

THE USAGE OF ICT IN HUMANITARIAN RESPONSE FOR LGBTIQ+ PEOPLE IN CONTEMPORARY UKRAINIAN HISTORY

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The challenges of discrimination, exclusion and marginalization, experienced by LGBTIQ communities in Ukraine, were exacerbated by the Russian large-scale invasion. These challenges and inequalities led to additional barriers to appropriate healthcare, safe shelter, mental health and psychosocial support, legal assistance, livelihood opportunities and protection for these vulnerable groups in Ukrainian population. Provision of the mentioned support and services for LGBTIQ+ communities is based on inclusive, more equitable and effective humanitarian action [1]. This action is worth studying in contemporary social and cultural history of Ukraine.

This abstract reveals recent advancement of LGBTIQ+ inclusion in humanitarian response and the opportunities ICT may provide to reach this vulnerable population in Ukraine. The study also includes the latest experience of LGBTIQ+ NGOs in Ukraine in 2022–2025. The author discusses the barriers and perspectives in humanitarian response for LGBTIQ+ communities in Ukraine and the role of ICT in the process.

With the advance of mobile dating applications for LGBTIQ+ people the outreach in HIV and STI prevention and other meaningful social services also migrated to these apps [2]. The increased role of Internet communication in the life of LGBTIQ+ people across Ukraine raises the importance of development online sources of relevant and context-specific, comprehensive and targeted information to strengthen the humanitarian response. User-friendly online platform / website as well as peer-to-peer counselling in dating apps and messengers, posts in social media networks helps LGBTIQ+ people to get safe access to the services. The availability and visibility of PO “Alliance.Global” shelters for relocated LGBTIQ+ persons were reached with a help of targeted advertisement in the social networks Facebook and Instagram and the dating app Hornet.

To overcome the barriers meaningful engagement and inclusion of LGBTIQ+ people as leaders, participants, staff, and volunteers in all aspects of humanitarian action is required. LGBTIQ+ communities are diverse and include heterogeneous groups of people with complex needs, the humanitarian programs should consider specifics of these groups and meet a variety of needs in order to reach the audience and meet the targets in humanitarian response. ICT help to expand and increase access to social services and opportunities for social connection and community mobilization and reintegration of IDPs in Ukraine. These are the instruments of engagement LGBTIQ+ people in humanitarian response and early recovery processes in Ukraine since the Russian invasion in Ukraine.

Literature:

1. Working with are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer (LGBTIQ+) Persons in Forced Displacement. UNHCR, 2021. 48 p. 2. Malikov V. V. Information and communication technologies in promotion of HIV prevention services for MSM in Ukraine // Інформаційні технології: наука, техніка, технологія, освіта, здоров'я: тези доп. 29-ї міжнар. наук.-практ. конф. MicroCAD–2021: у 5 ч. Ч. 4 / ред. Є. І. Сокол. – Харків : Планета-Прінт, 2021. С. 154.