**Information by the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine in connection with the preparation of a thematic report on the realisation of the right of persons affected by violence and discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity to the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of physical and mental health, in relation to SDG3**

**4. Training and Education: health care professionals and educational institutions**

4.2. What measures are being taken to provide age-appropriate comprehensive sexuality education inclusive of sexual and gender diversity in educational institutions?

The development of the Ukrainian state, the realization of civilizational norms of life and integration into the European community necessitate the harmonization of social relations on the basis of gender equality. A significant place in the transformation of the system of gender relations belongs to education. Education, as one of the most important social institutions, which perform the functions of transmitting and disseminating knowledge, skills, values and norms from one generation to another through the integration of gender approaches into the educational process, can lay the foundations for social gender culture.

Implementing a gender approach in the higher education system involves the formation of egalitarian thinking, namely: understanding the essence of norms and attitudes of gender interaction on the principles of parity and gender equality, awareness of the need to guide them in all spheres of life, overcoming gender stereotypes in oneself, the immediate environment and in the public space, the aim is to train young qualified personnel whose professional competence is "gender sensitivity" and "gender competence". One way to solve this problem is to create a gender-sensitive educational space in higher education institutions, which includes the destruction of stereotypes that exist in society towards mothers with many children, victims of violence and members of the LGBT community, and so on.

The formation of students' gender consciousness takes place on the basis of gender educational centres that work in the following areas:

- scientific: conducting scientific research, publishing collections of scientific papers, monographs, scientific articles, defense of scientific papers;

- educational and methodical: preparation and publication of educational and methodical manuals, introduction of special courses, special seminars in the educational process;

- work with student youth: use of traditional and innovative forms of work: training sessions, master classes, interuniversity schools of gender equality, volunteer groups, interactive theatres, creative workshops, lectures, ezines, workshops, social events - "16 days against violence"," tram of Equal Opportunities ", organization of educational sessions under the program" Gender-sensitive approach to working with vulnerable groups in the social, legal and educational spheres", club of mothers-students, technology debates in the British format of parliamentary debates.

The All-Ukrainian Network of Gender Education Centers operates at higher education institutions of Ukraine, the activity of which is aimed at the formation of social activity of young people, their personal and professional self-improvement. Today, the Network includes more than 40 gender education centers in Hlukhiv, Dnipropetrovsk, Donetsk, Zhytomyr, Zaporizhia, Kyiv, Kryvyi Rih, Lutsk, Lviv, Mariupol, Nizhyn, Rivne, Sumy, Ternopil, Kharkiv, Cherkasy and Uzhhorod, and others.

It is important that these centers operate in classical, pedagogical, technical, medical, military and other institutions of higher education and they carry out robust activities on the implementation of gender approaches in the educational process. Therefore, the gender approach is implemented comprehensively, and gender sensitivity (understanding, tolerance, mutual assistance, support, respect) is formed in future professionals in various fields: teachers, health professionals, economists, programmers, the military, service workers, etc.

Gender education centers address issues such as equality, protection of human rights, meaningful youth leisure, combating violence, responsible parenting and tolerance, the impact of television on the socialization of the individual, overcoming gender stereotypes and more. Of course, the problem of preventing and combating discrimination against vulnerable social groups is quite relevant and needs special attention.

Among the vulnerable social groups there are the following categories:

• persons who are in a situation of violence (sexual, psychological, economic and physical).

• persons who were brought up in a single-parent family and in which there were serious contradictions;

• pregnant teenage girls;

• representatives of the LGBT community;

• persons with disabilities;

• migrants, refugees and internally displaced persons who do not have sufficient resources;

• victims of racism, sexism or other forms of discrimination;

• persons who are in a state of stress due to traumatic events;

• HIV /AIDS - infected.

Higher education institutions have joined the national project "I have the right". In order to develop students' tolerance, intolerance of discrimination, awareness of combating gender-based violence, much attention is paid to the production and placement of educational presentations, video presentations on "We are against violence", "Stop Violence", etc. containing relevant information on the relevant topics and contact numbers.

Each institution of higher education provides for the study of issues to prevent and combat violence in the programs of relevant disciplines, both individual special disciplines, elective and professional disciplines with planning topics on the subject and determining the number of credits and individual modules.

The implementation of issues related to the prevention and combating of violence in higher education institutions is carried out via their inclusion in the programs of certain disciplines, specialties. At Sumy State University, these issues are provided in elective courses: "Psychology of Relationships", "Conflict Management", "Social Roles and Gender Equality". The content of the subjects is based on international experience and recommendations of the United Nations, the Council of Europe, etc.

At Mariupol State University it is planned to study issues on this topic in 25 disciplines for bachelor's and master's degree students. It should be noted that in higher education institutions the study of special professional disciplines "Legal regulation of family relations", "National and international mechanisms for the protection of human rights" and so on.

In addition, these institutions organize the work of the psychological service, the annual plan of which provides for various measures to prevent and combat violence, including round tables, trainings, debates, etc. (Mykolaiv National University named after Sukhomlinsky).

The Military Institute of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv provides for the study of issues related to overcoming gender stereotypes in programs of special professional disciplines, entirely devoted to this issue, or containing 3-6 topics on relevant subject. The curriculum provides for the study of a number of special professional disciplines: "Law of Armed Conflict", "Law of International Security", "Organization of moral and psychological support of the unit", "Military Psychology", "Psychology of Crisis and Post-Traumatic Situations in Combat", "International Relations and National Security of Ukraine in the New Geopolitical Environment", "Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine" and "Global Communications of the Defense Sector".

It is important that the disciplines pay attention to the gender issues of forming cadets' tolerance, culture of peace, intolerance of discrimination, raising awareness on combating gender-based violence in conflict and post-conflict periods.

The Kharkiv Academy of Humanities and Education and the Center for Gender Culture with the support of the Unified Social Network of Kharkiv created an innovative partnership project "Gender Open University: Gender Literacy and Culture of Social Workers".

Kryvyi Rih State Pedagogical University and Zaporizhzhya National University, as part of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women and International Human Rights Day, held a number of events aimed at engaging the public in gender discrimination (thematic exhibitions: “A World Without Violence” and “Say No to gender-based violence”).

At the Lesia Ukrainka Eastern European National University, the Department of Youth Policy and Social Work, together with the Western Ukrainian Center for Women's Perspectives and the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine, produces and disseminates educational materials informing students about legal advice or counselling. problems of domestic violence, human trafficking, discrimination in the labour market; on opportunities to attend trainings and consultations for women at risk of domestic violence and gender discrimination; about psychological features of adaptation of students who came from the anti-terrorist operation zone.

An example of solving the problem of equal opportunities for the education of mothers-students is the creation of Sumy State University, a room for parents with children (Family Support Center "Student Stork"), which provides for the possibility of children staying there while their parents attend classes, perform work duties or resolve other issues within the walls of the Free Economic Zone. An important component of the Family-Friendly University initiative is the functioning of the University of Psychology. All visitors to the Family Support Center have the opportunity to seek professional advice from psychologists at the University's Psychological Service.

The Volodymyr Hnatiuk Ternopil National University's Gender Studies Center has established a School of Gender Equality for the interactive training of volunteers.

The Center for Gender Education at Uzhhorod National University actively uses competitions in "gender sports orientation", classes for couples, women and men, future parents, etc. at the School of Responsible Parenthood; School for preparing young people for marriage.

Among the assets of the Center for Gender Education of the Ivan Franko Zhytomyr State University: School of Gender Equality, volunteer group "Parity", social events, training sessions, workshops, gender video clubs and more.

The Center for Gender Research and Education of Mariupol State University has developed an Internet resource for active dialogue; legal advice.

The world experience of improving the quality of the territory and the quality of life of the population of the modern city shows the relevance of a barrier-free approach to the design of public spaces and transport infrastructure. In the project activity of Kharkiv O.M. Beketov National University of Municipal Economy special place is occupied by the so-called "gender-sensitive projects", which are focused on research: gender asymmetry in the design of urban space; gender-sensitive conditions of public transport use; gender requirements for urban lighting (taking into account the safety needs of women and girls in unlit spaces); principles of gender parity in management systems. The Gender Center of the University coordinates the work of specialists, researchers, students in the development and implementation of gender approaches in municipal policy, promotes the formation of gender methodological culture of researchers and specialists in urban management (in particular, by mastering the tools of gender audit of urban areas).

The South Ukrainian National Pedagogical University has become a traditional Month of Legal Knowledge, World Law Week, Human Rights Day, 16 Days Against Violence, dedicated to the International Day for Tolerance, European Day for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Violence. Competitions of the action "Youth against violence" with the production of leaflets (peer violence, domestic violence, violence in the educational environment) and presentation "Human rights - my rights" were organized together with the psychological service.

Teachers of Lviv Polytechnic National University conduct active research and educational work aimed at covering issues of tolerance, culture of peace, intolerance of discrimination, raising awareness of combating gender-based violence in the Ukrainian media and among students. They actively use appearances on ZIK, NTA, Pravda TUT, Lviv Regional Radio, Lvivska Khvylia Radio, Halychyna Radio, Halychyna Radio, Nezalezhnost Radio and Vgolos Radio, and prepare publications in "Watch Info" online publications and newspapers "Day", "High Castle", etc.

It is quite natural that the effective solution of such problems requires wide coverage during various events: conferences, round tables, social events for public response, involvement of public organizations and professional institutions in solving them, and so on.

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