



**Разумков**  
центр

**Democratic reform process in Ukraine:  
the main achievement and  
the main challenges**

**The main achievements of Ukraine on the path of democratic reforms are embodied in significant internal transformations in various sectors and are reflected in:**

- obtaining the status of a candidate country for EU membership;**
- implementation of the package of recommendations of the European Commission for the start of accession negotiations;**
- the approved negotiating framework for the start of negotiations on accession and the existence of a consensus of the EU countries regarding the start of negotiations**

## **The impact of the war on democratic transformations in Ukraine.**

### **Challenges:**

- 1. In the conditions of a prolonged "war of attrition", Ukraine must direct most of its internal resources to resisting the aggressor and achieving victory.**
- 2. The war complicated the pace of pro-European reforms, including within the framework of the implementation of the Ukraine-EU Association Agreement, the implementation of certain directions is critically complicated and should be carried out in peacetime.**
- 3. The war turned Ukraine into a recipient of international donor aid. According to experts' estimates, foreign financial receipts cover approximately one-third of Ukraine's budget expenditures.**
- 4. The conditions of martial law provide for the legislative restriction of some rights and freedoms, the war temporarily make it impossible for them to be guaranteed by the state.**

# Ukraine derogate of its obligations to the Council of Europe

• 4 April 2024

## **Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms**

Articles 8 (right to respect for private and family life),

Articles 10 (freedom of expression)

Articles 11 (freedom of assembly and association),

## **Protocol to the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms**

Article 2 of Protocol 4 (right to free movement of persons),

## **Three articles from the first protocol:**

Article 1 (protection of private property),

Article 2 (right to education)

Article 3 (right to freedom of elections), were no longer adhered to within Ukraine.

## **The impact of the war on democratic transformations in Ukraine. Opportunities.**

- 1. The long, large-scale war proved the readiness of Ukrainians to defend the sovereignty of their country, the European way of its development.**
- 2. The war intensified the bilateral processes of European integration and changed the quality of Brussels' policy in the Ukrainian direction.**
- 3. The need to repel Russian aggression contributed to the unification and cohesion of the Ukrainian nation, strengthened public support for the movement towards the EU and the processes of pro-European self-identification of citizens.**

**The main reforms carried out by Ukraine to implement the package of recommendations of the European Commission for the start of accession negotiations:**

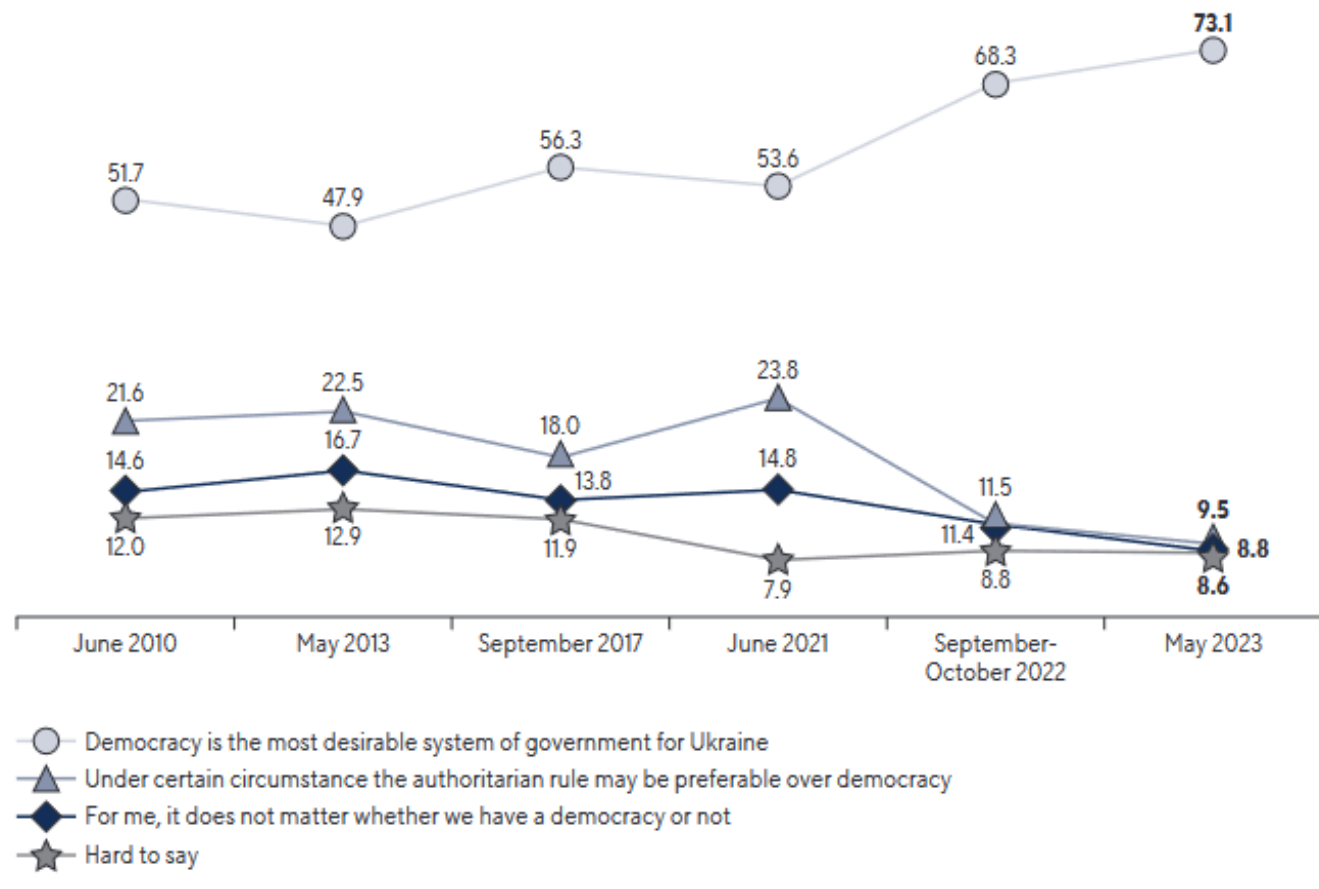
- Reform of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine. Introduction of new legislation on the procedure for the selection of candidates on a competitive basis.**
- Judicial reform. The composition of the High Council of Justice and the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine was updated on new grounds.**
- Fight against corruption. The new leadership of anti-corruption structures was elected on a competitive basis. The Specialized anti-corruption prosecutor's office acquired an independent status, the Bureau of Economic Security was restarted.**
- Fight against money laundering. The norms according to FATF standards and relevant EU directives have been introduced into the national legislation.**
- The new basic Law "On Media" has entered into force, which covers the entire system of national media, contains legal safeguards against the restriction of freedom of speech, and implements the relevant norms and rules of the EU.**
- The adopted new law "On National Minorities (Communities)" defines the features of state policy regarding the realization of the rights and freedoms of national minorities.**

# **Public opinion of Ukraine`s citizens on the state of Democracy in Ukraine**

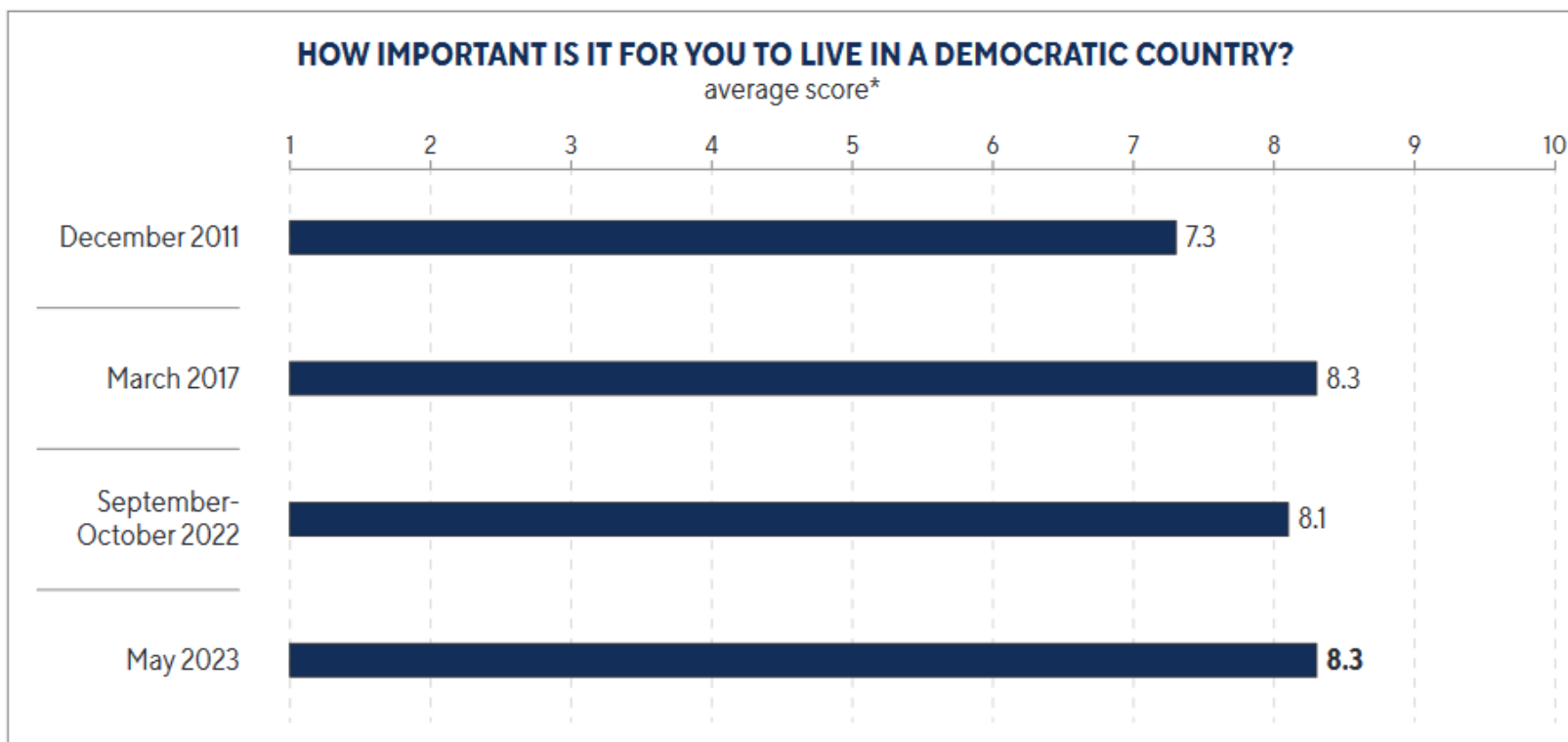
*(based on results of the Razumkov Centre`s  
sociological service opinion polls)*

### WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING STATEMENTS WOULD YOU RATHER AGREE WITH?

% of respondents



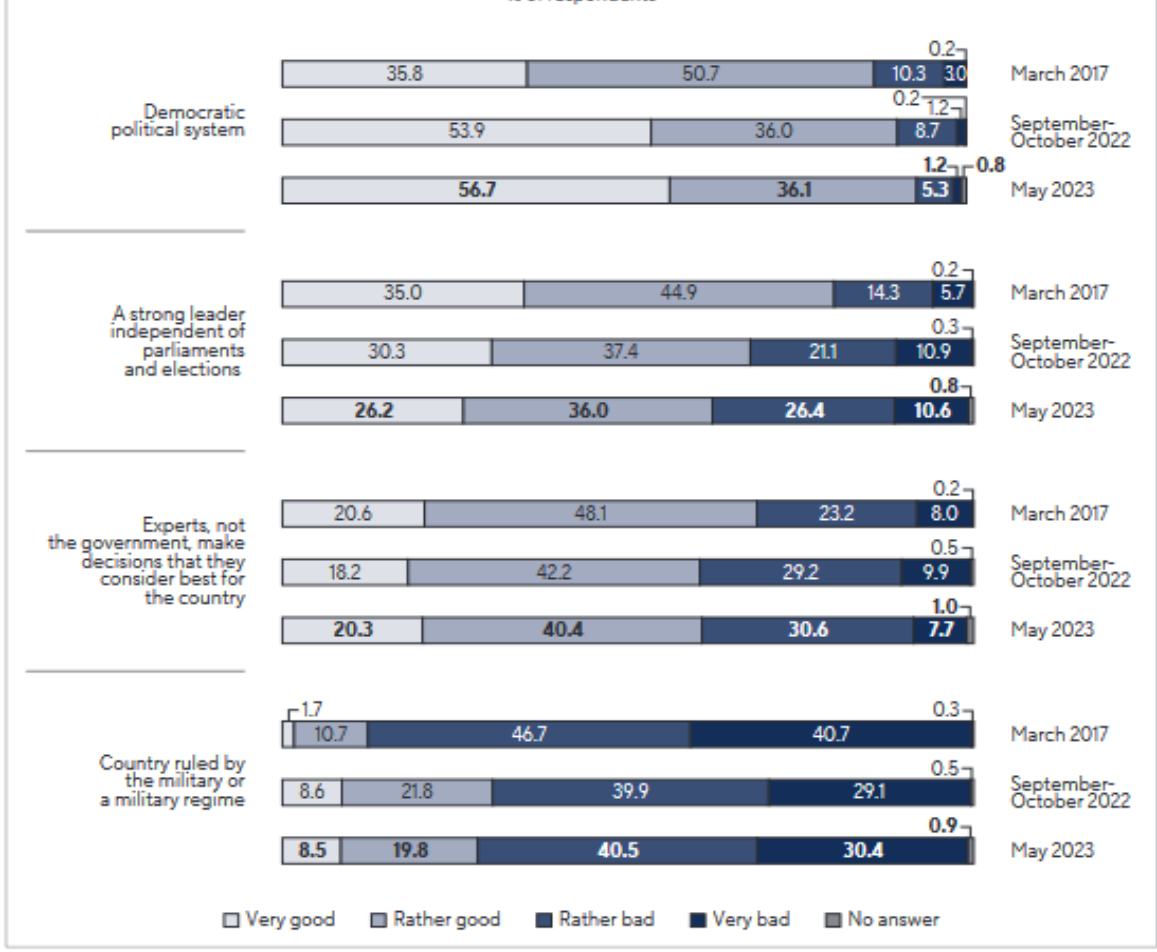


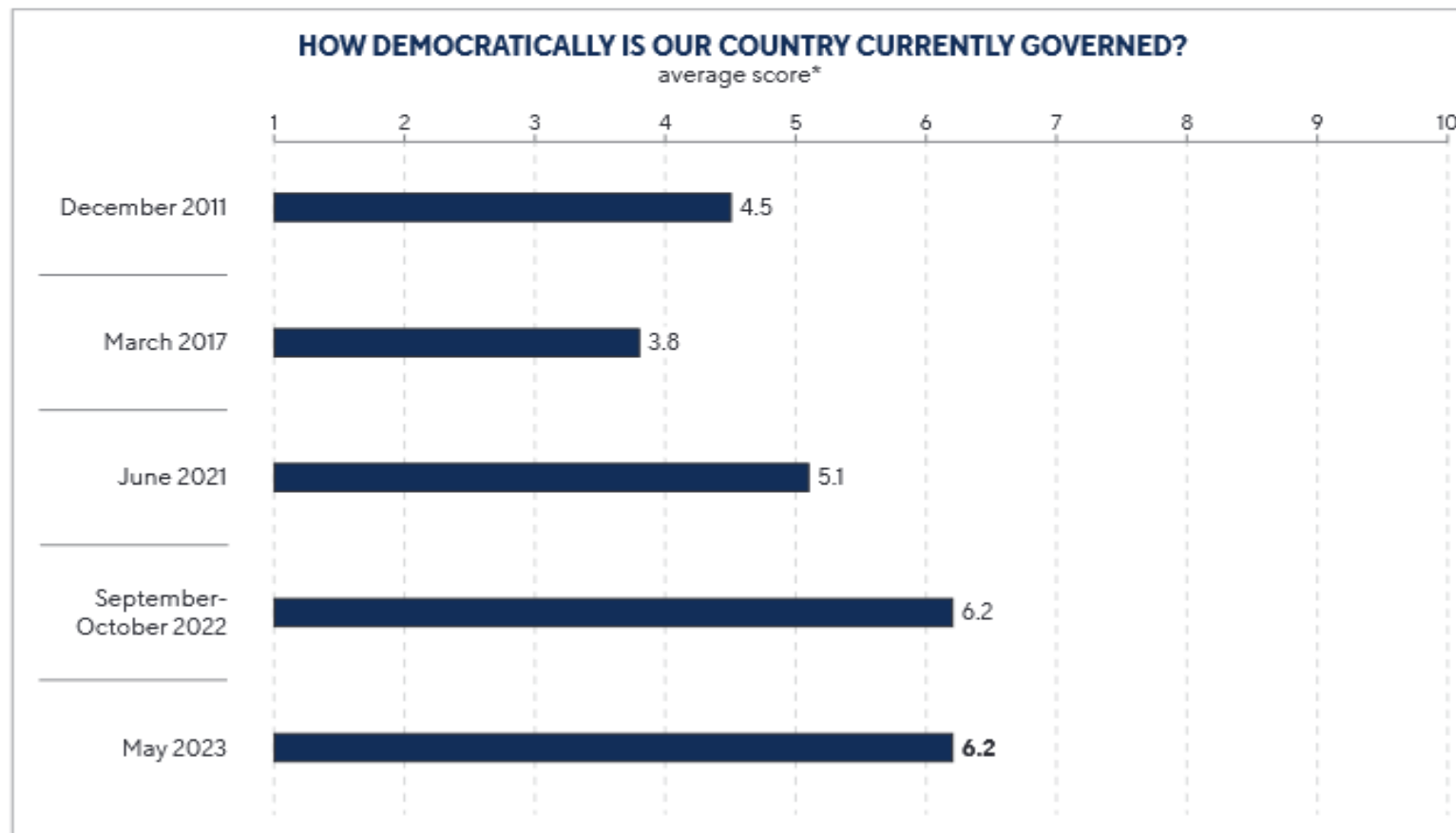


\* On a 10-point scale, where «1» means «not important at all», and «10» means «very important».

### HOW GOOD FOR OUR COUNTRY ARE THESE TYPES OF POLITICAL SYSTEMS?

% of respondents

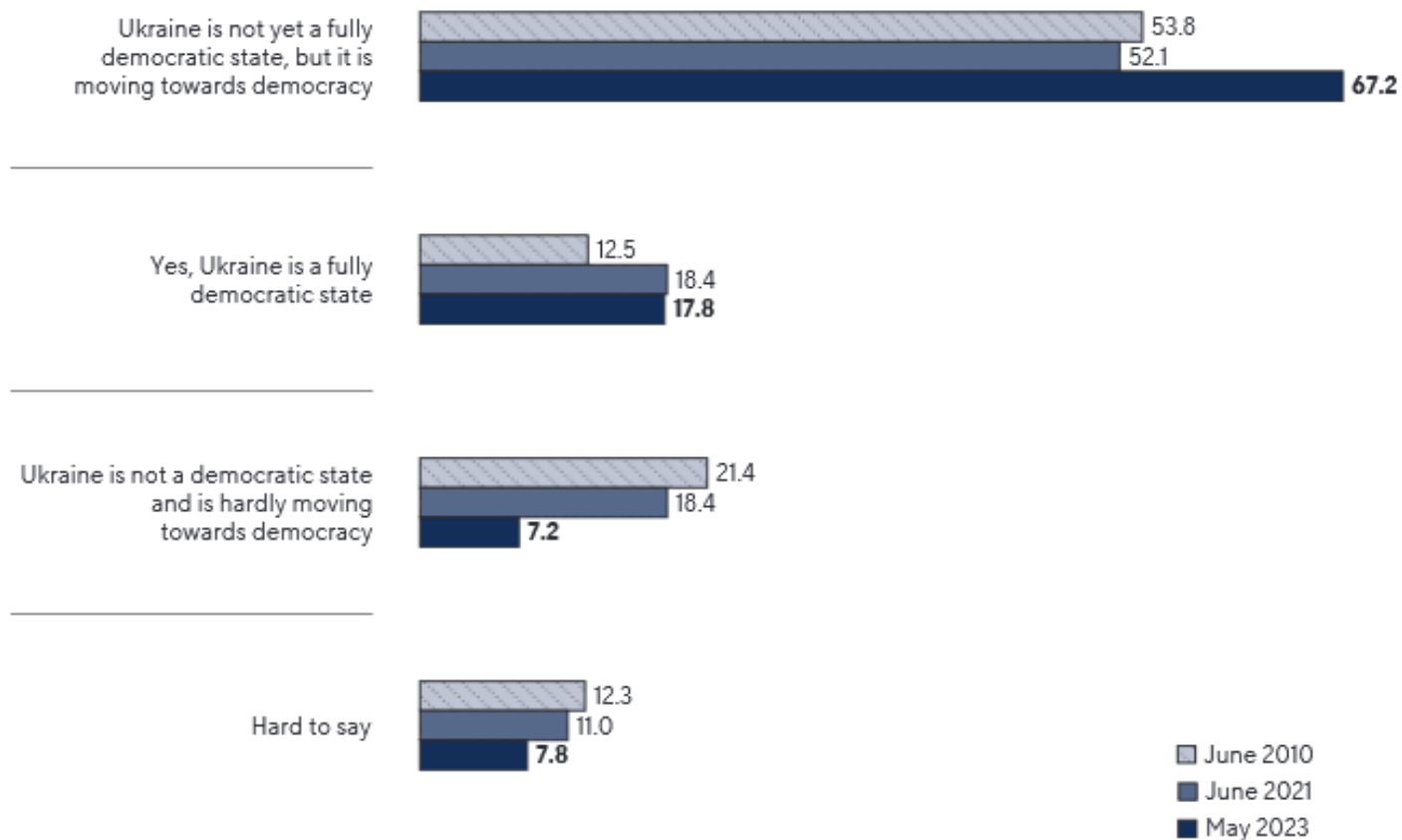




\* On a 10-point scale, where «1» means «not democratically at all», and «10» means «very democratically».

### IS UKRAINE A DEMOCRATIC STATE?

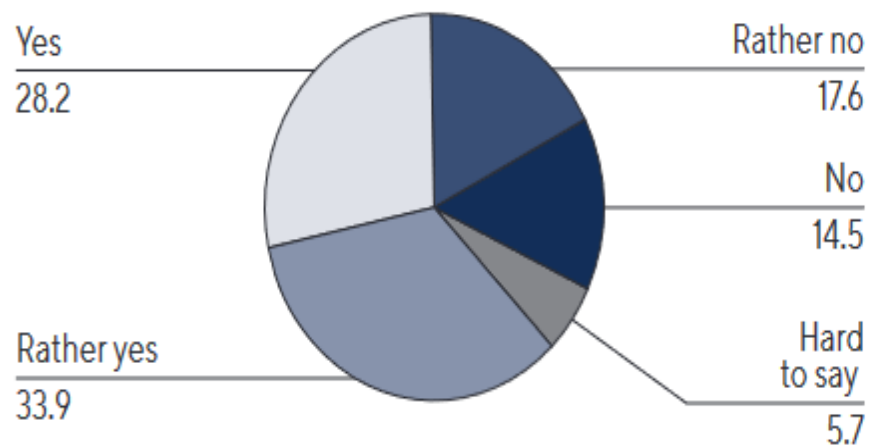
% of respondents



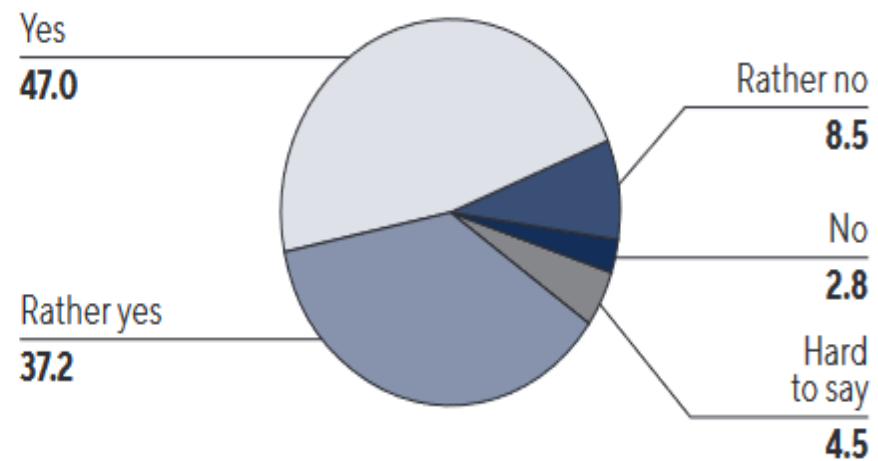
## DO YOU FEEL LIKE A FREE PERSON?

% of respondents

June 2021



May 2023



## **Recommendations.**

**Considering that the main challenge for democratic reforms in Ukraine is the ongoing Russian aggression, the main efforts of Ukraine's international partners should be aimed at ending the war and achieving a just peace on the basis of the UN Charter. This will make it possible to end the martial law, remove the relevant restrictions, restore the competitive political process in Ukraine, and hold elections.**

**We also recommend:**

**Provide legal and expert support to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, central executive authorities, and local self-government bodies to enhance the existing or develop new normative acts and policies concerning civic participation and the creation of the enabling environment for civil society development and voluntary activities.**

**Support public authorities, in particular on the local and regional levels, in establishing the decision making process, based on wider participation and engagement of all stakeholders, ensuring transparency and inclusiveness, disclosure and access to information, a wide spectrum of participatory tools, resulting in the development and implementation of sustainable policies and decisions resolving most pressing problems, and responding to the needs of citizens in general and in particular of those affected by war.**

**Support the implementation of inclusive and transparent public consultation practices with civil society, engagement of CSOs in the reform's agenda-setting, development, implementation, and monitoring of reforms in the war and post-war context.**

**Thank you for attention!**



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