



KHARKIV INSTITUTE
FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH

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INFORMATION ABOUT THE INSTITUTE

Non-governmental organization «Kharkiv Institute for Social Research» (KhISR) was established on March 10, 1999. The work of the Institute is independent from the influence of any bodies and organizations, both public and non-governmental.

The main goal of the organization is the development of open civil society and democracy, respect for human rights and freedoms, raising legal awareness of the population in Ukraine.

Today KhISR has 18 years of experience, more than 50 completed projects, about 30 studies, organized more than 60 workshops and training sessions and about 40 own publications. The Institute has 12 employees, including 2 Full Doctors and 4 PhDs; interviewers' network all over Ukraine (about 125 people). The organization hosts more than 30 interns each year.

18

YEARS
OF EXPERIENCE

12

EMPLOYEES,
INCLUDING 2 FULL
DOCTORS AND 4 PHDS

>50

COMPLETED
PROJECTS

>30

INTERNS
ANNUALLY

>30

COMPLETED
STUDIES

125

INTERVIEWERS
AROUND UKRAINE

39

OWN
PUBLICATIONS

>60

WORKSHOPS
AND TRAININGS

KHISR 5 key activity directions:

- *Expert activities* related to the implementation of projects aimed at democratization of policing and increasing the impact of public control over law enforcement activities.
- *Monitoring activities* aimed at implementing the requirements of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture in Ukraine.
- *Methodical work* of the Institute concentrated on the development of manuals associated with the interaction of citizens with public authorities (police, social, medical, etc.).
- *Information and training* activities aimed at protection of human rights in closed institutions for long stay and apply to people who are there, and the staff of these places (boarding schools, prisons, psychiatric hospitals, etc.).
- *The research component* of KhISR activity is a sociological research on urgent social issues.

The institute has experience in implementing projects in cooperation with both governmental and non-governmental organizations:

- Ministry of Interior of Ukraine
- Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine
- Prosecutor General of Ukraine
- State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine
- Ministry of Defense of Ukraine
- Ukrainian Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights
- Ukrainian Research Institute of Social and Forensic Psychiatry of the Ministry of Health of

Ukraine

- Local municipal and state administrations of Kharkiv, Khvelnitskiy, Odesa, Donetsk, Luhansk, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhya and other regions of Ukraine
- Independent Custody Visiting Association (ICVA), UK
- Hague Institute for Internationalisation of Law, HiiL Innovative Justice (HiiL), the Netherlands (Institute is the regional partner of HiiL)
- Independent Monitoring Board (IMB), UK
- Association of Members of Independent Monitoring Boards (AMIMB), UK
- Association for the Prevention of Torture, Switzerland
- Kharkiv HR Protection Group, Ukraine
- Ukrainian Helsinki HR Union, Ukraine
- Association of Ukrainian HR Monitors in Law-enforcement Activity, Ukraine
- Vostok — SOS, Ukraine
- All — Ukrainian Network of PLHIV, Ukraine.

Among donors of KhISR are the British Council, the Council of Europe, OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of OSCE (Warsaw), European Commission, UNDP in Ukraine, UNICEF, the International Renaissance Foundation, Danish Institute for Human Rights, National Endowment for Democracy, the Canadian Embassy in Ukraine, the US Embassy in Ukraine, Open society Institute, International Organization for Migration, the Friedrich Ebert Foundation.

ACTIVITIES

Reforming of community based social services

During the 2016 KhISR continued work on the project started in 2015, “Strengthening the role of local communities in decision-making regarding the provision of social services” funded by the European Commission. The project is implemented in Chuhuyiv, Kharkiv Region. The aim is to improve the policies and practices of social services by using approaches based on the needs of service users and local communities involving different types of institutions (government, non-governmental and private).



On February 2-4, 2016 we held a study visit of representatives of social services of Chuhuyiv to Khmelnytsky to exchange experience in the provision of social services. City of Khmelnytsky was selected for the national experience is not surprising, as the socio-economic development has long been a priority for local authorities. Approximately one third of the city budget is allocated to address diverse issues of life support of vulnerable groups, their needs and create effective conditions for life, work and leisure.

On March 26, 2016 KhISR representatives participated in the workshop on the organization of

social services for children with special needs, which was held in the City of Chuhuyiv. Following the meeting it was decided to assess the social needs of children with disabilities and analyze existing resources to create an institution engaged in providing services to children with disabilities older than 4 years.

In the framework of the Project in 2016 we've conducted 6 trainings for social services and NGOs of the social sphere of Chuhuyiv City on the following topics: fundraising, basics of customer-oriented approach, searching partnership, human rights in the social security, strategic planning. Among trainers there were: KhISR Team Andrew Chernousov, Svitlana Shcherban, Mary Kolokolova; a specialist in the provision of social services from the UK Robert Milne, an expert on social development strategies Tetyana Chernetska, Chief of the East-Ukrainian Branch of the International Renaissance Foundation Olena Rozskazova.

In 2016, the Project has developed and launched a test version of the Web-site of social services of Chuhuyiv City. The site contains information about all providers of social services of the city; civil society organizations that help vulnerable groups; services they can use.

In addition, with the expert support of the Project consultant Tatiana Chernetska Coordination Working Group developed a strategy for the development of the system of providing of social services of Chuhuyiv City for 2017-2020 years. The priorities of the Strategy, in particular, improve access to social services, the formation of socially responsible community, expansion of the social services, strengthening personnel potential of social service providers and others.

Protection of human rights in the custodial settings

During the 2016 KhISR continued to work on ensuring human rights in custodial settings, and supported it with training, monitoring and advocating work.

Introducing of the new catering system (MRE) in the police custodial units of the National Police of Ukraine

In 2016 the initiative of the Institute made a real breakthrough in ensuring meals for detainees in the police custody. Kharkiv Institute for Social Research since 2010 began to advocate for a change in the catering system of the police custodies. In 2016 catering issue was solved the support of the National Police and the direct management of Human Rights Monitoring Department of the National Police of Ukraine (HRMD). HRMD and KhISR agreed on the implementation of the experimental introduction of modular catering in 9 police custody units of the Odessa Region.

Modular catering is a daily supply kits (meals ready to eat) in a special vacuum packaging (retort-packages) and/or deep frozen meals in plastic packaging instead of cooking in catering establishments. Under the new scheme the food supplied in batches for each detainee, it is a high-quality, varied and balanced. For example, the daily set may include daily soup, wheat porridge with beef, chicken with pearl porridge, tea and sugar. This model is also completely eliminates the issue sanitary security of personnel due to lack of contact with food.

By agreement with the manufacturing company 9 police custody units of the Odessa Region received 18 freezers and it was established dai-

ly food sets supply in special retort-packages, which can be warmed up in 2 minutes in a hot water. Detainees of Odessa custody units after a few weeks of the experiment noted the striking difference between the former catering and new food packages.



The Odessa experiment has justified our expectations. HRMD and KhISR presented results of a pilot project to representatives of local police responsible for the organization of police custody units work at a meeting in Odessa, held on November 30, 2016. In 2017 the positive results of the introduction of modular catering in Odessa Region is planned to extend to all regions of Ukraine and introduce new standards in all 147 police custody units of the country.

Human rights posters at police custody units



For the dissemination of information on the rights of persons held in detention units of the

National Police of Ukraine, the Institute, with support from the Norwegian Mission of Advisers of Rule of Law (NORLAU) has designed posters in 12 languages (Ukrainian, Russian, English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Polish, Hungarian, Arabic, Turkish and Urdu) with rights and obligations of persons placed in police detention. The circulation of 1,000 copies was sent to 147 detention units of Ukraine. The relevance of the project is on the one hand, the urgent need to bring the conditions of police detention to European standards, and the other - the expected influx of a large number of foreign nationals in the Eurovision Song Contest to be held in Kiev in May 2017.

Advocacy

KhISR in 2016 also has developed and published a guide on monitoring of social custodial settings¹. If the above mentioned guide is devoted to general accommodation standards and the rights of people who are in social custodial settings, this one focuses on the social aspects of monitoring of custodial settings in the framework of the National Preventive Mechanism (NPM) in Ukraine. It is dedicated to specific features of closed social institutions such as psychiatric hospitals, orphanages, geriatric boarding homes, centers for social and psychological rehabilitation of children and so on. Recommendations on interviews with different groups of clients are made; it describes the types of documents needed for review; outlined principles that must be complied with. The publication will be useful for NPM monitors, social workers, civic activists and all those interested in the problem of preventing of ill-treatment in closed institutions in Ukraine.

The manual includes general rules of stay of clients in residential institutions of social protection such as safety, conditions of residence, the procedure for filing complaints, system of logging, nutrition, relationship with family, friends and the community etc. The publication will be useful monitors of NPM, employees of custodial settings, civic activists and all those interested in the problem of preventing of ill-treatment in closed institutions in Ukraine. The manual was created by KhISR team in cooperation with the Commissioner on Human Rights of Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine with the support of UNDP — Ukraine.

Trainings and conferences



Among KhISR stable partners in protecting the rights of people who are in custodial settings in Ukraine is the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine and UNDP in Ukraine. In 2016, KhISR has received significant financial and organizational support from the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine for a number of important steps to establish communication between the administration of the custodial settings, local and state authorities, human rights activists to improve the living conditions of people in custodial settings.

On July 6-7 2016 in the city of Khmelnytsky Kharkiv Institute for Social Research conducted

¹ Посібник з моніторингу соціальних місць несвободи / Кобзін Д.О., Черноусов А.М., Щербань С.В. — Харків: ХІСД, 2016 — 43 с. — Link: <http://khisar.kharkov.ua/files/docs/1471877714.pdf>

training — presentation on “Minimum standards for clients staying in social custodial settings places of social bondage Ukraine”. The event was attended by representatives of the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine and managers of residential institutions and local social service centers from different regions of Ukraine. The aim of the training was, above all, to improve the competence of the participants in terms of proper care for the elderly and persons with disabilities and respect their rights. The training was held with the financial support of UNDP in Ukraine.

On September 6-7, 2016 KhISR held training on “Minimum standards of clients staying in social custodial settings in Ukraine.” The event was held in Kharkiv Region for local providers of in-patient medical and social care of clients at geriatric boarding houses, boarding houses, neuropsychiatric boarding schools, residential centers, territorial departments of social services.



The feature of the training was that it was attended by both directors and medical personnel of boarding schools. The first traditionally talked about NPM and standards of clients' retention, given the international experience of social services at care institutions. For the medical staff focus was on building of interaction in the team and with clients, preventing and dealing with conflicts and stress. One of the topics for discussion at the

workshop was the observance of reproductive and sexual rights of clients. Training was supported by OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine.



On October 3-6, 2016 in Lviv, Kharkiv Institute for Social Research conducted 2 trainings for employees of the Ministry of Interior “Standards and safeguards to protect detainees' rights and duties of the police in the light of the NPM activities”. The event was attended by representatives of Police Custody Unit of the National Police, and representatives of the regional department of Head Office on human rights from different regions. The main theme of those trainings was standards and safeguards to protect detainees' rights and duties of the police in the light of the national preventive mechanism activities. Among hot topics of discussion were that police officers have human rights too. KhISR team and HRMD agreed that without protecting the rights of most police officers we cannot expect protection of rights of detainees.

The training was held with the financial support of the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine

Association for the Prevention of Torture and the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR) held the first Annual NPM meeting of the OSCE region on October 13-14 in Vienna, Austria. Ukraine was represented by the

Parliamentary Commissioner on Human Rights Valeria Lutkovska, Head of NPM Department Catherine Chumak and the KhISR Leading Expert Andrew Chernousov. The meeting was attended by 32 among of 39 designated NPMs of the OSCE region to exchange experiences between colleagues and share achievements and problems of implementing of preventive mandate under the OPCAT.

On October 26-29, 2016 with the support of the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine KhISR team together with NPM Department of Ukraine Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights made a study visit to the Ministry of Justice and Security of the Netherlands, which is the coordinator of the Dutch NPM.

Dutch NPM has the multi-body structure and has nearly 60 years experience in exercising control and preventive measures to combat torture and ill-treatment. It should be noted that according to various reports from international human rights organizations and international bodies (SPT and CPT), torture and ill-treatment as a systemic problem in the Netherlands is absent.

On November 8-9, 2016 in Lviv, Ukraine was held the Sixth East European NPM Conference. The format of the event provided an opportunity to discuss both achievements and challenges that exist in different countries of active NPMs and put the assessment of the work and develop the next steps in combating torture and ill-treatment in places of deprivation of liberty.

The conference was attended by representatives of civil society organizations in Ukraine, and representatives of state agencies, which have in subordination various closed institutions: Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine, the National Police of Ukraine, Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine and

others. Among the present NGOs were members of the Vostok-SOS, Ukrainian Legal Aid Foundation, Charitable Foundation "Rozvytok", Kharkiv Human Rights Group, the Association of Ukrainian Monitors of Human Rights in Law Enforcement Agencies and others. Ukrainian Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights Valeria Lutkovska, employees of the Department for implementation of NPM and regional representatives and coordinators of Public Relations of Ombudsman also has attended the Conference. Individual guests of the event were representatives of the national preventive mechanisms from other countries (Slovenia, Georgia, Kazakhstan) and the Association for Prevention of Torture (Switzerland).



The conference also had several panel discussions, particularly on the effectiveness of the existing model of NPM in Ukraine, places deprivation of liberty on anti-terrorist operation zone and systemic problems in the implementation of OPCAT and possible solutions. The conference was supported by the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine.

On November 14-17, 2016 Kharkiv Institute for Social Research conducted two trainings for directors of residential institutions of social protection in Ukraine. We have invited directors of geriatric boarding houses, boarding houses and residential branch territorial centers from different regions. A key theme of mentioned events

was minimum standards of clients staying in boarding institutions. In addition to representatives of KhiSR among coaches were Oksana Sulima (Head of the Department for Protection of the Elderly People at the Ministry of Social Policy of Ukraine) and Irina Sergienko (representative of the Department for the implementation of NPM at Ombudsman Office). Trainings were supported by the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine.

Trainings were supported by the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine.

On 2-3 December, 2016 KhISR Leading Expert Andrew Chernousov participated in “Poltava medical and legal active protection of human rights in health care” held in Poltava Institute of Law of National Law University named after Yaroslav the Wise. A. Chernousov has moderated a forum panel called “Rights and freedoms of patients at places of detention of the health care system: the results of NPM operation”.

Protecting the rights of children displaced from the ATO zone



In 2016 the Kharkiv Institute for Social Research in conjunction with the UN Children's Fund “UNICEF” and the Parliamentary Commissioner on Human Rights was implemented

monitoring of orphans and children deprived of parental care, displaced from the area of ATO in Donetsk, Luhansk, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhzhya, Kharkiv and Kyiv region.

At the beginning of the project (April 2016) KhISR conducted training for future children rights monitors, which has worked out the theme of children's rights, the legal framework regarding the status of children, especially children's residential care system and monitoring methods.

After detailed designing of the monitoring tool that incorporates the indicators of living conditions and nutrition, safety, medical care, psychological status, education, access to humanitarian aid, readiness for evacuation in case of need and others. Members of the public and employees of the Office of the Commissioner visited 32 residential institutions and 13 families. There have been monitored all check-points for the subject compliance with children rights standards.

Besides preparing the report and analysis of detailed statistics, legislative and monitoring data, KhISR has directed its activities on the training of local child protection services, management, administration and staff of institutions of at Donetsk and Luhansk Regions to discuss pressing issues and find solutions. Trainings were held in September and December 2016 in Svyatogorsk, Zaporizhzhya and Severodonetsk.

Human rights protection in law enforcement activities

Human rights in law enforcement is one of the main themes since the Institute establishment. Experts of the Institute regularly participate in activities related to democratization and

improvement of police. One of the important results of KhISR participation in police reform was the establishment of the Office of Human Rights of the National Police of Ukraine, which has temporary detention facilities in subordination. Within this new structure for Ukraine was introduced the position of police ombudsman that should ensure human rights in the police activity. During 2016 KhISR actively participated in training activities for staff of the newly established structure — conducted trainings on human rights and standards of treatment in the police custody.



On April 26 — May 1, 2016 KhISR representatives participated in the international conference “Police and international human rights law”, which was held in the city of Oranienburg, Germany. With the support of the Representative Office of Friedrich Ebert Stiftung. Additionally appeared an opportunity to study the German system of complaints against police officers.

Advocacy

In 2016 KhISR experts participated in the advocacy campaign on preventing the adoption in Parliament a package of bills developed by the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Ukraine aimed

at disproportionate strengthening police powers — the introduction of so-called “presumption of innocence of the police”. KhISR experts joined open criticism of the proposed changes publicly and actively lobbied for the preservation of existing guarantees human rights and freedoms².

Studies

In February and March 2016 KhISR conducted a poll on evaluation of police efficiency in Kharkiv Region. There were interviewed 3600 respondents in all areas without exception in the City of Kharkiv and Kharkiv Region on a representative sample. The study reflected the views of local people about the perception of the new police and credibility; sketching out the main indicators of success of the police and its reform issues during the year; highlighted the assessment of the crime situation in the region in the period 2015-2016.

Education activities

KhISR Team actively engaged in educational work, hold public lectures and round tables on human rights, international experience and reform the functioning of the police, community policing and so on.

On December 13, 2016 in the educational hub “Spalah” the KhISR Leading Expert Andrew Cher-nousov in the framework of the public education project presented an open lecture on modern Ukrainian consideration of police effectiveness and community policing approaches³.

² МВС: Презумпція правоти «реформаторів»? / А.Котляр // Дзеркало тижня. — 29 жовтня 2016 р. — Link: http://gazeta.dt.ua/LAW/mvs-prezumpciya-pravoti-reformatoriv_.html

³ <http://misto.kh.ua/main/2960-v-obrazovatelnom-habe-spalah-proshla-lekciya-v-ramkah-proekta-vzaimodeystvie-mezhdu-policiy-i-obschestvom.html>

Also, in order to deliver important and inseparable human rights in law enforcement and Denys Kobzin and Andrew Chernousov conducted series of workshops with cadets of the National Police Academy of Ukraine and developed a special training course for police cadets on police and human rights issues.

Counteraction to discrimination

During 2016 KhISR continued to work on combating discrimination. In June 2016 Institute began a project supported by the European Roma Rights Center, dedicated to the research of Roma rights in law enforcement. The project includes interviews with the Roma community and law enforcement officials, and conducting surveys to determine the level of Roma confidence, attitude and the extent of human rights violations by the police.

In addition, in December 2016 KhISR joined the Coordinating Council for monitoring the implementation of the "Strategy of protection and integration into Ukrainian society of Roma minority for the period till 2020". The purpose of the Coordination Council is to unite the efforts of civil society and governmental agencies in combating discrimination and violations of human rights and to strengthen social integration of the Roma minority in the City of Kharkiv and Kharkiv Region and by exchanging information on current problems and needs of Roma development recommendations and Action plan for the solution of the existing problems of the Roma minority.

The level of community security in areas that are in the vicinity of the zone of military conflict in Ukraine

Today the Ukrainian society is no more urgent problem than the restoration of peace and stability in the Donetsk and Luhansk Regions and the whole country in general. KhiSR could not ignore the subject and in December 2015 — February 2016 has conducted a sociological study of community security in Donetsk, Luhansk and Odesa Regions⁴. The need for this study was determined by the fact that the situation of security in the regions of Ukraine is far from perfect. Actions of institutions designed to guarantee safety, often fragmented and uncoordinated. Interaction with the public is not established, community representatives are not involved in the work of security planning. All this leads to the fact that resources are spent inefficiently and many aspects related to the new for Ukraine factors (zone of armed conflict, increasing number of military weapons traffic, a large number of IDPs, increasing number of people with post-traumatic syndrome, the existence of armed paramilitary groups, etc.) significantly affect the lives of communities. These aspects are important challenges for the country and their overcoming is a must do for sustainable development.

Research sheds light on the trust of the local population in state institutions; assessment of their work; sense of security components; residents everyday problems related to safety and readiness of the population to participate in securing order in their communities. The study was made possible with the support of UNDP in Ukraine.

21-22 December, 2016 KhISR team took part in the Third Constitutional colloquy "Justice in conflict: challenges and prospects for judicial

⁴ Безпека жителів Донецької, Луганської та Одеської областей: ситуація, фактори, особливості (за результатами соціологічного дослідження) / Д. Кобзін, А. Черноусов, С. Щербань, М. Колоколова, К. Коренева. — Харків: ХІСД, 2016 — 209 с. — Link: <http://khisr.kharkov.ua/files/docs/1459523350.pdf>

reforms.” Except for judicial reform and features of justice in conflict there was discussed the new format including community to address issues concerning security at the local level. Denys Kobzin, KHISR Director, presented the results of study “Safety of residents of Donetsk, Luhansk and Odesa Regions: the situation, factors and features”.



After the presentation there was a discussion during which it was suggested the idea of a common impact on security in the region with the support of the community. One possible form of such interaction could be a “security council” at the local level, which will include representatives of law enforcement, courts, justice and representatives of the local community. Against the background of high readiness of citizens to participate in the security provision of the place of residence, in the Luhansk Region it varies in the range of 60 to 74%, raising community is able to solve the issue of security and increase the legitimacy of the operation of all public institutions.

Justice needs and satisfaction in Ukraine

In 2016, KhISR has continued to work actively in research of access to justice. First presented

report of large-scale sociological research of the Institute together with Hague Institute for Internationalization of Law (HIIL) «Justice needs in Ukraine»⁵. Secondly, KhISR contributed to the implementation of research results to develop new mechanisms for resolving legal issues. So, on December 12, 2016 in Kyiv representative of KhISR, participated in the seminar “Innovations in labor disputes solution” which was co-arranged by our partner - HIIL. The seminar discussed the survey data, which made by HIIL and KhISR in the 2015-2016. Expertise and experience in different sectors, consisted action plan for the introduction of more effective mechanisms for resolving labor disputes.



5 Зatreбуваність правосуддя в Україні—2016. Правові питання у щоденному житті. — Режим доступу: http://www.hiil.org/data/sitemanagement/media/Justice%20Needs%20and%20Satisfaction%20in%20Ukraine_UA.pdf

ACTIVITIES WITH INTERNS AND VOLUNTEERS



KhISR has sustainable academic ties and since 2010 cooperating with Sociological Faculty of the Kharkiv National University named after V.N. Karazin.

Representatives of KhISR every year making own presentations at the conference «Career start», arranged by Sociological Faculty, where they are delivering information about organization and opportunities for sociologists not only to study social phenomena but also produce social changes. Every year conference opens new prospective of cooperation of the Institute with students – sociologists.

In March 2016 19 students of the Political sociology visited KhISR in the framework of internship program, which had 3-week continuation in October with emphasize on research. Under the management of the research fellow of KhISR Maria Kolokolova students had a full-fledged sociological study on “Attitude of Kharkivites to the introduction of the electronic declaration system of property status of civil servants”. The students learned to develop a questionnaire, calculate the sample, distribute team work, interviewing of respondents, work in programs OSA and SPSS, process the data massive, analyze the results, make presentations, speak out with the results at a press conference. Express-poll surveyed 620 respondents in 9 metro stations in different districts of the City, using the quota sampling.

KhISR constantly involve interns and volunteers to own work. In the year 2016 in various projects KhISR recruited 3 interns-sociologists: Nehaenko Oksana, Marina Ott, Maria Titova.



FINANCES

In 2016 KhISR received donations, non-repayable financial grant of financial assistance in cash for a total amount of 6 255 831,00 UAH. Among donors are: European Commission, OSCE

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CONTACTS

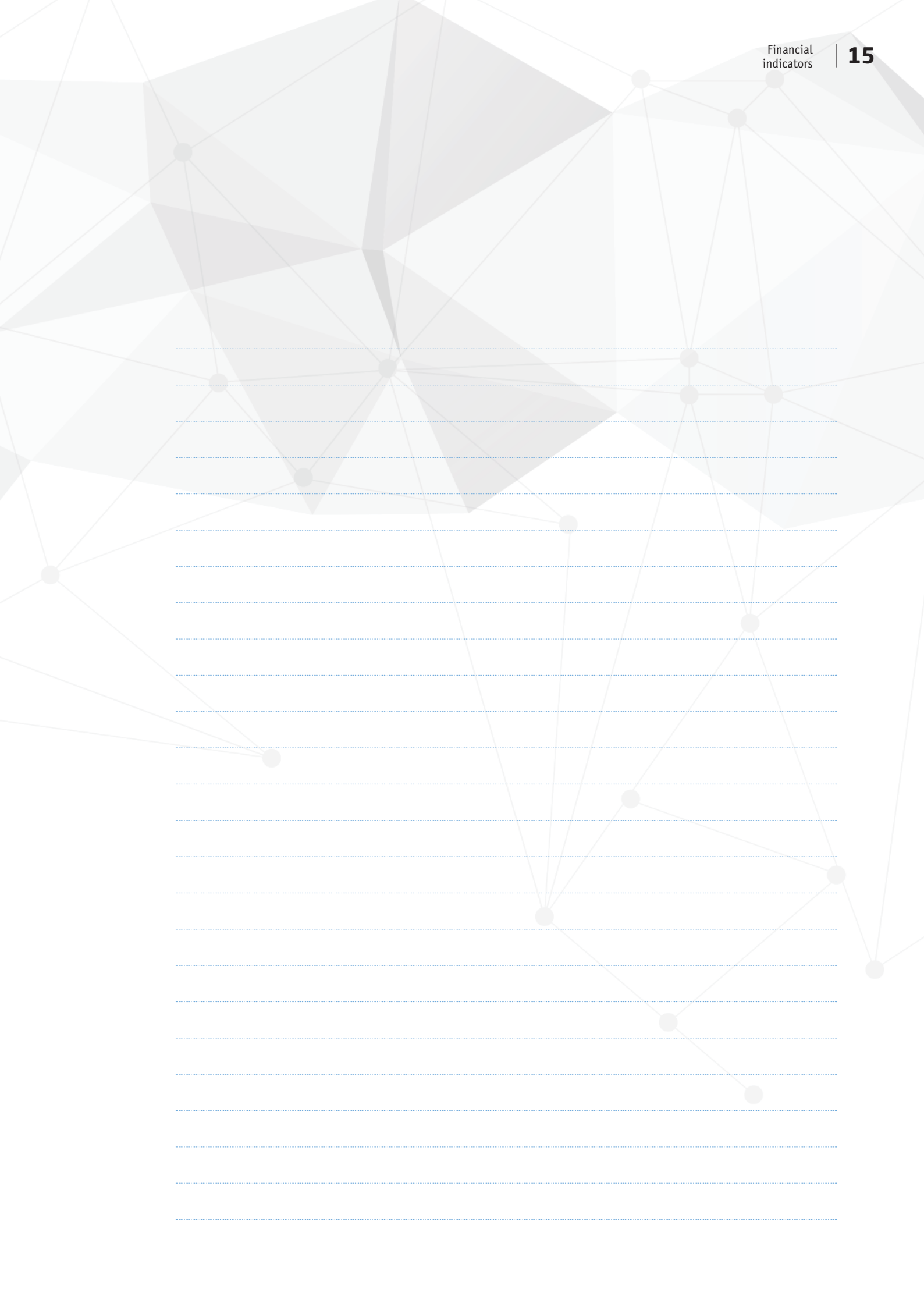
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