On the Rift

Travelling exhibition about changes in life of civilians caused by the armed conflict in Donbas





Eastern Ukrainian Center for Civic Initiatives



Documenting human rights violations



Legal help for victims and witnesses of HRV



Cooperation with organizations of Coalition "Justice for Peace in Donbas"

Documentation and database

537 documented cases of human rights violations, 5 years of documentation

More than 200 identified places of illegal detention

Cooperation with international (ICC, ECHR) and Ukrainian law enforcement institutions





Legal help

Free legal help and combating ineffective investigations

Progress in investigative actions done by law enforcement authorities: establishing new facts and obtaining new evidence in cases

Main topics: damage of housing and personal property as a result of shelling in the gray area, tortures, murders, enforced disappearances





Documentary "Tangible Freedom"

Unfolds the stories of five civilians, who were illegally imprisoned and tortured in the building of Luhansk regional administration

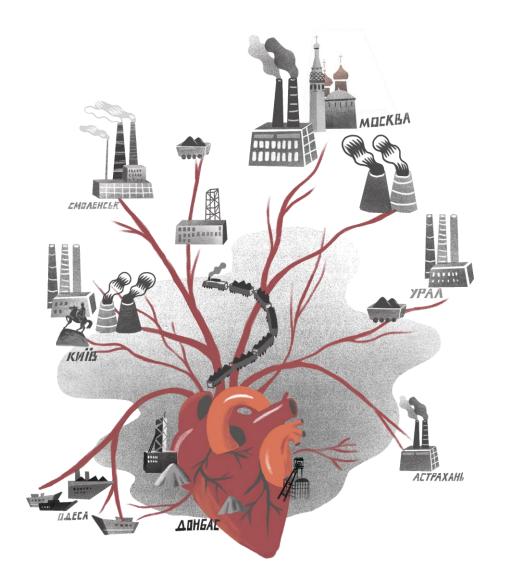
Uncovers their experience during detention and inhumane treatment there

Reminds about the fate of civilians, who are still detained

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZQNWy6RHj6U



Myths of Donbas



They shout: "We feed the whole Ukraine!" I tried to explain to people, "Look, mines are all private! Do you think that a private trader, especially not exactly an honest one, will pay all taxes?" And now, it turns out that the whole world feeds Donbas: humanitarian aid and support. People are used to living for free.

From fear to hatred



Young men are sitting in the store. They start bothering my husband, and he says, "It's OK, our people will come, and there will be cleansing". The investigator was later questioning my husband and asked how he knew about the cleansing. My husband answered that they talked about it on TV.

Severed family ties



My own brother buried me first. He called our father and said that I was "an ukrop", a traitor, and that I had been executed. Also, he called my son on the 9th day after my kidnapping and asked, "Where are papers for the firm?". Now, this scum is hiding in Luhansk.

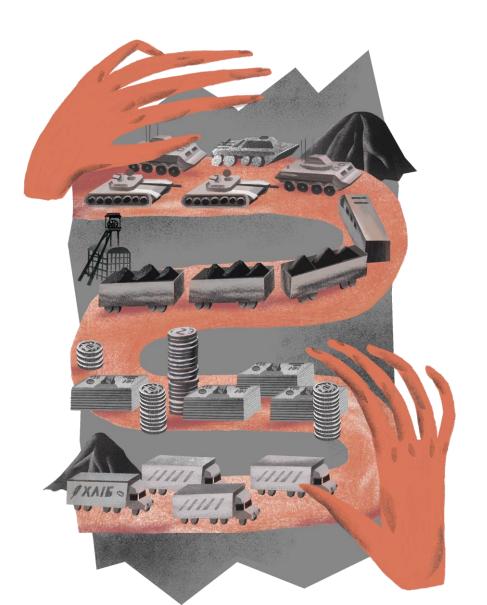
He made his choice. So did others who didn't find fulfillment.

Atomization



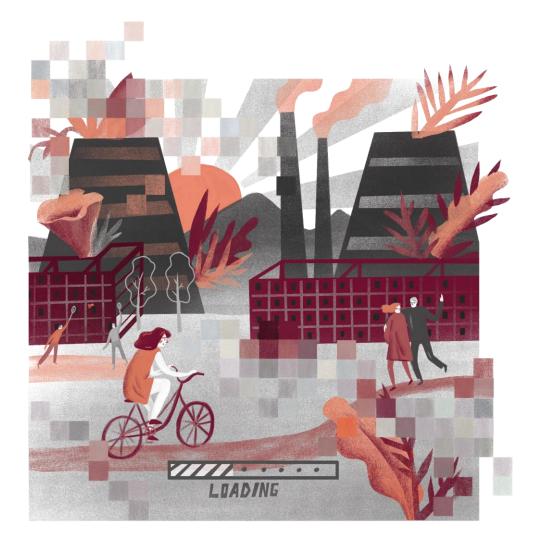
When I went into the teachers' room, no one said a word to me, not a word. I was standing in the hallway. Everyone passed by me as if I was an empty place. Not a word. No one came or asked anything. Were they so frightened? And I thought, "This is what I'm worth".

New rich, new poor



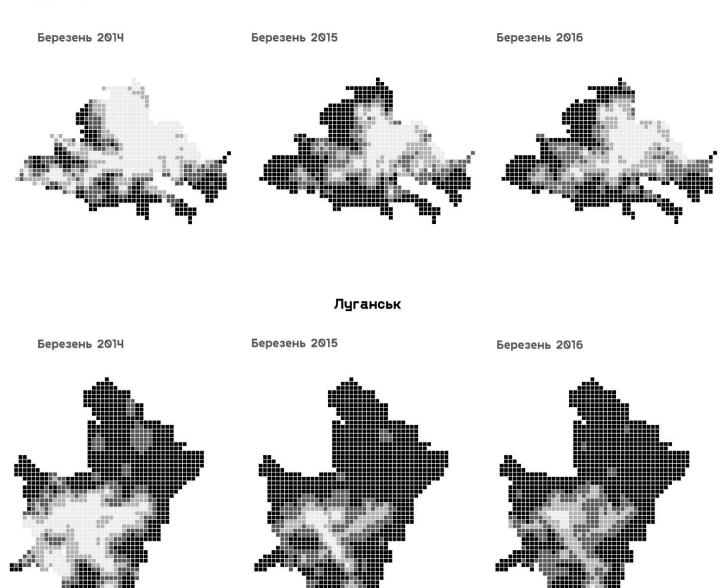
People were united, and helping each other. It brought people together. On the other hand, a lot of people earned a lot. When we suffered, I was looking for slate and whiteboard (humanitarian aid). When I came, they told me that everything had already been redistributed. They made a profit from it. And those who made a profit, of course, were not ordinary people.

Vision of reintegration



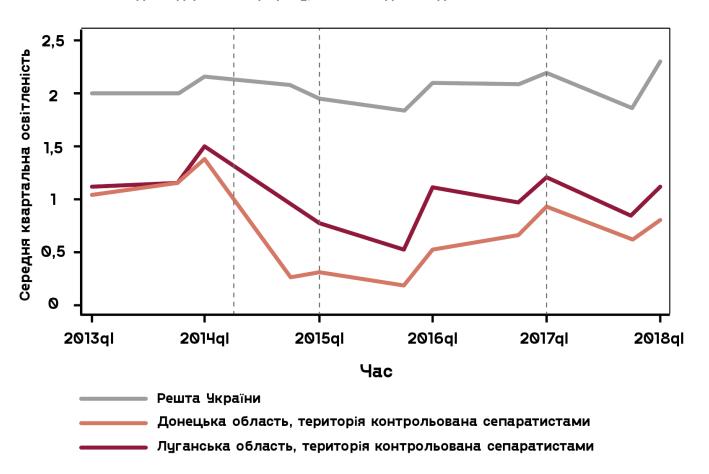
In fact, it will be the beginning of a very long and complicated story. Because, as I said, this land will have to be brought to life later. And this is a gigantic task. People who stayed there will need to be socialized somehow and, oddly enough, changed."

Зміна освітленості Луганської і Донецької областей Донецьк



Зміна освітленості на територіях міст

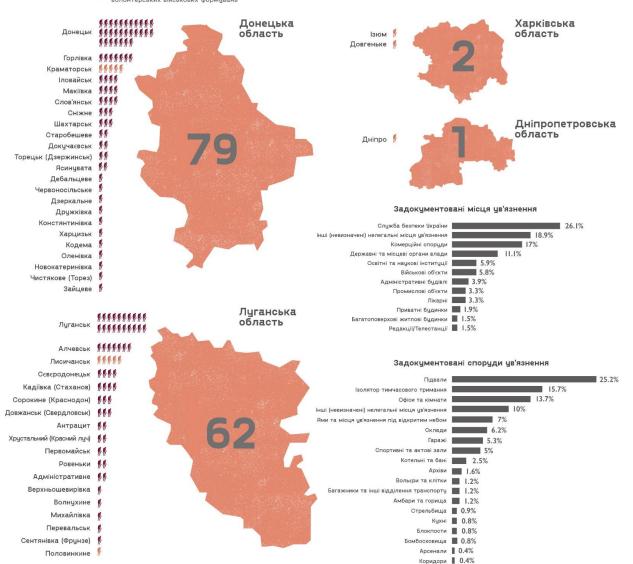
Один з нових способів отримати інформацію про стан економік у випадках, коли статистичні дані відсутні або сумнівні, — це скористатись інтенсивністю нічного освітлення як непрямим показником економічної активності. Оскільки довгий світловий день негативно позначається на інформативності фотографій з квітня по вересень, для території України розглянуто лише знімки, отримані впродовж тих шести з дванадцяти місяців року, коли ночі досить довгі.



Розташування місць нелегального затримання

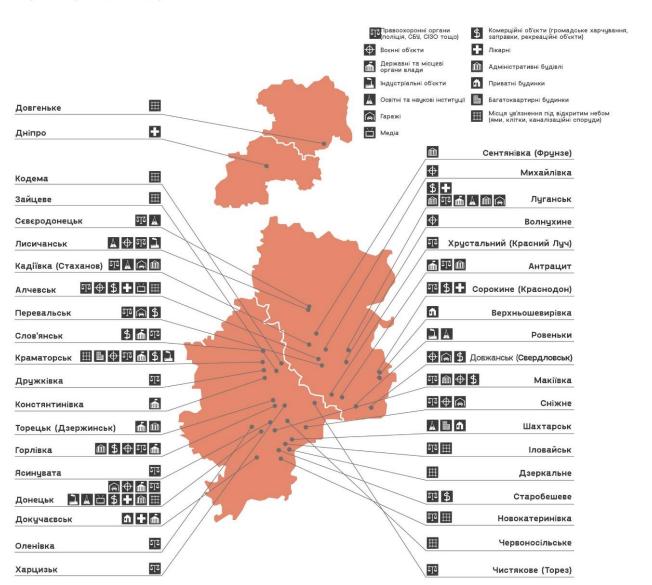
перше півріччя 2017-го р.

- Місця нелегального ув'язнення на непідконтрольній території
- Місця нелегального ув'язнення під контролем українських волонтерських військових формувань



Розташування місць нелегального затримання (Донецька, Луганська, Дніпропетровська та Харківська області)

перше півріччя 2017-го р.



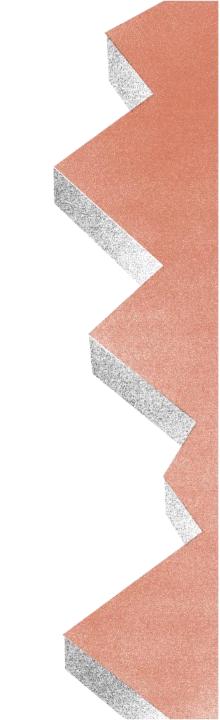
What do we have in common?



















Our path

Kyiv, Zoloti Vorota museum

Kyiv, library of Kyiv Polytechnic university

Severodonetsk, LCMA

Lysychansk, local history museum

Sloviansk, central library

Kramatorsk`, art museum

...

(to be continued)



Our findings

- 1. The war is "too far". Is our exhibition needed?
- 2. High level of interest from activists, lower from the broader audience
- 3. Only the exhibition is not enough. We want a space to exchange ideas
- 4. Lack of vision of reintegration
- 5. The relevance of discussion about justice restoration

What's next?

- 1. Stimulating the debate about the war in universities and schools
- 2. English-language version of exhibition for international audience
- 3. Art interventions and facilitation sessions with locals
- 4. Involvement of local civil society organizations
- 5. Adding new interactive elements







"On the Rift" was created in the framework of the project "Empowering Civil Society for A Transformation of Commemorative Culture - Nonviolent Ways of Dealing With The Donbas's Violent Past" implemented by the German NGO Kurve Wustrow in collaboration with the Coalition "Justice for Peace in Donbas" with the financial support of the Federal Government of Germany.







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Thank you!



Justice for Peace in Donbas

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