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Socioeconomic and Health Infrastructure Rehabilitation in Regions Affected by Armed Conflicts Original Articles

- ✓ CALL FOR SOCIOECONOMIC AND HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION AFTER PANDEMICS AND ARMED CONFLICTS – AN ULTIMATE WAKE UP CALL FOR THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY?
- ✓ SPECIFICITIES IN THE GUIDANCE OF REFUGEES FROM UKRAINE
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- ✓ HOMELESS YOUNG PEOPLE – RELATIONSHIPS AND RISKS OF LIVING ON THE STREET
- ✓ THE ROLE OF MEDIA IN HUMANITARIAN INTERVENTIONS AND RELIEF CAMPAIGNS ON THE EXAMPLE OF SLOVAK NON-PROFITS RESPONSE TO THE CONFLICT IN ETHIOPIA

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Editorial

Call for Socioeconomic and Health Infrastructure Rehabilitation after Pandemics and armed Conflicts - an ultimate wake up Call for the International Community?

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This current issue of *Clinical Social Work and Health Intervention* (CSW, 1-5) summarizes the three last issues focused on two devastating events.

1st – the two year pandemics of coronavirus infection originated from Hongkong 2003; via Abu Dhabi 2012; Busan 2017; Wuchan 2019 via Italy, France and large airports and sports/ cultural events to Central and Eastern Europe.

2nd – three war conflicts, two of them in Europe, or very close to the EU:

first in 2012-2020 in Yemen due to airstrikes and infrastructure bombing of Taizz, Sanaa and Hodeida;

second in Karabakh, Stepanakert Region by shelling from Azerbaijan;

third in Ukraine after bombing and still permanent shelling from Russian and Russia-satellite allies to Ukraine.

We have to face the part played by devastating infrastructure destruction of hospitals, schools, socio-economic and industrial damage to health and sanitary with consequences such as has been noted after an earthquake in Haiti and war in Rwanda and DRC. Currently, unfortunately, dealing with destroyed urban infrastructure in Mariupol and other towns, such as cholera outbreaks and Covid 19 resurgence results in massive a flow of refugees of war - a classic example of how socio-economic tragedy is followed by large health catastrophe. The EU is prepared for country rehabilitation including health-care and educational support. The ultimate condition however is the immediate stopping of armed activities especially bombing and shelling of the water supplies and sanitary infrastructure.

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Specificities in the Guidance of Refugees from Ukraine

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Abstract:

Between March and June 2022 a study was conducted with social workers working with refugees from Ukraine as a result of the war. The research involved 30 respondents aged 30-55 from family centers operating in Slovakia and Poland. For this research, qualitative research methodology was used. Standardized interviews were used as a tool for data collection. The results of the research have generated three main themes with further specified sub-areas of concern: what experience the staff of the family centers have in receiving refugees; the needs associated with the situation of receiving refugees since the

outbreak of the war; how the staff perceive guidance when working with refugees from Ukraine. Staff at the family centers reported several types of problems in relation to migration from Ukraine. Based on their answers, it can be concluded that the range of problems exceeds both the possibilities and competences of a single worker or guide. For systematic support, a multidisciplinary approach with the involvement of experts from different fields, e.g. social workers, psychologists, lawyers &/or clergy, is needed. An individual and flexible approach should be kept in mind, given that refugees may have different backgrounds, experiences and needs. It is not easy to ascertain the actual capacities of the assistance centers. Further similar investigations focusing on the actual practical impact could help to improve the effective assistance provided to refugees from Ukraine while simultaneously increasing its quality.

Introduction

This paper presents a summary of the results of the research conducted between March and June 2022. When working with refugees, reflective and empathetic understanding is essential, as well as creating a supportive climate for the client/each refugee and her or his family with regard to their individual needs. The worker's expression of appreciation, respect and acceptance of the client and his or her family, showing confidence in the client's ability to solve and cope with problems, is also important in this process (3). At the same time, it is important to help clients to at least try to see difficulties and suffering as integral elements of human life, without destructive factors. Each person is seen as unique and unrepeatable in the light of this process (5).

Methods

Design

Qualitative research methodology was used for the purpose of the present research. A qualitative approach is appropriate, for example, because of the following characteristics: interest in meaning (how people perceive the meaning of their lives and the structure of the world); the researcher is the instrument for data collection and analysis; fieldwork; of an exploratory and descriptive nature due to the interest in the process; meaning and understanding gained through words or pictures; inductive in that the researcher builds abstracts, concepts, hypotheses and theories from the words of the respondents (7,1). The

qualitative approach also has the advantage of allowing a deeper and more diverse study of complex topics involving many levels of feelings and experience (6).

Data collection and sample selection

The sample for this research was chosen by the purposive sampling method. This method of selection allows a wide range of methods to be used to locate all possible or specific cases or hard-to-reach groups of respondents (4,1). 30 respondents aged 30-55 years participated in the study. The prerequisites for entry into the research were completed university studies in social work and a minimum of five years' experience in the field. Respondents were recruited from family centers operating in Slovakia and Poland.

The data collection process in this research began by contacting potential research participants in person, through center directors, or via email or online applications. Once contact was established, the purpose of the research was presented. Subsequently, ethical issues of the research were discussed and the contacted participants were asked to participate in the research. The following meeting focused on the purpose of data collection. The primary means of collecting qualitative data is through research interviews. In this research, standardized interviews were used in order to establish a detailed picture of the research participants' opinions, perceptions or narratives about a certain topic. Each interview lasted 70 minutes.

The authors of the article formed a research team. First, they contacted the research participants and, after the interviews were conducted, recorded their transcripts as well as research notes. A joint discussion of the research findings was held in a plenary session, with the authors paying particular attention to unusual aspects, biases and assumptions (such as cultural and religious differences). The research reflects participants' particular experience.

Ethical matters

Careful attention to ethical matters should be paid when planning research. Social work research in particular is often an intrusion into the lives of respondents and it involves the sharing of personal information. Research participants should therefore be protected. A safe environment should be provided for participants during the research so that they can disclose their experience without fear. Their participation in the research must be voluntary. Their willingness to cooperate in the research should therefore be respected, as should their potential refusal. Their anonymity should also be preserved so that they cannot be identified (1).

Prior to conducting the research, participants were given in writing the option to withdraw from the research at any time. After receiving participants' written and signed consent to their voluntary participation, they were also provided with a data protection statement in line with GDPR and, to ensure their legal protection as well as the legal protection of the research, specialist consents were also sought from them along with their consent to the processing of their personal data. All these consents were also provided and signed by the research participants.

With the consent of research participants, interviews were recorded by the authors, then carefully transcribed and the recordings were erased in the presence of the interviewees in order to preserve their anonymity.

The aim of the research was to describe what the staff of the family centers experienced when receiving refugees and to identify what needs have been generated by the situation since the outbreak of the military conflict.

The research question focused on the achievement of the research objective was as fol-

lows: what are the experiences of the interviewees in working with refugees from Ukraine?

Results

Analysis

All respondents were given the same range of topics on which to comment. The analysis compared and examined data from the interview transcripts based on an eight-step strategy (2). It then looked at the individual themes that the interviewees addressed in the interviews.

Topic No. 1: The experiences of the family center staff regarding receiving refugees

Family center staff coming into contact with refugees from Ukraine identified several levels of problems that refugees have to face:

Mental health – psychological well-being or discomfort is affected not only by the reason for immigration itself connected to fears for one's safety and existence, but also by the material and non-material losses associated with emigration (social background, work, self-fulfillment, property...). The emotions that refugees have to face, primarily related to the flight itself, such as trauma, fear, sadness, but also secondary emotions arising from their new status, such as shame, dependency and distrust, have a major impact on their mental health. All of these create vulnerability and require the support of both volunteers and professionals.

"During this period of waiting, refugees say that they are often just placed somewhere and become dependent on the help of others..."

"...in addition to the trauma caused by the war and also by arriving on our territory, refugees also suffer from having to depend on others to survive."

Physical health – psychological discomfort is also a risk factor for physical health. Migrants who arrive with health problems require special care in this area.

Problems arising from migration itself – asylum application, waiting for asylum, temporary placement in institutions or families.

Adaptation issues:

Problems related to everyday life – logistics (transportation), language barrier, cultural differences.

"Refugees from Ukraine, based on their own words, commonly experience barriers related to transport, language, loss of their social networks, financial difficulties and limited access to their material and non-material resources."

Problems related to self-realization/their place in society – finding work, a school or nursery school for children. Job placement is also a specific problem in terms of finding work in a field relevant to the applicant's education and skills. Some immigrants experience a change in social status, economic and subsistence problems which can have a negative impact on family dynamics and partnerships.

Potential problems – discrimination and prejudice of the majority, bullying. In all these areas, it should not be forgotten that it is not only adults but also children who require special access and care.

Workers are also confronted with migrants' mistrust of the support system which is the result of long-standing insecurity towards the authorities and persistent fears for their safety and the safety of their families. Some of them do not even trust the interpreter assigned to them.

"Based on my experience, in the area of mental health support for refugees, they do not believe that such professional support, counseling or guidance will help them to cope with their difficulties, traumas or problems they face, nor are they willing to participate in counseling or guidance."

Topic No. 2: Needs related to receiving refugees since the outbreak of the war

According to their statements, the staff working in the family centers perceive and realize that the focus of services for the most vulnerable refugees coming from Ukraine oriented towards the fastest possible self-sufficiency is not fully developed and that refugees, in addition to the traumas caused by the war and also by arriving in other countries with an underdeveloped support system, suffer from the fact that they have to depend on others for important issues not only for their basic survival, but also for their future lives.

Therefore, they list the areas they say need to be addressed and where support needs to be provided to refugees in order to make their integration as smooth as possible:

the work permit process;
healthcare provision;
psychological support (also for children);
legal support;
spiritual support.

Topic No. 3: Staff perception of guidance when working with refugees from Ukraine

Respondents receiving and coming into contact with refugees from Ukraine have the space to use guidance, for example through a Rogerian or logo-therapeutic approach in their work. Based on their previous experience, the respondents identified certain needs of refugees that are important for the guidance process.

"They have lost hope, they lived through a situation that has completely changed their attitude to life and their values. They are looking for a new hope in life. They need to experience empathy and unconditional acceptance from a social or other support worker, and the associated feeling of knowing that there is someone who cares about them. Then it is possible for support workers to begin to build trust with the refugees as well in order to help them focus on a new meaning of life so that they can become more confident. In the meantime, their sense of meaning is given to them by other people, friends who surround them and whom they love very much. According to the testimonies of many of them, they can only survive when they have something to live for again, when they have the motivation to live for something again."

"The guidance that refugees need should be oriented towards unconditional acceptance and a deep empathic understanding, a rediscovery of the meaning of life. One can see here a certain link between the Rogerian approach and the logo-therapeutic approach."

According to respondents in the family centers, refugees need effective and flexible guides who are helpful in a variety of areas. Their demonstration of respect and regard for refugees, and their ability to see past cultural differences, is a basic prerequisite.

"Guides working with refugees from Ukraine should, in my opinion, be more oriented towards bringing religious and cultural aspects into the guidance process with clients."

Potentially, it would also be worth considering recruiting guides from among refugees who

have previously worked in the helping professions.

Discussion

Workers from family centers in Slovakia and Poland have identified a number of problems associated with migration from Ukraine. According to them, it is still unknown what other types of problems, including long-term ones with serious consequences, will arise in the process.

The above-mentioned problems show that their scale is beyond the possibilities and competences of a single worker or a guide. Systemic support requires a multidisciplinary approach in which experts from several professions should be represented: social workers, psychologists, lawyers, clergy.

As these people have very different backgrounds, experiences and needs, the approach should be individual and flexible. The question is what the real capacities of the different help centers are.

Conclusion

Refugees from Ukraine have experienced a lot of trauma, grief and loss of self-determination as a result of the conflict. They go through different changes and types of crisis situations that often do not allow for one-off solutions without complications or tensions.

In order to improve the provision of effective assistance to refugees from Ukraine, as well as to increase its quality, it is important to conduct further similar research with real impacts on the ground.

For example, important research in this area should also be conducted with guides and others who provide a variety of support to refugees from Ukraine: what their actual needs are; what difficulties they encounter in their work.

If the situation or circumstances change in the refugee crisis in Ukraine, it is advisable to repeat qualitative or quantitative research, or a combination of both: a small sample of respondents for qualitative research and a larger sample of respondents for quantitative research, which can map the currently identified problems, as well as the more specified needs in guidance in more depth and potentially identify new, effective solutions.

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Ethical Challenge of Discerning Refugees from Economic Migrants: Critical Observations and Conclusions Regarding Slovak Capital Facing Huge Tide of Ukrainian Citizens Nowadays (Case Study)

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Original Article

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Abstract:

Objective: The aim of our research was to determine the distinction between behavioral patterns of refugees versus economic migrants from Ukraine in order to confute widespread Slovak media image of all incoming Ukrainian citizens as severely suffering from war trauma and being at the edge of their financial or material survival.

Design: Case Study from the Capital of Slovakia.

Participants: Ukrainian citizens living in Bratislava who entered Slovakia at the beginning of the time of the Russian invasion until today.

Methods: Analytical evaluation based on a critical approach to media image confronted with real situations regarding refugees versus economic migrants from Ukraine was applied. To grasp the issue of behavior of incoming persons, firstly, naturalistic observation method has been used.

Results: Using sensitive and detailed observation the distinction between Ukrainian refugees and economic migrants can be drawn and should be applied on a common basis. This should be based on their behavioral patterns as seen in praxis.

Conclusion: Discerning refugees from economic migrants needs to be done in order to ensure fairness towards incoming persons and also locals. The distinction should be based on objective observation of behavioral patterns of all the incoming Ukrainian citizens and based on that decisions of competent institutions and preparation of relevant legislation should be made. It is inevitable to start to grasp the problem of unjust generalizing approach and also to stop antisocial behavior on the streets, in the city transport, at the shops, in the doctor's waiting room, etc. of incoming Ukrainian citizens, who do not show any signs of war trauma and are obviously economic migrants, moreover, inadaptable. Continuation of peaceful living of locals should be granted by Slovak government both in the form of issuing proper legislation and by immediate implementation of legislation into practice. The Slovak media image of the current situation concerning this matter needs to be straight reconsidered, revised and by these steps to prevent and protect the community from further damage and overall reduction in the quality of life of all the inhabitants of the capital.

Introduction

By this particular study we are building upon themes of our recent studies dedicated to issues of migration, refugees, xenophobia, but also to finding constructive solutions regarding acceptance of migrant children. All these studies have been published in edited books issued by Faculty of Pedagogy of University in Trnava and Faculty of Pedagogy of Matej Bel University in Banská Bystrica. This study is focused on ethical challenge stemming from media images of all Ukrainian citizens coming to Slovakia being generally labeled as war victims and refugees regardless of their real status.

Nowadays, there are approximately 25 millions of refugees worldwide. Until April 29, 2022 a total of 5,468,629 people from Ukraine have entered Poland, Romania, Moldova, Hungary,

Russia, Slovakia and Belarus starting from the date of Russian attacks. The majority, about 3,000,000 of them, ended up in Poland (Schengen Visa, 2022). Even before the beginning of the war Ukrainians formed the largest foreign ethnic group living in the capital of Slovakia. Today, this group has increased to significantly larger number, so that overall life quality in Bratislava concerning all the inhabitants is necessarily influenced by behavior of incoming Ukrainian citizens. More than 11,000 Ukrainian applications for temporary refuge in Bratislava have been managed by Foreign Police in Bratislava until the last quarter of March this year.

With due respect to suffering and trauma of Ukrainian refugees, we have to be critical and take into account that not all incoming Ukrainians to Bratislava these days are essentially

refugees. Many economic migrants take advantage of or misuse this war situation and therefore, they confirm exactly the same patterns of behavior that we have been able to detect in the past among the inhabitants of other European countries where there have been wars in recent times.

Methods

Analytical evaluation based on the critical approach by media images confronted with real situations regarding refugees versus economic migrants from Ukraine was applied. To grasp the issue of behavior of incoming persons, natural observation method has been used.

Observational research methods are usually used by scientists in humanities and social sciences. Basically, we can divide them into 3 groups (McLeod, 2015): controlled observations; natural observation; participant observations. We have chosen the natural observation method because of its approach of observing participants acting spontaneously in their natural surrounding and ability of this method to grasp the whole happening, whole situation with all its aspects and elements. Controlled observation wouldn't bring wished results or knowledge. On the other hand there are also some limitations of our chosen method, but none of those well-known and described are of any significance for our research.

The Results of Empirical Research

Slovak media images in the news are defined by such values as conflict, scandalousness and story (Roncakova, 2017). While COVID-19 narratives dominated all the Slovak media during last 2,5 years, starting with the end of this February, when Russian attacks on Ukraine started, media topical priorities changed drastically. COVID-19 issue suddenly got a minimum or no space in media, and was overallly supplemented by the topic of Ukraine and Russia. This created a strong cognitive and emotional impact on people, who are even more endangered with potential war than before with unpredictable virus. Although media spread panics joined with univocal labeling all incoming Ukrainians as war victims, hence refugees, led to change of topic, this also led to confirmation and continuation of a pattern of a non-critical approach of Slovak audience or readers.

According to well-known definitions, refugees are persons fleeing armed conflict or perse-

cution, that is, individuals or groups who's lives are directly endangered. On the other hand, migrants make their own decisions to move while their lives are safe and aspire to higher quality in working, educational, financial, material, family reunion or other areas (Edwards, 2016). Listening to dialogues and discussions of people at public areas in Bratislava (streets, different means of public transport, shops, etc.), we have realized that significant majority of them actually do not make any distinction between the terms of refugee and economic migrant.

We argue, that using sensitive and detailed observation, the distinction between behavioral patterns of Ukrainian refugees and economic migrants can be drawn and should be applied on a common basis. Based on our application of the natural observation method, we have come to the conclusion that regarding actual Ukrainian inhabitants of Bratislava three major groups could be defined:

- economic migrants of higher material and economical status already from Ukraine, who drive expensive cars, live in fancy hotels and enjoy consumerism on every level of their life in Bratislava;

- economic migrants of lower material and economical status who came to Bratislava in order to gain better employment and potentially to send earned money to their close ones in Ukraine to support them; refugees with trauma and loss of life meaning, basic living securities and close human interconnections given by their place of origin or genealogy.

Surely, there are some common features of all of the above mentioned groups. All of them possibly struggle with language barriers and culturally conditioned differences connected to their effort of integration into a new society. All of them have to solve the questions of provision of healthcare, continuation of educational process concerning themselves or their children, but in the same time also to fight possible xenophobia tendencies of locals. What radically distinguishes refugees from the previous groups that we rank as economic migrants, are primarily: their challenges to find a new home – house/flat, struggles for securing their livelihood starting from point zero; trying to survive with minimal expences on daily basis; face and try to overcome the psychical consequences of new and unknown life con-

ditions with undeniable background of war trauma.

Authentic refugees who suffer from home loss and perhaps also loss of their family members try, as much as they have some life energy left, to accommodate to new life circumstances, rely on own diligency and responsible work, honest money earning, while longing for their homeland, secondary both for safe place in new country and warm human acceptance.

Economic migrants of higher financial status from Ukraine do not have a need for safe place nor are seeking for acceptance; they often behave in disrespectful and superior manner; have to show off; they drive and park ruthlessly; they communicate noisy, aggressively or generally unculturally; have a need to verbally dishonor and insult employees in services.

Economic migrants of lower financial status from Ukraine often show a high grade of absence of basic hygienic habits towards themselves and community, shared areas, etc. They throw away their waste around themselves without any altruistic hygienic or aesthetic feelings. Their noisy and rude verbal and gestural expressions are significantly socially counterproductive. On the other hand, there are also many instances that show authentic willingness to contribute to life quality of Slovak society and these are precious and worth following the example both for other migrants and locals.

Discussion and Conclusion

Human dignity deserves respect and recognition regardless of social status, physical conditions or other aspects of a particular human and his/her life. The question of human dignity is even more significant in contexts that are the result of severe and unpredictable, uncontrollable life conditions that influence us and are determining our whole existence in body. Also, reciprocity of human interconnections was clearly described and expressed in many sacred texts or in particular their codexes of conduct that were written already in distant past and in diverse civilizations, cultures or emerging from manifold religious backgrounds (Zavis, 2017).

The protection of the refugees' rights and freedom in the context of protection of general human rights and freedom have been rooted in historical documents from years 1215, 1222,

1679, 1689, 1789, 1948, 2000 or 2007. Famous refugee conventions issued in the recent past (1951, 1967) confirm that the question of human rights, suffering and trauma connected to their forced change of place to live is not sufficiently answered and that human society with its tendencies for power, dominance and greed persistently cause new problems and endanger the basic stability of human lives. Ukrainian refugees who dominantly come to the capital of Slovakia are just *pars pro toto* in global sense.

Of course, that would be an enormous oversimplification of this issue if we would claim that all the authentic refugees behave unequivocally appropriately and in the line of acculturation, while all the economic migrants behave in inappropriate, asocial or in any aspect unacceptable manner. What we are trying to stress, is the matter of fact, that real life-threatening trauma of an individual or his/her closest people as the same as coping with its consequences, do cause personality changes to the extent that a person starts to behave meekly, humbly, submissively, tightly and without the slightest intention to draw attention to oneself due to inadaptability.

A person deeply marked by trauma usually does not simply have the space, the capacity for such behavior which causes public outrage or disorder (Horackova, Moravcova, Sevcovicova, Andrascikova, 2021). It is also well documented and known, that inner-directed negative moral emotions as shame, embarrassment or guilt lead people to ethical conduct (Tangney, Stuewig, Mashek, 2007).

Discerning refugees from economic migrants needs to be done in order to ensure fairness towards incoming persons and also locals. The distinction should be based on objective observation of behavioral patterns of all Ukrainian incoming citizens and based on decisions of competent institutions and preparation of relevant legislation should be made. It is inevitable to start to grasp the problem of unjust generalizing approach and also stop antisocial behavior on the streets, in the city transport, at the shops, in the doctor's waiting room, etc. of incoming Ukrainian citizens, who do not show any signs of war trauma and are obviously economic migrants, moreover, inadaptible. Continuation of peaceful living of locals should be granted by Slovak government both in form of issuing proper legislation and by

immediate implementation of legislation into practice. Slovak media images of the current situation concerning this matter needs to be straight reconsidered, revised and by these steps to prevent and protect the community from further damage and overall reduction in the quality of life of all the inhabitants of the capital.

Media images in this postliterate society are very powerful tools, and people, the users of different types of media, do not take into account this power that they are subjected to (Malik, 2021). We found that related to our topic of the absence of distinction between incoming refugees and economic migrants from Ukraine, one of the unwanted effects of this strong media influence on people, is formation of naive, uncritical solidarity in them. This solidarity is taken out of the real context. It is superficial, of predominantly emotional nature and resulting from crowd effect. During our discussions with certain people who had personal experience with war and life within its existential limitations, under its conditions, but also based on our own experiences with wars in former Yugoslavia, we have come to conclusion that none of those people showed the signs of above mentioned naivety and romanticizing approach. Therefore, we consider this finding to be well-grounded reason for making some adequate space in Slovak media for experience-based opinions to be presented, heard and discussed.

Regarding ethical background for creation of new, critical approach to given issue in form of revised media images we suggest implementation of principles of Habermas's *Discourse Ethics* (Bohunicka, 2002), as the same as Luhmann's Criticism of Media (Funes, 2021). Reconsideration of argument making and its usage in Slovak media are also strongly needed (Zouhar, 2022).

Declaration on Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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Awareness, Social Media, Ethnicity and Religion: are they Responsible for Vaccination Hesitancy? A Systematic Review with Annotated Bibliography

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Abstract:

Vaccination is not only a medical term rather it is framed under socio-cultural perspectives and debates as well. Human history is full of illnesses caused bacteria and viruses killing millions of people including children and adults. Technological development in the health sector enabled to combat pathogenic illnesses through different methods whereby vaccination is one of them. However, it is a dilemma that vaccination has faced many barriers including logistical but most importantly socio-cultural and religious. In 2019, WHO revealed vaccine hesitancy as a leading threat to health throughout the globe even in the top 10. This study looks to analyze peer reviewed literature to explore barriers to vaccination. Methodologically, this is desk research and systematic review. Numerous databases were searched with key words and purposively studies were

selected for this study. A total of 17 most relevant studies were sampled. Findings show that there are four major factors hindering vaccination. 1st cultural and ethnic background matters whereby religion and the belief system are predominant factors. 2nd awareness and educational variables are also there, for instance, it is noted that many people are not aware of vaccination process specifically in case of HPV vaccination. 3rd social media plays a pivotal role whereby misinformation internalizes negative attitudes and misperceptions about vaccines. 4th social media is a key dimension whereby disinformation and misinformation are communicated through platforms whereby some are intentionally circulated. It is suggested that culturally relativism perspective can be helpful in increasing vaccination percentages. It pertains to intervention through culturally approved methods, for example, sensitizing the ethnic backgrounds through their leadership. In addition, vaccination tracking, media campaigns, focus on school level education to include health related course can be helpful.

Introduction

Vaccination is one of the medical advancements of the 20th and 21st centuries which proved to be extremely effective in preventing deadly and disabling diseases including polio, measles, pneumonia (WHO, 2017) and most recently COVID-19 (WHO, 2021). In 2019, WHO revealed vaccine hesitancy as the leading threat to health throughout the globe (Wilson, Wiysonge, 2020). Most importantly, numerous social, cultural, and psychological dimensions of vaccination in this regard, are barriers (socio-cultural and psychological) are the most debatable aspect regarding vaccination. Throughout the globe it has been recorded that there are numerous negative perceptions, attitudes and propagandas related to vaccination. Religion, social media, and educational factors specifically are more notable factors. For example, Afghanistan and Pakistan are two key examples in the case of polio whereby due to the mentioned factors these countries are still not free of it, whereas the rest of world is free of polio (WHO, 2014).

So far, poor, developing and strictly religious regions are labelled for having poor levels of vaccination. However, MacDonald (2015) noted that there is vaccination hesitancy among parents in the United States. Majid and Ahmad (2020) assert that the discussion about barriers to vaccination is multifaceted. For example, very recently it has been noted that many parents reject vaccinating their children. In short, the major factors

to reject and hesitate to vaccination include lower literacy and education, rumors and misinformation (Closser, 2011; Shahnaz, 2015); lack of social mobilization (Cohen *et al.*, 2011); misperceptions of vaccine containing *haram* components which specifically prevails among Muslim populations (Khan, 2015).

Immunization programs are devised and guided by different agencies to promote the culture for vaccination. This leads to an important debate as there are two groups; 1st the vaccinators; and 2nd the non-vaccinators. The non-vaccinators are young adults as well as including parents who hesitate to not vaccinate their children. The Netherlands includes in list of countries where young adults and parents oppose vaccination. For example, Harmsen *et al.*, (2015) opines that the difference in response to vaccination is noted across ethnic backgrounds, for example, people from Morocco and Turkey. Hak *et al.*, (2004) found that among 283 parents as many as 31 (which constitutes 11%) had no intention to agree with new vaccination strategies. Borggreve, Timen (2015) cite about the measles outbreak in The Netherlands in 2013-14. It was evident that perception of parents that diseases like measles are any more was associated with not vaccinating their children leading to the epidemic. This study in this regard is desk research and systematic review based upon following the research questions:

What is the role of lack of awareness issues and lack of education in hindering vaccination?

How do social media and internet contents affect the attitude and perception of the public towards vaccination?

What are the reasons and how do ethnic and religious factors affects the vaccination?

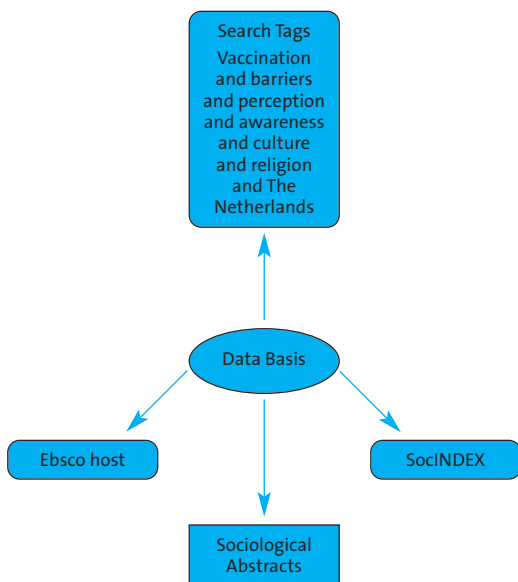
Methodology

This study is farmed as desk research. A systematic literature review methodology was adopted.

High-quality data bases were searched for identification of relevant studies. Data bases searched included PUBMED; Sociological Abstracts; WoS; SCOPUS; SocINDEX (Ebscohost).

SocINDEX (Ebscohost) for example produced 315 results. A searching approach was adopted whereby most relevant studies were sampled. Sociological Abstracts showed 644 results.

A total of 17 most relevant studies were sampled. The search was manual whereby the purpose was the select most relevant studies to the topic.



Results

Awareness and Education

Lee *et al.*, (2018) investigated about awareness; knowledge; social norms; vaccination intentions. It was found that among women awareness about HPV is very low and they even don't know about the disease and its potential

complications. Anderson (2014) researched about barriers to child immunization. One unique finding is mentioned as confusing schedules. In American society there are many migrants who don't have an adequate degree of education. Therefore, lack of education among migrants even in developed regions can be labeled as barrier to vaccination. To Anderson awareness and knowledge is also a barrier regarding healthcare workers. The indicators are inadequate training; procedural mistakes causing severe pain at the sight of injection; awareness of the importance of their role in vaccination.

Ethnic and Cultural Barriers

Waters *et al.*, (2012) asserts that Human papillomavirus (HPV) is a viral illness preventable through care and safety in relationships as well as through vaccination. However, there are barriers to its vaccination, for example, the perception among individuals in monogamous relationships. Monogamy is a cultural aspect or marital relationship pattern. Thus, the perception that in monogamous relationship there is less likelihood of catching Human papillomavirus (HPV) is barrier to vaccination.

Vielot *et al.*, (2020) noted that parental opposition is a significant barrier to vaccination for children in United States including vaccines of meningococcal conjugate, tetanus-diphtheria-acellular pertussis and others as well. Parental concerns included pain after the vaccination, as well as temporary side effects such as fever and rash. In addition, it was also evident that lack of religious and exposure to misinformation regarding sexual behaviors alteration due to vaccination were key barriers.

Harmsen *et al.*, (2015) is specific to The Netherlands where the study showed that anti-vaccinators often belong to specific ethnic backgrounds whereby culture is sort of determining factors to not opt for vaccinating their children. These ethnic backgrounds include parents from Morocco and Turkey.

Anderson (2014) asserts about religion as well. For example, among Muslim communities religion is a barrier to vaccination; as a matter of fact, that there are certain misperceptions specifically regarding polio vaccination containing Haram components.

Alies *et al.*, (2014) found that ethnicity and cultural background mattered a lot during the 2013-14 measles outbreak whereby the majority of culprits were parents who had not vaccinated their children. It was evident that in those children who were not vaccinated their parents were born outside The Netherlands which validates the argument that in certain ethnicities vaccination is not preferred.

Perception Related Barriers

There are some barriers that are not influenced by culture or religion but rather are independent in nature. For example, Zimmerman *et al.*, (2007) asserts that some parents believe that immunization (if too much) will affect their child's naturally growing immune system and this perception even prevails among highly educated communities. To Zimmerman and colleagues, there is also a misperception among parents that diseases which killed a lot of children are now disappearing and modern medicine can effectively deal with them as well. This leads to rejection of vaccination as well. The work of Borggreve, Timen (2015) is also important in this regard. In The Netherlands, for example, in the 2013-14 an outbreak of measles took place whereby parental perception that a disease, like measles, was associated with not vaccinating their children leading to the epidemic.

Social Media and Vaccination Hesitancy

Wilson, Wiysonge (2020) assert that social media sometimes is used as a highly organized platform to campaign against vaccination. The most important discussion cited from social media about vaccination is its safety, and people and parent's attitude and perception towards vaccination is influenced by it. MacDonald, Eskola, Liang (2015) are of the opinion that anti-vaccination messages are common on social media. This pattern is observed in the last decade specifically in developing region as well as Wilson and Wiysonge (2020) adds that the COVID-19 pandemic is one of the mostly debated aspects on social media whereby disinformation and misinformation spread in seconds throughout the globe every day. Wilson and Wiysonge label it as a long tail effect because the message spreads and on social media platforms there is a lack of check or control over it.

Conclusion

Vaccination is the 20th and 21st centuries medical advancement.

It is a medical and health related aspect; however, the most debated are its social, cultural and religious dimensions. Vaccination rejection is a common phenomenon as WHO in 2019 labeled it as one of the leading threats human health. This study framed under desk research and a systematic review approach investigated factors contributing to vaccine hesitation. It concluded that there are 4 major dimensions of rejection of vaccination. 1) cultural and ethnic background matters whereby religion and the belief system are predominant factors. 2) People who came from different regions into a particular locality are less careful about vaccinating their children. 3) Awareness and educational variables are also there, for instance, it is noted that many people are not aware of vaccination process specifically in the case of HPV vaccination. Even the medical staff sometimes are unaware of the situation and dealing with it effectively. 4) Social media plays a pivotal role whereby misinformation internalizes negative attitudes and misperceptions about vaccines. Perceptions that are not guided by culture and religion are also barriers to vaccination, for example, perceiving that some illnesses don't prevail now and so vaccinating is not that important as well as perceiving that immunization weakens the immune system.

Suggestions

Linguistic priorities must be considered and could be a good approach, for example, using local leadership of communities. It is evident that across the globe numerous ethnicities and people from other cultures reside in the same areas; therefore, there is need of effectiveness intervention through their own communities and awareness under cultural relativism perspective.

Vielot *et al.*, (2020) suggest a comprehensive intervention strategy, for example, school level intervention (making vaccination process part of education of children); advertisements and campaigns about vaccination; tracking systems providing convenience; reminder programs or in a nutshell social mobilization perspective for vaccination.

Brenner *et al.*, (2001) suggest that a personal physician can be helpful in the vaccination pro-

cess due to the fact that parents and people have more trust on a physician. If personal physicians are sensitized for talking regarding vaccination better results can be achieved.

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Low occurrence of Tuberculosis and HIV among Ukrainian Immigrants of War at the Border post in Uzhorod – Vysne Nemecke at point prevalence testing (note)

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Abstract:

Point prevalence studies bring us approximate situations in border emergency settings where longitudinal or comparative studies are not realistic from logistic safety points of view. The one day point prevalence study performed at most frequently used checkpoints between Ukraine (UA) and Slovakia (SK). No case of TB screened by the WHO recommended questionnaire, or HIV performed by rapid test has been noted on day 7 after the war was declared.

Introduction

All war conflicts in Europe and Middle East (E,ME) within recent years has been associated with migration a trans-border escape of refugees of war (Bosna 1995, Kosovo 2000, Iraq 2013, Syria 2014, Karabakh 2019, Ukraine 2022). Among Afro European migration within last 20 years from conflicts in Somalia, Eritrea, Congo, Sudan, to Italy, Malta and Greece, migrants are checked at entry in Italy, Malta, Greece for main 3 blood borne or airborne ID, such as HBV or/and HCV, HIV and TB, sometimes chronic malaria. The aim of this study is to assess the healthcare and public health risk of refugees of war entering the EU from UA, Belarus and RF within one pilot day on day 7 of war conflict.

Patients and Methods

On day 7 of the war was declared, we asked all entering people (all women and children, less than 5 per seniors, no male from 18-60 years of age due to military mobilization), from 12,556 people entering in one day: 1,225 stopped at the health post of Maltese Order; 255 asked for assistance; 42 were willing to fill out the WHO-adapted Tuberculosis questionnaire; 23 agreed with rapid testing (Abbott blood stripe HIV test).

Results and discussion

Surprisingly, none of the persons had neither positive HIV testing, nor even one positive answer to questions related to TB (anamnesis of positive cough for 2; unexpected wasting; lymphadenopathy; fever; or contact or household company with TB positive person). Similar results has been reported not only from refugees of war from Syria, Iraq or homeless. (1-4). The reason may be in dissimulation, since the fear of deportation in case anybody will put positive answer, or report health problems or anamnesis of HIV TB positive test in past (i), second, that tested population were health young mothers

with children, where especially in children TB and HIV is still rare, and (ii), third, that patents with active HIV and or TB would not survive 2-5 days travel and 16 hours lining up and waiting for border and passport check. Therefore the results have only limited value.

Conclusions

Despite zero occurrence of HIV and TB in war migrants (women and children) passing the checkpoint of the intervention team at Uzhorod - Vysne Nemecke from U to EU, repeated point prevalence studies are warranted, including at least one day massive testing for all entries to the EU. Feedback from OPD doctors and primary care nurses of those who stayed and seeking for continuous ambulatory healthcare may be helpful; how point prevalence testing studies when correlated with the future health development will correlate or not.

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Weakness Period in Food Assistance as Part of Social Work for Ukrainian Migrants of War Conflicts

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Abstract:

Food supplies are leading priorities during reception and first contact with all refugees of war. The aim of the study was to longitudinally document the clients flow in a food and clothing center at SEUC in Bratislava, serving clients sent from various checkpoints between Ukraine, Slovakia and Poland.

Introduction

Food is a major necessity together with water supply and sanitary equipment needed during any refugee crisis. During our previous experience at the Czech, Slovakia, Hungarian border from 2014-2021 is signaling the importance for prevention of malnutrition and waterborne infectious disease outbreaks.

Hewrewe documents the decreasing interest from the EU for this service for migrants after over 3 million refugees entered due to armed conflict from RU to UA.

Methods

The number of visits to a nutrition center eating in the main building service for war migrants in Bratislava, Skalica, Michalovce, Pribram, Program, Kosice, Rimavska Sobota, Michalovce and other sites of assistance for food, water and basic medication increased between February, 2022 to April, 2022.

Results, and discussion

Within the first days of conflicts the number of day visits within first week at the food center varied between 200 to 299 per day, in March, an increased to 350 in April. After the end of April, the number of clients of social work decreased to 150 to 200 per day. The largest interest apart from food was in hygienic items, children and toddlers pampers and other women and child hygiene.

Clothing was in the 3rd place with shoe items after Easter due to climate change.

Conclusion

In conclusion, reduction of humanitarian activity has been noted in month 2 to 3 due to burnout syndrome and decreasing supplies from the public for the refugees. However, state assistance increased giving more resources for social health and food services to victims of war, mainly children and women.

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Social Work and Health Intervention in the Karabakh Region of Armenia during the War in 2019

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Abstract:

War conflict between two of three Caucasian Republics, in and to Upper Karabakh as a part interest of at least two countries, acquired during the civil war years ago, has led to substantial numbers of refugees and migrants from Karabakh to Armenia. The spectrum of acute humanitarian help is analyzed.

Introduction

A Social Center assisting refugees from eastern Karabakh to the capital city of Stepanakert started within the first week of the war conflict in 2019 and led to a substantial shortage of housing, medication and food. War conflict between two of three Caucasian Republics, in and to Upper Karabakh as a part an interest of at least two countries, acquired during the civil war years ago, has led to substantial numbers of refugees and migrants from Karabakh to Armenia. The spectrum of acute humanitarian help is analyzed.

Methods

List of items is reported imported or purchased in Armenia within first trimester of war to a Social Center of St. Elizabeth University and Mirek and Marketa Foundation in Pardubice Czech Republic, with personal assistance of two social workers on site, augmented with vehicle/ambulance and local staff.

Results

Item imported in the first period are in table 1, and may be used for similar intervention as early approach

Table 1

1st Priority

1. Housing/purchasing hotels for 1-3 days, priority families with small children
2. basic food and water

2nd Priority

1. Transport to refugee migrant UNHCR camps
2. Medications for acute diseases onsite
3. Prevention of diarrhoeal diseases
4. Management of wounds and armed conflict related diseases

3rd Priority

1. Anti covid therapy-medication, oxygen devices, pneumonia antimicrobials
2. Transport out of country to Armenia
3. Setting up a Social Center in Armenia, supplied from Czech Republic and Slovakia and other EU

Conclusions

Acute humanitarian help in day 1 to 7 is mandatory to maintain acceptable nourishment, medication and housing until large NGOs will issue a wake up call and start to help the refugees and migrants and build refugee camps and centers. Small NGOs, are essential for the early warning system, and acute early help with major social work and health intervention, including: prevention of waterborne outbreaks; malnutrition, deadly in diabetic patients; homelessness related pneumonia; to avoid camping related diseases especially in winter to vulnerable groups such as children; chronically sick with cancer, diabetes, TBC; homelessness due to war conflict until concerted qualified and organized international health due to armed forces (peace keeping troops) UNHCR and Unicef can be organized and sent to the area.

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Destruction of Socio-economic, Educational and Health Infrastructure including Pipelines may lead to Cholera Outbreaks in Mariupol and other Damaged Towns in Ukraine

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Abstract:

Cholera always accompanies huge displacements due to war conflicts and natural anthropogenic disasters such as volcanic eruptions, earthquakes, tsunamis, etc. The aim of this review is to assess the risk of cholera outbreaks and other waterborne public health related threats due to disrupted water pipelines and supplies due to armed conflicts in Ukraine last spring/summer.

Introduction

Disruption of water supplies due to bombing or war conflict activities or due to earthquake is commonly followed by waterborne outbreaks, e.g. cholera norovirus or Salmonella/Shigella in tropics and Campylobacter in subtropics.

Here we submit an early warning system to react quickly to cholera outbreak and other waterborne infections following armed conflicts.

Past conflicts versus waterborne outbreaks

We will omit potential use of cholera, anthrax, polio as potential biological weapons, as they currently cannot be used due to availability of vaccines and treatment available for all UN or NATO troops present in conflict areas, which led to zero outbreaks in 3 last large wars in Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria.

Table 1 shows natural disasters, armed conflicts worldwide and association with waterborne.

Fortunately, war in Bosna and Kosovo, 1995, 2000 were associated only with a small Hepatitis outbreak, however a Volcano eruption in DRC/Rwanda 1988-1992 after armed genocide in Rwanda, and a Post Earthquake in Haiti followed by civil unrests caused the largest cholera outbreak. The last huge cholera outbreak was noted in Yemen 2 years ago, 2019-2020. Threat of cholera after water supply to Mariupol and Severodonetsk Ukrainian cities area be a real threat which may affect not only civilians but also act vice versa as a natural biological weapon against occupation forces, diseases. However, we have examples in countries with good health infrastructure, highly vaccinated proportion of mi-

Table 1 Examples of waterborne outbreaks within the last 40 years

Country	Type of disaster	Type of outbreak source	Year
Bosna/Herzegovina war	Hepatitis A	well surface water	1992-1996
Rwanda (DR Congo war, volcano)	Cholera	lake Kiwou	1988, 1990, 1996
Afghanistan war	Campylobacter (sporadic)	wells	2010
Iraq, Syria war	none	none	2012-2018
Yemen war	Cholera	pipeline destruction	2016-2020
Karabakh war	none	none	2019
Kosovo war	none	none	2020
Sudan war	none	none	1970-2005
Haiti earthquake (unrests)	Cholera	UN troops, river	2012-2015
Somalia tribal conflicts	Salmonella/Shigella/Cholera		1990-2020

grants and access of WHO or UNHCR into conflict areas, where no epidemics has been noted (Kosovo, Karabakh, Syria, Iraq, 2014-2019).

Paradoxically, cholera has been imported into Haiti by UN troupes from Nepal, mis-constructing toilets next to the sources of Artibonite Rivers. However, this was an exception, and all other 10 outbreaks has been directly related by bombing, shelling and other armed activities and was affecting civil population.(1-5)

Conclusions

Fortunately, many war conflicts were not related with infectious diseases outbreaks, because they were either short, e.g. Karabakh, Kosovo, Rwanda, I); or in health infrastructure stable countries (Kosovo, Bosna, Karabakh, I); or educated and vaccinated population migrating into areas with health infrastructure (iii) e.g. Turkey, Greece, Italy (from North Africa, Iraq and Syria). However, in places with mass destruction of civilian infrastructure such as housing, pipelines, wells etc., outbreaks of cholera hepatitis A, norovirus, Salmonella/Shigella/Campylobacter may have devastating effect to remaining civilians such as to occupational armies.

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Homeless Young People – Relationships and Risks of living on the Street

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Abstract:

This article brings information about homeless young people as an alternative way of life from the point of view of their daily survival on the street. The aim of the paper is to present the results of qualitative research associated with the phenomenon of homeless young people and to understand their life on the streets in terms of creating some relationships, namely solidarity, a functioning group as a family and its mutual help or variability, and obstacles to changing this lifestyle. It also in-

forms about the risks posed by the majority society, city police, robbery, including the search for the meaning of the day. It is important, but also in the interest of society as a whole, to provide qualified social help to this target social group and reduce the number of young people on the streets and successfully reintegrate them back into the majority society.

Introduction

This article is devoted to the issue of homeless young people whose number has been constantly increasing recently. It is possible to look at this phenomenon from many points of view, but the real loss of home and the need to sleep in uncertain and unsuitable conditions is dangerous, degrading and undignified for the human-minded individual, whether they are the elderly, women with children, members of minorities or just young people. These people are typical of their way of life. It is often a complex social failure, inability to participate in the quality of life, disrespectful of the requirements of society which sets them aside to the very edge of the majority society (Pavelkova 2014).

Homeless young people represent a specific target group that requires a different approach (Vagnerova, Csemy, Marek 2013). It is found that younger homeless people spend less time on the streets, but on the other hand they have a higher level of stress which is based on a number of challenges: gaining independence; studying; getting employed; creating partnerships (Tomset, Fowler, Torro 2009). The reason may also be leaving home due to disagreements with the family or it may be children with impaired mental health (Skodova 2021). They can also be young people belonging to different subcultures who have chosen being on the street as their own alternative path of life. There are many real reasons, but returning to society for these people may not always be easy (Pavelkova, Schavel, Skodova 2022).

Research methodology

The research aims to find out the key moments in the lives of homeless young people and why they got on the streets and what preceded it. The method of qualitative research was choosing which is enable a deeper insight into the issues addressed. The collection information technique was semi-structured interviews with five homeless young people who use social services and

were clients of the Elim day center in Vsetin (Elim 2020). The obtained data were analyzed by coding (the interview was recorded with the consent of the participants, then a literal transcription was created, which was processed by coding, age category up to 30 years). The codes below were generated based on the encoding of the interview transcripts.

Research questions and objectives

In this research, we aimed to thoroughly get to know and bring closer the lives of homeless young people which can contribute to a new perspective on working with a given target social group and gain a deeper understanding of this phenomenon (Skodova 2021). It was about the lives of young people on the streets, namely: relationships (solidarity, group as a family, mutual help, changes and barriers to lifestyle changes, etc.) risks of life on the street (Municipal police, robbery, etc.); the course of the day on the street (trying to forget about the current social situation, finding the meaning of the day). These questions provided answers to the identified research questions:

1. Where are you usually used to sleeping?
2. How do you evaluate relationships with other people on the street?
3. How does your day usually go?
4. What do you consider to be the biggest risks of living on the streets?

Data processing

Life on the street

From life on the street, we were interested in research questions about relationships, risks associated with life on the street and the usual course of the day (adjusted according to Skodova 2021).

Relationships

M. has both positive and negative experiences with people on the street: "*There are people and people. There are people who will cough*

on you, and there are people who will help you. They give you bad food."

L. perceives others on the street as her "children". She needs to take care of them for example, she goes to the day center to cook for others who are currently sleeping together in a squat. She is trying to make solidarity between them and to share things: *"Mostly I try to teach them one thing, that what I give to everyone, when someone has wine, let them give it to everyone, and it's not even about the wine or the cigarettes, but we have to have always shared."* Lucia holds a certain role as a mother. At the squat, she always tries to ensure that there is enough food and water. According to her, relationships on the street can sometimes be selfish, but otherwise they evaluate them as idyllic: *"As it happens that we're mean to each other or something, each of them has a fly, and I don't say that no and sometimes they fight but they go again, they shake hands, they hug and like this. I would not even she did not solve; rather we have a terribly beautiful relationship with each other on the street. Everyone."*

For L. and A. the group is like their family. *"I actually have a family here, the boys on the street. Because they held me when I just ended up on the street and this, they always held me and helped me. Even though they helped me down, they also helped me up (laughs). How, one just knows that he is not alone, it is fine that he will find friends and it is great."* What is important for her is that as a party they stick together and provide mutual help: *"I didn't see it, for example, that somewhere else in the republic it happened that when someone was sick, that the group just agreed and took turns and went to look at the man and help him. In fact, I didn't experience it anywhere else but here at Vsetin."* Even though she currently lives with a friend, the group is still important to her, she is in contact with the people from the party, and if she does not have a relationship with a friend, she plans to return to it. *"Actually, we still stick together like this, and I believe that if it happened now that I would break up with a friend and end up on the street again, I know I always have a place to go, so at least."*

P. perceives the variability in relations on the street are mainly caused by the abuse of alcohol: *"So sometimes they are friendly and sometimes even, simply insane. It is just, depending on how*

well they have drunk."

T. has many negative experiences. He has been robbed on the street several times, losing his documents and feeling that other people from the street are "knocking" him down, preventing him from changing as he tries to resolve his situation.

The risks

The Municipal Police are identified as one of the risks associated with life on the streets. L. has several negative experiences with the Municipal Police. *"The police came, they kicked me out of the waiting room, I didn't even have a drink, nothing that I, as a homeless person, have no right to wait there at all, or to smoke or not at all ... And you don't explain like what like ... I don't know, you won't explain. That you do nothing, that nothing is so bad."* She has experienced several more incidents with the Municipal Police; according to her, she describes unnecessary fines as well as aggression by the police. Several times, they were allegedly physically assaulted by members of the Municipal Police and claim that the police have taken away their documents: *"I'm not the only one who's an ID card taken like this. When my ex-boyfriend was still out, they took his ID again and didn't return it to him, so he got fines of three hundred Czech crowns in the office."*

A. also describes the strained relations with the Municipal Police: *"So you are afraid of something every day. Therefore, the biggest risk ... I do not know. So here in Vsetin, especially the cops. Because when you slept somewhere or it smelled like that, they were able to throw us tear gas in a squat or something."* According to her, unjustified fines also hinder the approach of the Municipal Police: *"We have been fined so many times, unnecessarily, for no reason. We did not even drink alcohol or anything, but they just kicked us out ... and the boys certainly have problems to this day. There are a few people who are something and we were actually nothing for them."* According to her, the members of the Municipal Police are exalted above them which in turn has an impact on its self-assessment: *"For example, the police, the Municipal Police and the fact that they make you the biggest dirt and this hell."*

T. considers the biggest risk to be a possible robbery: *"That you rob people when they can."* At the same time, however, as he has several years of martial arts, he claims that this is the

only thing that can happen to him: "Yeah, yeah, I've been playing sports since I was a kid. Well, I just had the confidence that no one would hurt me like that. Even if they robbed me, that's probably all they could do."

The course of the day

In the case of A., when spending the day is also an attempt to forget: "So, I got up in the morning and went for wine, for example, to spend another day. There was always something to find to spend the day. And you don't think about it." Alcohol often helped to fill the day, thanks to which time passed faster. It was also important to try to find the meaning of the day: "And actually, if you drank for a while like ... as if you were running faster. Just really, kill that time somehow. That was the worst. It did not work out a few times or anything ... just. When you go from nothing to nothing ... that, you are just looking for the meaning of the day. It's just not possible to sit in one place and so, you can't solve that."

P. says: "I get up in the morning, wake up in the morning, light a cigarette, jump to the toilet, and ... go to the street or here to town. Otherwise, just like that. Various ways every day." It is similar with the daily routine with T. He fills the day by dealing with personal matters, such as processing documents, or trying to help others: "When I went to a brigade, it was a brigade, but otherwise my day is now not really ... I just deal with my personal things and help my friends around me as much as possible. Somebody lives worse than me."

The content of the day in young homeless people usually does not have a specific structure. This can lead to the loss of any daily routine which can later prove to be a problem, for example, when attending work. P. himself considers the loss of the daily routine to be one of the problems of his further reintegration to society. In some cases, the content of the day can also form by the social services themselves (Skodova 2021).

Discussion

This paper dealt with the issue of homeless young people in the town of Vsetin. The aim of the work was to find out more about the key moments that led to the social decline of young people and about the obstacles that can prevent rein-

tegration into society. We compare the results of the research with several other authors who deal with this issue both in the Czech Republic and abroad.

Solidarity, mutual help but also instability is sometimes an obstacle to changing the situation to characterize the relationships that young people have on the street with each other. In some cases, the group is a substitute for the family. Snow and Anderson (1993) also write about the variability of relationships with which we identify describe them as superficial and unstable, albeit easily follow-up.

According to research by Vagnerova, Csemy and Marek (2013), despite the fact, that group cohesion and friendship are very important for young people although in some cases it may be more a matter of making life easier on the streets, relationships with other homeless people are rather negatively assessed especially by women. In our research, on the other hand, female participants attach great importance and a significantly positive aspect to their relationships on the street. The difference may be caused by the town itself when there is a higher incidence of homeless people in Prague in the large capital, and it is easier to make new contacts, but also a greater risk of dirty tricks, etc. In a smaller town, homeless people forced to live more in the community, before their actions, they would not be anonymously lost in the hustle and bustle of the city.

The biggest risk associated with street life for young people was robbery; fear of not having to wake up in the morning; inter-relations with the Municipal police. Vagnerova, Csemy and Marek (2013) also confirm robbery, as a negative aspect of life on the street, when young homeless people often fall victim to various crimes. According to Stechova, Luptakova and Kopoldova (2009), the police's relations with the homeless are probably tense and often sharpened, based on experience from abroad. Our research confirmed this view when the Municipal Police posed one of the risks of street life for homeless young people. The authors of a foreign study conducted on this topic in Regensburg summarize (Jacobi *et al.*, 2003 in Stechova, Luptakova, Kopoldova 2009) that one of the problems in the relationship was the mutual ignorance of individual groups about the work and duties of the Municipal Police by the homeless and conversely, ignorance of the causes

and other aspects of homelessness from the point of view of the police. In the case of homelessness, the longer a person is on the street, the more they integrate into a homeless lifestyle, and subsequent reintegration becomes more challenging. It is therefore important to motivate homeless people to change the situation as soon as possible and actively seek out this social group within field social services.

Conclusion

This article deals with the issue of young homeless people. Having a home, a place to rest, a functioning family, peaceful relationships and friends is one of the basic things one needs for one's life. One needs to fill aspects of life which fulfill the personal area, both work, economic, but also health. The Czech Republic does not pay due attention to this issue of homeless young people. With the help of qualitative research we tried to bring closer the knowledge about this phenomenon which has a growing tendency and represents a serious social problem. The aim of the work was to analyze the issue of young homeless people in the Vsetin (clients of the day center for homeless people Elim, aged 18-30 years) and find out how their daily life on the street actually takes place from the point of view of relationships (solidarity, group as a family, mutual help, changes and barriers to lifestyle changes, etc.), the risks of life on the street (the Municipal Police, robbery, etc.) and the course of the day on the street (trying to forget about the current social situation, finding the meaning of the day). Attention was paid to the relationship issues of homeless young people, including the risks associated with the lifestyle of this subculture on the street. It is necessary to realize how important the motivation for change and vision for the future for this social group is, change in their philosophy of thinking and if there could be any possible return to the family environment. According to Skodova (2021) to focus on caring for the mental health of young people and the involvement of a psychologist or psychiatrist in the process of reintegrating a homeless young person back into the majority society, including quality screening activities within the field of social services and active resolution of the current situation

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The Role of Media in Humanitarian Interventions and Relief Campaigns on the Example of Slovak non-profits Response to the Conflict in Ethiopia

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Abstract:

Despite promising democratization reforms in 2018 and awards from abroad in 2019, in November 2020, Ethiopia (Africa's second most populous country) once again fell into the abyss of authoritarianism culminating in ethnically-driven violence and subsequent humanitarian disaster the Tigray Region in the north of the country. In this paper, the Slovak intervention by members of *Ambrela – Platform for Development Organizations* with its relief campaign *Together for Ethiopia* (March–April 2021) is analyzed. It also focuses on the role of media coverage in aid intervention and its impact on donors behavior.

Introduction

The conflict between the Ethiopian federal government and the regional Tigrayan government from November 2020 continues to this day and not only people living in Tigray region pay for it. As a result of the fighting, people in fear for their lives are forced to flee their homes, often without access to food, drinking water, medicine or safe haven that would protect them from further violence. (Zahorik, 2021, Lowcock, 2021) According to UN estimates from the beginning of 2021, 5 million people in the region were in need of assistance (Gerth-Niculescu, 2021), which can be compared the population of the whole of Slovakia. Slovak non-profits, together with the Ambrela platform, through their local partners directly in Tigray, closely monitored the deteriorating situation.

In March 2021, 5 Slovak aid organizations established the 'Together for Ethiopia' initiative and launched a fundraising campaign in response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in the northern Ethiopian region of Tigray. With the support of Slovak donors, they wanted to provide the local population with drinking water, food, shelter, medicine and other necessities in the first phase, and psychosocial and post-traumatic support for the victims of the crisis in the next phase. This paper focuses on a joint communication as well as a fundraising strategy in an analyzed relief campaign.

Methodology and research participants

The aim of this paper is to identify activities of Slovak organizations alleviating the humanitarian crisis in Tigray region and to analyze an impact of a fundraising campaign *Together for Ethiopia* with its media coverage on their relief activities. Qualitative research methods (content analysis of project documents, non-profits websites, media outputs and following structured interviews with project managers from particular aid nonprofits) have been chosen for validation.

The *Together for Ethiopia* campaign was an initiative of 5 Slovak aid organizations: eRko – Good News (Dobra novina), Mary's Meals Slovakia, Integra Foundation, SAVIO, Caritas Slovakia with the support of the *Platform for Development Organizations – Ambrela*. All of these or-

ganizations have long been involved in development activities in sub-Saharan Africa. (Together for Ethiopia, 2021) “*We prepared the whole campaign in about 5 weeks, when we had to play together as organizations, to develop and fine-tune joint communication and to make the campaign technically sound (the way of contributing, launching the website). It was a very labor-intensive period, but we were able to tune in to one wave and focus on a common goal. We also cared a lot about the involvement of the MFEA Slovakia,*” said the Team of Good News (Dobra novina) under the leadership of eRko.

As part of the joint challenge, the local partners – the Congregation of the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent (Daughters of Charity Tigray Region), which has long been cooperating with eRko and Mary's Meals; the Charity Tearfund as a project partner of the Integra Foundation directly in Tigray; and the Volontariato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo (VIS) as a direct partner of SAVIO – were to provide specific assistance to people in need directly at the scene of the crisis. Thanks to these local partnerships, the joint initiative was able to provide effective and targeted assistance directly in the conflict area, namely in Mekelle – the capital of the Tigray Region and its wider surroundings.

The Ambrela platform represents the interests of 29 Slovak non-profits working in the field of humanitarian aid, development cooperation or global education. (Ambrela, 2021) It supported the campaign by communication (support on the web and social networks), media production (press releases, journalistic speeches and public discussion's organization) and also through advocacy and partnership creation (at the level of the MFEA Slovakia and Slovak Agency for International Development Cooperation – SAIDC). Ambrela's online discussion entitled 'How Slovakia can help the Ethiopian people during the war in the Tigray Region' from April 2021 addressed the topic of urgent humanitarian aid to the people affected by the war in the Tigray region. The discussion was viewed by 8,100,000 people, which is important not only for advocacy, support of donation behavior of the Slovak population, but also for global education, public awareness and motivation for solidarity with the needy in the countries of the Global South.

Results

In the event of disasters, the media play an important role in both launching and accelerating humanitarian interventions and public collections to support them. Media coverage awakens the general public's interest in the subject, sympathy for the people affected and the need to help. The research team of Brown and Minty (2006) listed 5 phenomena that can promote generosity and increase the level of donor behavior in the population. **1)** the timing, when the crisis takes place during the celebration of important holidays, emphasizing compassion and solidarity associated with donating a financial contribution to a charity or a material gift to the needy. In the case of Together for Ethiopia initiative, it was a Christian holiday of Easter. (Markovic Baluchova, 2022) **2)** geographical proximity, when tourists, international volunteers, or donors from adoption program are familiar with the area in question and publicly share their memories of the area visited and their concerns. **3)** tax incentives, where donors can claim tax reliefs when reporting a contribution to a charity campaign, a public fundraiser. **4)** technological facilitation of donation, where a non-profit visibly places a direct donation button or a quick link to make a financial contribution on a well-known website. **5)** 'buy-in' donation model, coupled with a 'commitment' model influenced by both the media and one's friends, where individuals feel led or even compelled to help because their friends or colleagues have already contributed and have boasted about their donation on social media, for example. Today, this model would be modified or rather enriched by a contribution to the topic or direct support of the donation from national influencers and influencers on social media. The Together for Ethiopia initiative has been supported in this way by male and female artists (a singer Janais, a comedian Fero Joke). (Markovic Baluchova, 2022).

In 2016, non-profit workers participating in the qualitative research (Baluchova, Kozusnikova, 2016) agreed with the assertion that the media coverage of the humanitarian crisis directly influences the behavior of the reading community resulting in a willingness to donate to help the victims of a given disaster. Therefore, charities do not underestimate the work and cooperation with the media (quite the contrary) as

news coverage and media work raise public awareness of the situation and the need of emergency in the disaster-affected country, as well as of the activities of the humanitarian organizations in the field. At the same time, media motivates audiences to take action and donate in an effort to save lives and contribute to the restoration of the country. The media, and consequently the public receiving the media content, then put pressure on their particular governments and organizations to act and provide assistance to the victims in the affected country. (Oosterhof *et al.*, 2009) "*Given the interconnectedness of Slovakia and Ethiopia, we wanted to bring information about the events in Tigray to our media which we did, but to a lesser extent than we would have liked,*" said the team of Good News (Dobra novina). The Integra Foundation team speaks literally of "*the struggle with the interest of the Slovak media in such a serious topic.*"

The implementation team of the initiative and the entire Together for Ethiopia campaign has, also thanks to Ambrela's support and advocacy work, attempted to implement a 'matching gift' or 'matching fund' instrument whereby a donor (e.g. a foundation) makes a donation of a certain amount to a specific organization based on the provision that another donor (e.g. a member of the public) will first donate that amount to that organization as part of a fundraising campaign. (Philanthropy works, 2021). Research on the phenomenon of donation and the example of the online giving portal Big Give from 2015 showed that more people (including 84% of the research respondents) tend to contribute to charity, and actually contribute more if they know that their donation will be valued and equally matched by a financial amount from another foundation or larger donor. The analyzed literature also indicated an increase in total campaign income of between 51% and 120% when matching, i.e. the aforementioned matching fund, was offered. (Philanthropy Impact, 2017)

The MFEA Slovakia provided a financial contribution of EUR 20,000 to the campaign. "*Despite the efforts of non-profits and the pre-communicated idea of joining forces, the matching fund instrument was not applied in its usual form. It was not possible to agree on a key of how the MFEA Slovakia would 'match' the proceeds of the public collection, nor on a greater involve-*

ment on the communication level. The opportunity to create more leverage was thus missed,” says Daniel Kaba, Ambrella’s Executive Secretary. As the full matching of the public contributions collected by the MFEA Slovakia did not happen in a way the campaign team had hoped, the campaign organizations themselves (through their own annual collections tied to the Christmas and Easter period) took finally the care of the increase in the entire amount. On the campaign’s website, it can be found that the joint collection was held at the end of 2021 and Slovakia finally supported the people affected by the war in Tigray with the total amount of EUR 96,448. (Together for Ethiopia, 2021)

All the participating organizations rate the cooperation on the awareness and fundraising campaign Together for Ethiopia positively. “Without this joint initiative, we probably would not have sent a hundred thousand euros to Ethiopia. We evaluate it positively overall, even though it has cost us all a lot of (volunteering) work, effort and time. After a long start of the campaign, the external presentation, PR and public acceptance of the campaign were very favorable. It turned out that people register and sensitively perceive even after the joint collection is over,” said the team of the Integra Foundation. “It was a unique opportunity to cooperate with other Slovak organizations. We enriched each other’s perspectives and proposals for solutions, we complemented each other’s work all the time, and our joint efforts translated into almost a hundred thousand euros for the people affected by the war in Tigray,” the Good News (Dobra novina) team confirms the importance of the cooperation. “In the future, both participating organizations and the Ambrella team plan to push for the incorporation of the ‘matching fund’ instrument into the cooperation with the MFEA Slovakia. This is a suitable incentive and a visible motivator for more stakeholders in the campaign, while multiplying the amount raised will help the targeted vulnerable community many times over,” says Daniel Kaba, Executive Secretary of Ambrella.

Conclusion

The dialogue requested by the international community is not very realistic in the current situation. Both sides (the Ethiopian Federal Government and the Tigrayan troops) enclose them-

selves in bubbles of propaganda and accuse each other of human rights violations and war crimes. According to reports by non-profits and the Ethiopian Human Rights Commission, suffering is inflicted on civilians and civilian women by all parties to the conflict. The fighting has destroyed crops in Tigray, people have nothing to eat and the flow of humanitarian aid is still limited. According to the UN, no humanitarian supplies have arrived in Tigray through the Semera-Abala-Mekelle corridor since mid-December 2021. (UN OCHA, 2021) It could end in the collapse and disintegration of Africa’s second most populous country, which would be a huge crisis for the entire continent. (Kacmar, 2021)

The Slovak organizations and involved Ambrella members will continue to fundraise for humanitarian aid to be delivered by their local partners to vulnerable groups directly in Ethiopia. The target group will include not only people in the blockaded Tigray region, but also internally displaced people in neighboring Ethiopian Regions and refugees in Sudan. The Together for Ethiopia initiative has shown that despite the challenging pandemic situation at home, Slovak donors are able to show solidarity, respond positively to the appeal of the civil sector and help the needy in (under-reported by the media, but worsening day by the day) humanitarian crisis.

One of the recommendations when using the matching fund instrument is to ask the donor for co-financing in the right and timely way – in a comprehensive and innovative way that will also be sufficiently presented to the public, thus raising the visibility of the work and assistance of the donors involved. Once an agreement on matching funding has been reached, the way in which the matching fund is communicated to donors on the campaign website, social media and in the media is then crucial and can really affect the course and outcome of the campaign. (Cody, 2021)

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