this is the case that players in the game investigate. Is it possible that the case upon which the game is based actually occurred within the agency's practice?

"No, the game is pure fiction. It is not based on any specific real-life events or investigations. Its realism stems from the details, as the scenario fully reflects the trends and current challenges NABU encounters in its investigations," explains Andriy Mishchuk, Head of NABU's Open Office. "This encompasses the increasing use of cryptocurrencies, the challenges involved in international jurisdictions, and the challenges related to wartime extradition, among others."

The game's target audience comprises law students, lawyers, journalists, and civic activists.

"The project seeks to engage young people and other representatives of the target audiences with crucial issues such as corruption prevention, the transparency of state processes, and technologies that affect the whole value chain. This while the game doesn't replicate specific NABU investigations, it portrays general approaches and contemporary challenges in identifying and countering high-level corruption, and it aids players in developing an understanding of how Ukraine's anti-corruption system operates"

This is the second game of this type. The first was released in 2020, and was also a collaboration between EdEra and the EUACI.

"It's been quite a while, and the agency requested a similar game once more," says Nataliia Chernova, Partnerships Lead at EdEra. "It's completely independent of the first release; these are two distinct products. The concept of such an interactive investigation game is that the user doesn't merely study theory that might be applicable in the future – we directly simulate the investigative process and guide the participant through it step by step."

In total, over 30 applications were received for the EUACI's competition to enhance the capacity of anti-corruption civil society organisations (CSOs) and investigative media, and three projects were selected for support.

For more information:

[NABU Investigation 2 game](#)

[EU Anti-Corruption Initiative's website](#)

Opportunities

ENTREPRENEURSHIP

The European Commission has launched a call for proposals under the Ukraine Facility.

This call aims to enhance access to finance for small businesses in Ukraine, with a particular emphasis on supporting those affected by the war and vulnerable companies. The present call has a total indicative amount of €1.6 billion in budgetary guarantees and blended finance grants.

[Learn more...](#)

Applications are currently being accepted for the Erasmus+ Young Entrepreneurs programme, which provides participants with the chance to find a business mentor in European countries. Applications are being processed by the Radar Tech team, the local coordinator for the EYE programme in Ukraine. Aspiring or early-stage entrepreneurs with up to 3 years of business experience are encouraged to apply. Adequate English proficiency is essential for communication with the host entrepreneur.

Deadline – 30 April 2025

[Learn more...](#)

CIVIL SOCIETY

Under the EU-funded project 'Enhancing the Resilience of Civil Society in the Eastern Partnership' (ERICCS-EaP), there is an ongoing call for proposals for individual travel grants for CSO representatives to actively engage in regional networking events, exchange, and cooperative endeavours. A total of 50 travel grants of €1,500 each will be awarded.

Deadline – 15 July 2026

[Learn more...](#)

With the support of the European Union, the Open Government Partnership (OGP) has launched the 'Civil Society Innovations for Open Government' grants calling for proposals from CSOs in Eastern Partnership OGP members, including Ukraine. Through this call, the OGP aims to support the development of innovative tools and/or public engagement techniques (both digital and offline) that promote enhanced implementation, co-creation and/or monitoring of anti-corruption, accountability, open government, civic space, and public participation reforms at the national and local levels.

Projects will be awarded a maximum of €15,000.

Deadline – 10 April 2025

[Learn more...](#)

The University of Tartu offers a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) called 'Democracy and Autocracy in the EU's Eastern Neighbourhood'. It will run from 28 April to 6 June 2025. Participants will learn about the key characteristics and features of democratic and autocratic systems, as well as the political landscape of the six Eastern Partnership countries. The course is free and open to both students at the University of Tartu and the general public. It is developed within the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence REPAIR, funded by the European Union.

Deadline – 25 April 2025

[Learn more...](#)

CULTURE

House of Europe offers grants to fund collaborative projects of European cultural institutions with Ukrainian organisations. You can get up to €20,000 on a conference on decolonisation, a business course for veterans, a workshop on investigative journalism, a retreat for teachers from frontline cities, or another worthy idea. The deadline for applications is 31 July 2025, or until the programme runs out of funds.

The deadline is rolling – the last day of the month, 15:00 Kyiv time.

[Learn more...](#)

House of Europe offers grants of up to €16,000 for collaborative artistic residencies between Ukrainian and Ukrainian cultural institutions focusing on national communities. The deadline for applications is 31 July 2025, or until the programme runs out of funds.

The deadline is rolling – the last day of the month, 15:00 Kyiv time.

[Learn more...](#)

The EU's Creative Europe programme is accepting applications for grants to support the transnational distribution of recent European films. European companies (including Ukrainian) involved in the audiovisual content industry as film distributors (specifically, theatrical distributors) engaged in commercial activities to present films to a broad audience for cinema release are eligible to participate.

Deadline – 24 April 2025

[Learn more...](#)

The EU's Creative Europe programme accepts applications under the 'Creative Innovation Labs' project competition. The call supports the design, development, and replication of innovative tools, models or solutions that are applicable to the audiovisual and cultural and creative sectors.

Deadline – 24 April 2025

[Learn more...](#)

MEDIA

Under the Creative Europe programme, media professionals and artists can receive grants to enhance their capacity to adapt to new creative processes, market developments and digital technologies that affect the whole value chain. The competition is open to legal entities (public or private) established in one of the countries participating in the MEDIA strand, including Ukraine.

Deadline – 24 April 2025

[Learn more...](#)

VACANCIES

The European Union Advisory Mission for Civilian Security Sector Reform in Ukraine (EUAMSSC-Ukraine) has opened a number of vacancies in its offices in Kyiv and Odesa. The positions offered relate to work in the areas of security, reforms, training, administration, etc. A total of 13 vacancies are available.

Deadline - 7 April 2025

[Learn more...](#)

