

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.34069/AI/2023.66.06.30>

How to Cite:

Madryha, T., Bilousov, Y., Zubrytska, L., Teremtsova, N., & Druchek, O. (2023). The role of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations. *Amazonia Investiga*, 12(66), 326-334. <https://doi.org/10.34069/AI/2023.66.06.30>


The role of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations

Роль волонтерського руху у політиці безпеки держави в контексті військових операцій

Received: June 1, 2023

Accepted: July 2, 2023

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Abstract

This article examines the formation of the volunteer movement in Ukraine's security policy during military operations. It aims to identify historical peculiarities and changes in the context of military operations. The study utilizes the historical method to analyze socio-historical sources and materials, tracing the genesis and development of the volunteer movement. The comparative method is employed to explore different approaches to understanding volunteering in Ukraine. Systematization is used to analyze patterns in the development of the volunteer movement within the security policy of the state during military operations. The article highlights the lack of comprehensive research on the role of the volunteer movement in Ukraine's security policy. It emphasizes the significant role of the volunteer movement in shaping international relations and modern security policies. The study identifies specific characteristics of the volunteer movement within

Анотація

Ця стаття вивчає формування волонтерського руху у політиці безпеки України під час військових операцій. Метою є виявлення історичних особливостей і змін в контексті військових дій. Дослідження використовує історичний метод для аналізу соціо-історичних джерел і матеріалів, відстежуючи генезис і розвиток руху волонтерів. Застосовується порівняльний метод для вивчення різних підходів до розуміння волонтерства в Україні. Систематизація використовується для аналізу закономірностей розвитку волонтерства у політиці безпеки держави під час військових операцій. Стаття підкреслює недостатність комплексних досліджень ролі волонтерського руху у політиці безпеки України. Вона акцентує увагу на вагомій ролі волонтерського руху у формуванні міжнародних відносин та сучасних безпекових політик. Дослідження виявляє специфічні характеристики волонтерського руху у контексті військових

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the context of military operations. Overall, the research suggests that studying the volunteer movement contributes to understanding population self-organization and the formation of civil society in the state.

Keywords: volunteer, war, volunteering, volunteer aid, sustainable development, state support, UN, human rights.

Introduction

The relevance of this work is determined by the need to study the formation of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations using the example of Ukraine. In recent years, the need to involve volunteers has been growing rapidly in the world, especially in the context of military operations as a means of ensuring the national security of Ukraine. Current social trends, the formation of the information society and rapid changes in society create a need for appropriate high-quality humanitarian aid.

The volunteer movement becomes especially relevant when it is impossible to provide safe and effective assistance to the population in the usual way, especially during conflicts, wars, and natural disasters. As a result, the use of volunteering as a way of self-organization of the population has increased significantly. At the same time, the issue of ensuring legal protection of volunteer movements against abuses remains incomplete. Moreover, according to our forecasts, the importance of the volunteer movement will grow every year. And questions of protection of the volunteer movement against abuses will arise. Therefore, there is a need for a detailed study of the relevant issues. Accordingly, the development of the volunteer movement in the wartime becomes especially relevant. It is these factors that determine the relevance of this article.

The aim of this article is to identify the peculiarities of the development of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations. The aim involves the fulfilment of the following research objectives:

- Determine the place of the volunteer movement in the security policy of Ukraine;
- Analyse the state of practical involvement of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations;

операцій. Загалом, дослідження вказує на те, що вивчення волонтерського руху сприяє розумінню самоорганізації населення та формуванню громадянського суспільства в державі.

Ключові слова: волонтер, війна, волонтерство, волонтерська допомога, сталий розвиток, державна підтримка, ООН, права людини.

- Determine the main trends in the formation of the volunteer movement.

So, this article is an original study of the formation of the volunteer movement in the security policy of Ukraine in the context of military operations.

Literature Review

Many world researchers studied the formation of the volunteer movement. This shows the growing relevance of volunteering and the volunteer movement in the world. Accordingly, the problem of introducing the formation of a volunteer movement into state policy has long been widely discussed in theory and practice. The role of volunteer movements in Great Britain was determined back in 1989.

Studying the European experience, researcher points out that the largest popular movement in Britain was the movement around military volunteerism during the wars against revolutionary and Napoleonic France. The number of volunteers registered in 1803–1804 is often mentioned as about 400,000 (Cookson, 1989).

As Zimmeck (2010) noted, the British government has encouraged volunteering to a greater or lesser extent through various policies and programmes since the 1960's. Sometimes they were based on party-political plans, sometimes on appropriateness, and sometimes on chance (Sydorova et al., 2022; Zimmeck, 2010). So, it can be noted that this topic has been relevant for a long time in world practice, and is gaining relevance in Ukraine.

In his article, Pries (2019) defines the role of volunteers in the context of the refugee immigration crisis. In many countries, volunteers and non-governmental organizations were crucial to overcoming the so-called refugee crisis (Pries, 2019). In work Karakayali (2019) also

emphasized in 2018 that the refugee crisis in Germany in 2015 mobilized millions of German citizens to volunteer for the benefit of refugees. A broad movement, which was different from previous forms of solidarity activity, emerged in one night.

The article of Tkach and Tkach (2019) analysed volunteering as a factor in self-organization of society in a critical period as a new social need. It is indicated that during the period of democratic transit, the volunteer movement became a factor of civic activity (Tkach & Tkach, 2019). In work of Lynch et al., (2019), the psychological aspects of women's participation in volunteer military movements were studied. Researchers determined that there was little research analysing how women respond to external threats (Lynch et al., 2019).

The studies of Fomitchova (2021) and Yunin et al., (2022) indicate that in Ukraine, at the beginning of the armed conflict in the spring of 2014, society faced the problem of the unpreparedness of the national armed forces. In the post-revolutionary context, mobilization was organized on the basis of spontaneous movements and relies on civilian networks of assistance to armed groups. It is important to emphasize that this trend towards the use of volunteer forces during the war in Ukraine retains. Accordingly, it forms new approaches to understanding the meaning and prospects of the development of the volunteer movement.

The paper of Chambré (2020) recognizes that US volunteerism is cyclical and subject to social and cultural changes, including events that cause national traumas such as wars, natural disasters, and the September 11 attacks. Another article (Carlsen et al., 2022) points to aspects of the inequality of roles in volunteer organizations. Inequality is a major concern for many volunteer organisations. Volunteers in humanitarian, public and social organizations are usually motivated by the unequal distribution of social deprivation (Carlsen et al., 2022).

Enjolras (2021) notes that volunteer performance varies widely across Europe, despite a shared history and tradition of the volunteer sector. Despite common philanthropic traditions and institutions, modern European countries show differences in volunteering indicator — the share of the country's population involved in volunteering (Enjolras, 2021). Researchers Denysenko and Kin (2021) studied the movement of military volunteers in Ukraine. The author defined effective patriotism, proved its

multifunctionality: functions of organization and self-organization, consolidation, political socialization, formation of civic qualities (Denysenko & Kin, 2021). Authors Pankova and Kasperovich (2022) provide their own vision of the development of the Ukrainian volunteer movement in the context of the Russian military aggression. The authors conclude that this volunteering contributes to the formation and strengthening of the culture of peace and security at the international level (Pankova & Kasperovich, 2022).

As Domaradzki et al., (2022) in the study noted, although the Polish state had no previous experience of accepting refugees on a massive scale, the Russo-Ukrainian war led to the emergence of “spontaneous volunteers” who offered their aid and assistance to the flow of refugees. Brudney et al., (2023) define the role of the volunteer, noting that the replacement of the volunteer by the professional in the 20th century was a dramatic transformation not only for social service, but also for the volunteering itself.

Therefore, the issue of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations is multifaceted and is actively discussed in the theorists and practitioners.

Methodology

This study involved general scientific and legal research methods, where the methods of historical analysis and the comparative method occupy an important place. They were applied to carry out a detailed study and analysis of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations. A retrospective study of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations and its impact on society was conducted using the historical method. The trends of the volunteer movement were also studied and analysed using this method. The comparative method was applied to analyse and compare approaches to the idealization of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations. The article also used the method of systematization to draw conclusions and trace global trends to understand the culture of volunteering and their role in the context of military conflicts. The article analyses promising directions for the development of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state. Empirical research methods were also used.

The studies were selected in order to explore the history of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state, as well as the practical implications of the activities of volunteers in the context of military operations. It was followed by the analysis of the volunteer movement was carried out using the example of Ukraine.

The research procedure provided for determining the relevance of the research topic, analysis of scientific and practical methods and approaches to study the volunteer movement, as well as its impact on security policy.

The first stage of the research, a review of academic sources was conducted during 2018 to 2023 in order to analyse the main aspects and theoretical foundations of the volunteer movement and, accordingly, to analyse different approaches. The analysis of studies and current regulatory documents was also conducted.

The next stage was the selection of practical materials for the study based on an integrated approach to comprehensively study the subject of research and identify the main problems and prospects. So, the practical and theoretical materials in the field of the volunteer movement were selected in accordance with the territoriality criterion, which enabled determining the state of development of this problem in Ukraine.

Available practical studies and official statistics were analysed to verify the results. The relevant conclusions were drawn and the recommendations were provided on the basis of the conducted research.

The object of this study was to determine the role of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations.

Results

The conducted research determined the growing role of the volunteer movement in the countries, especially then the government bodies and institutions are unable to solve urgent security issues. Historical and legal methods were used to determine that people have formed effective volunteer movements to solve important issues since the Middle Ages and earlier.

Volunteering for development had a multifaceted meaning, as discourses of development, colonialism and control coexisted with discourses of youthful idealism and national benevolence (Brudney et al., 2023). The official definition of volunteering published by the International Labour Organization in the 2011 Manual on the Measurement of Volunteer Work is consistent with the general understanding of volunteering. According to this definition, volunteering is “unpaid, optional work”. Volunteering can be official and unofficial, as in the USA and EU countries.

In 2019-2020, 41% of respondents participated in formal or informal volunteering at least once a month. During the same period, 62% participated in formal or informal volunteering at least once in the past 12 months (Sobocinska, 2017).

Official volunteering, which involves work in an organizational context, includes people participating through organized bodies such as NGOs, clubs and government agencies. Unofficial volunteering is a help that individuals provide without compensation to people outside their own household or immediate family, outside the formal organization. This is one of the reasons why the role of volunteers in European society is currently underestimated. So, we can distinguish the following signs of official and unofficial volunteering (Tab. 1)/

Table 1.
Signs of official and unofficial volunteering

Features	Official volunteering	Unofficial volunteering
Regulated at the state level	yes	no
Officially documented by a contract or other document	yes	no
Paid	Mostly yes	Mostly no
The volunteer is held liable	yes	no
Clearly defined duties	Mostly yes	Mostly no
Temporary/permanent	For the period of validity of the contract	Depending on the verbal agreement

So, we believe that volunteering can have the characteristics of a certain paid work that is documented in an agreement and has a certain term. One of the major global trends in volunteering is that most volunteering is outside of organized charities and corporations. This is usually because people belong to religious, social or political groups.

It is worth considering certain differences in the understanding of volunteering, especially in an international or European context. For example,

in Germany and France unofficial volunteering is not included in the general understanding of volunteering. In many countries, volunteering is a well-established, if not always visible, policy area. One of the volunteer policy issues is providing volunteers with health, accident, and liability insurance (Tab. 2). Despite national differences regarding volunteering, one aspect is relevant for all countries: recognition of volunteers and their work (Gov.Uk, 2021; Angermann & Sittermann, 2010).

Table 2.
Legislative regulation of volunteering

Country	Legislated	Official volunteering	Unofficial volunteering
Ukraine	yes	yes	yes
USA	yes	yes	yes
France	no	yes	no
England	no	yes	no
Spain	yes	yes	yes
Germany	yes	yes	no

Accordingly, we must emphasize that during the hostilities, volunteering that has access to the combat zone must be official and registered with relevant documents to ensure state security. In our opinion, volunteering in the combat zone has a specialized professional nature: doctors, paramedics, drivers, and military personnel become specialist volunteers.

So, we can conclude that volunteering is the strongest manifestation of strengthening civil society and solidarity in it, promoting social integration and development of the social capital of the state, especially in wartime. Conflicts and wars force people to come together to solve pressing issues of survival and development.

At the same time, the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic affected almost all spheres of human life and changed the direction of volunteering. It is important to point out that the war set new demands and needs to Ukrainians and the humanity. Since February 24, 2022, volunteering in Ukraine has significantly intensified, and the Volunteer Platform has become one of the main

sources of finding volunteer opportunities. After the beginning of the war, the platform became a tool that helped volunteers quickly respond to the requests of victims: more than 400,000 users and volunteers from more than 500 organizations and communities (Krivenko, 2015).

In the early days of the general war, the Ukrainian Volunteer Service team improved its platform so that volunteers could choose the main categories of help they needed. According to the U-Report survey (U-Report Ukraine, 2022), to the question “How has your participation in volunteering changed since the beginning of the war?” 54% out of 2,279 respondents answered that they volunteer more, 10% — less, 16% — unchanged, 20% — just started volunteering. The main goal of volunteering is striving for the victory.

In our opinion, the following types of volunteering during the war are the most common in Ukraine, which indicate the actualization of the militaristic direction (Tab. 3).

Table 3.
Types of volunteering in Ukraine

Type of volunteering	% of volunteers	Description
Volunteering at the humanitarian headquarters	32	Sorting and packaging of medicines, coordination of volunteers, logistical issues, collection of products
Coordination activity	11	Solving humanitarian issues, consultations
Assistance to the Armed Forces of Ukraine	22	Organization of actions to collect donations to specialized funds, weaving of camouflage nets, purchase of ammunition, blood donation
Assistance to the population	14	Help with finding housing, integration in a new place, humanitarian aid
Psychological support and assistance	4	Psychological assistance — to defenders and their families, displaced persons, children and everyone who needs support as a result of the war
Auto-volunteering	2	Assistance with road transport
Other	9	Animal welfare, translation and journalism, etc.

In the course of empirical research, we selected 10 organizations that have an active influence on the development of volunteering in Ukraine (Tab. 4).

Table 4.
Volunteer organizations of Ukraine

Name	Type of activity	Collected
Ukrainian Volunteer Service Public Organization	Support of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, fundraising	More than UAH 2,500,000
E-Support	Support of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, fundraising	More than UAH 80 million
Come Back Alive Charitable Foundation	Procurement of goods for dual and military purposes, including lethal weapons or for demining equipment	More than UAH 2,7 billion
Serhiy Prytula Charity Foundation	Collection and purchase of weapons for the Armed Forces of Ukraine	More than UAH 4,182 billion
SOS Army	Assistance to the armed forces of Ukraine	More than UAH 20 million
UNITED24 Charity Platform	Ukraine recovery projects	More than \$203
Razom Charitable Foundation	Helping civilian veterans, military, created a diverse community of volunteers and collaborators in the USA and Ukraine	\$21 million
Nova Ukraine	Humanitarian aid to the people of Ukraine and raising awareness of Ukraine in the US and around the world	\$15 million
Medical battalion "Hospitallers"	Medical assistance, evacuation	\$7,500
KOLO Charitable Foundation	Operational assistance of the Armed Forces	almost UAH 146 million

In general, we can talk about the heterogeneous development of the volunteer movement. Volunteering can be particularly important in situations of instability or protracted crisis, war or violence and may not imply profit, legal or political opportunity. Accordingly, the consequences and role of volunteering became a relevant issue. According to researchers, free

work can be invaluable, volunteers are prone to burnout.

Discussion

The volunteer movement occupies an important place in the historical development of society in different countries. In a broad sense, the term

“volunteer” is widely used to denote unpaid service (Pustovit, 2023). In general, volunteer comes from the Latin *voluntarius*, which means voluntarily (Cnaan et al., 1996).

Volunteering has been used for a variety of purposes and has been a part of most societies throughout human history. Although there is increasing evidence of the contribution of volunteers to their communities and societies, there is little consistent research to support such claims (The Free Dictionary, 2011). In general, younger and more educated women who worked in non-agricultural occupations and women without children under the age of 17 were more likely to volunteer for paramilitary organizations (Butcher & Einolf 2017). Accordingly, Ukraine united in a large general volunteer movement to help the Armed Forces of Ukraine, support the population and help victims of the armed aggression.

The volunteer work of the Maidan period and post-Maidan development, their effectiveness and dedication significantly advanced social solidarity and the formation of positive social capital, confirmed public recognition and the strength of the factor of civil society of Ukraine. Volunteers themselves enjoy an unprecedented level of public trust compared to other institutional entities. In 2014-2015, the volunteer movement and various forms of support for the army and the forced migration of many citizens became not only an important direction of the transformation of revolutionary activity (Lynch et al., 2019).

The regulatory and legal principles of volunteering in Ukraine are defined in the Constitution of Ukraine and in the Laws of Ukraine “On Volunteering”, “On the Basic Principles of State Policy in the Establishment of Ukrainian National and Civil Identity”, the Decree of the President of Ukraine On the National Strategy for Promoting the Development of Civil Society in Ukraine for 2021 - 2026.

There is also the General Declaration of Volunteers of September 14, 1990 at the international level. The Declaration was written in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948 and the International Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989, and is based on the principle that “everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and to freedom of association with others” (Stepanenko, 2015).

With the beginning of the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by Russian troops, many could not take up arms, but began to help and volunteer (Skityova, 2016). As a rule, periods of significant development of the voluntary movement coincide with the aggravation of different crisis situations in society and military actions in the state.

Volunteers bring humanitarian aid from all over Europe (Popova, 2022). The European Commission emphasizes that in the debate about the future of Europe, the future will be shaped not only by politicians and institutions, communities and civil society organizations, but also by millions of citizens — volunteers always have time and energy (Stepanova, 2022). Moreover, the level of official volunteering through organizations in the US fell by seven percentage points, from 30 percent in 2019 to 23.2 percent in 2021 during the COVID-19 pandemic (AmeriCorps, 2023). An estimated 23.2 percent of Americans, or more than 60.7 million people, officially volunteered with organizations between September 2020 and 2021. These volunteers worked approximately 4.1 billion hours with an economic value of US\$122.9 billion (Ferry, 2022). Kornievskiy (2020) believes that the COVID-19 pandemic has defined a completely new vector for the development of global communities and global institutions.

Volunteering can have some impact in situations of instability or protracted crisis, war or violence, and may not have income, legal or political opportunities. At the same time, the government must be able to meet citizens’ expectations and support volunteerism.

Conclusions

The study gives reasons to talk about the formation of a particularly powerful volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations. So, the work analyses the historical development of the volunteer movement in the security policy of the state in the context of military operations. The figure of the volunteer has a decent place in military culture and history.

In recent years, the number of volunteers and volunteer organizations around the world has increased many times. Volunteerism became a national asset of Ukrainians in wartime. Moreover, volunteering has acquired highly qualified personnel. Scientists, specialists in information technology, engine drivers,

specialists in weapons and military equipment are among the volunteers.

In general, the issue of volunteer support is very relevant today during a full-scale war unleashed by Russia against Ukraine, in difficult military-political and socio-economic conditions, in the difficult situation in which Ukraine found itself, in all corners of the country. This resulted in a significant activation of social and volunteer movements in Ukraine, which began during the 2014 Euromaidan. The world mass media, press and literature actively use the image of a volunteer. Therefore, even in the 21st century, the image of a volunteer and his/her work is constantly changing and being formed in accordance with the values of time.

The practical significance of the obtained results is determined by the analysis of promising directions of volunteerism, identifying gaps in the volunteer movement during wartime, and ensuring the effective implementation of the state security policy, taking into account the influence of the volunteer movement.

Prospects for further research involve determining the features of the development of volunteer movements in the post-war period.

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