

# Is the new Maidan about to happen?

## Results of the protests, repressions and concessions monitoring in August 2014

Prepared by Centre for Social and Labor Research  
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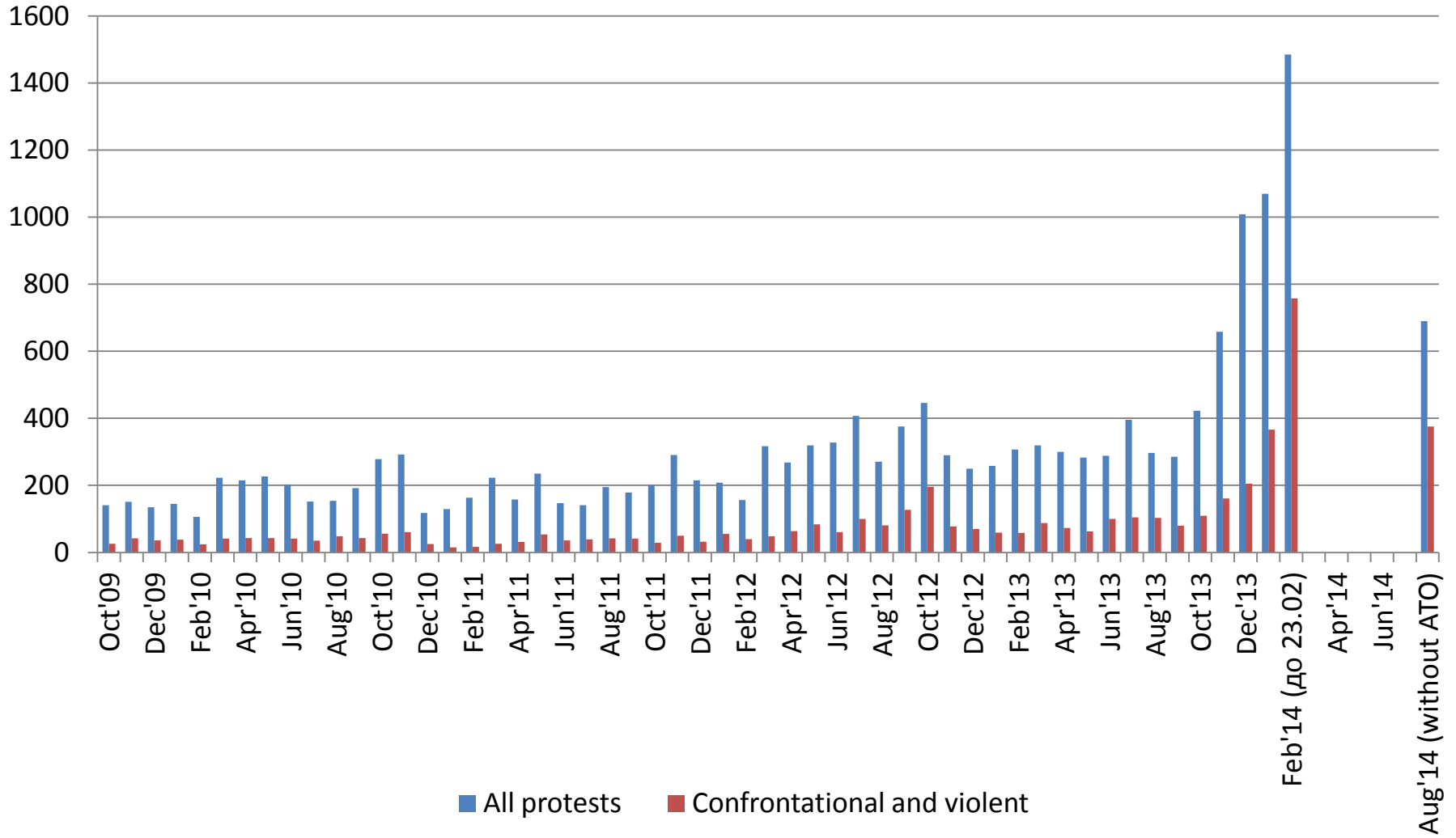
# Summary

The report presents the new results of the [systematic research of protests, repressions and concessions in Ukraine](#) in August 2014.

This month differed with very high protest activity in Ukraine, which, however, mainly had the nature of patriotic mobilization. This mobilization is quite safe for the government because it overshadows the specific demands of Maidan (lustration, fighting corruption and protecting civil liberties), as well as socio-economic problems exacerbated by government policies. This does not mean that social issues and specific political reforms cannot be put on the agenda in the near future by a wave of mass protest, but this is unlikely to happen until patriotic mobilization falls and attention switches from the external enemy to internal Ukrainian problems. At the same time, an extremely high level of radical protests was reported, and the level of repression exceeded the 2013 level during the reign of Yanukovich before Maidan started (even leaving aside the military actions in Donbass, so called 'Anti-Terrorist Operation' or ATO).

The full summary of the main findings can be found in the **press release of Centre for Social and Labor Research from September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014** following the link: <http://www.cedos.org.ua/uk/releases/39> .

# The number of protests

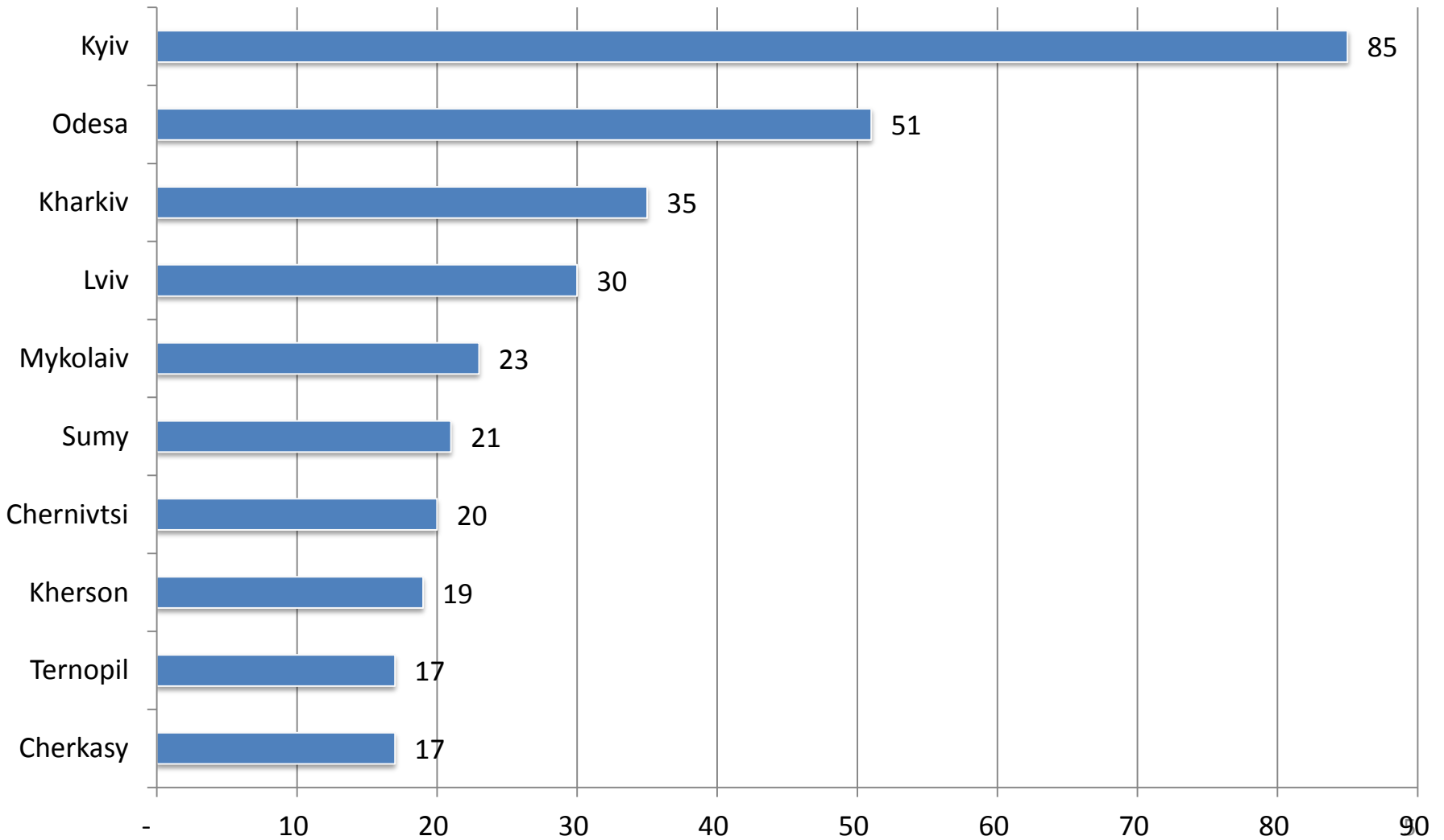


## Regional distribution of protests\*

	August 2014		2013 before Maidan	
	Number of events	Percentage	Monthly average number of events	Percentage
<b>Center</b>	159	23%	60	19%
<b>Crimea</b>	12	2%	15	5%
<b>Donbass</b>	30	4%	32	10%
<b>East</b>	98	14%	32	10%
<b>Kyiv</b>	85	12%	55	17%
<b>South</b>	117	17%	58	18%
<b>West</b>	181	27%	69	22%
	<b>682</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>100%</b>

\* The “nationwide” events (i.e., those that were impossible to locate in a particular settlement) are not included in the regional distribution

# TOP-10 cities with the biggest number of protests in August

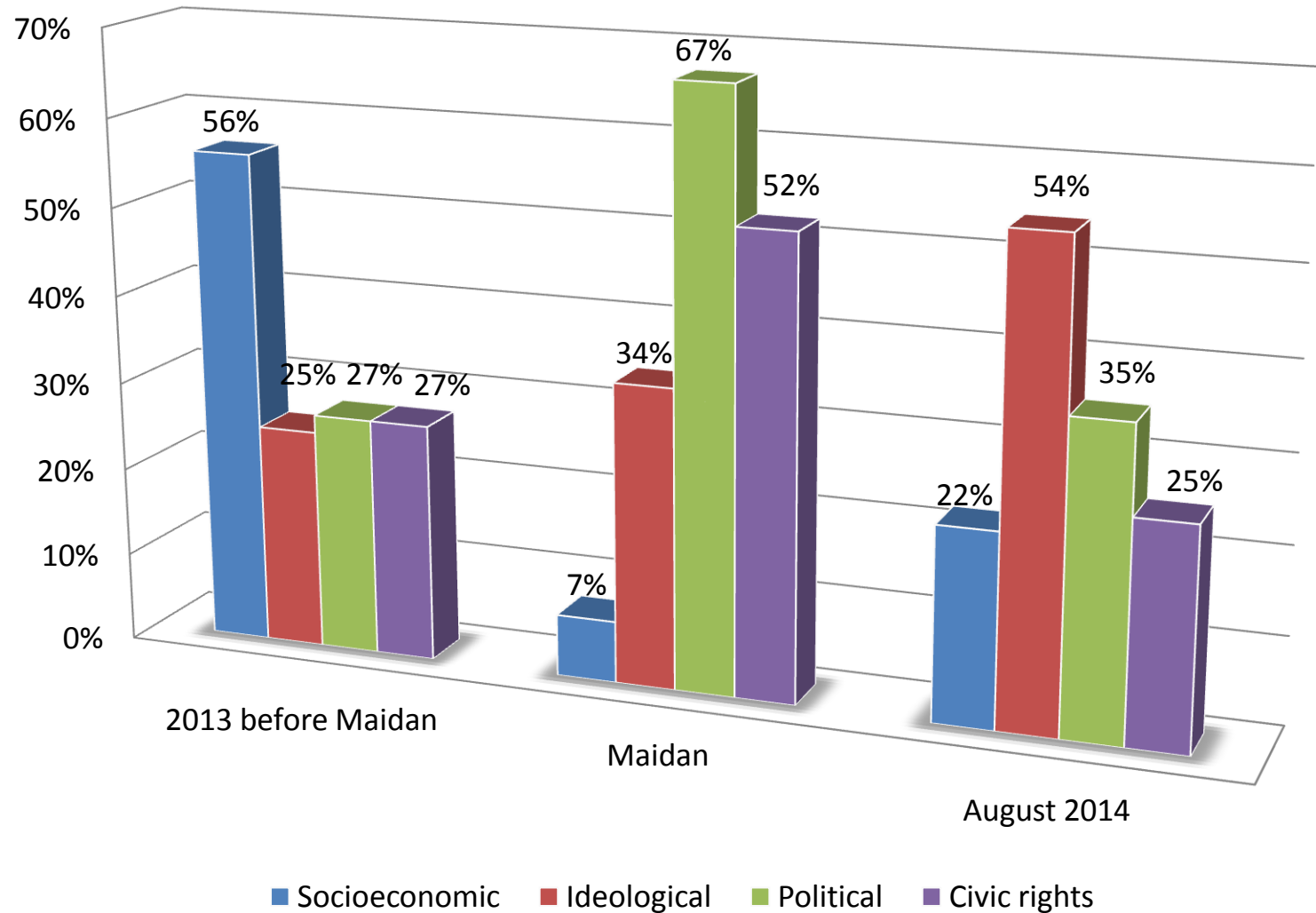


# Reported number of protesters

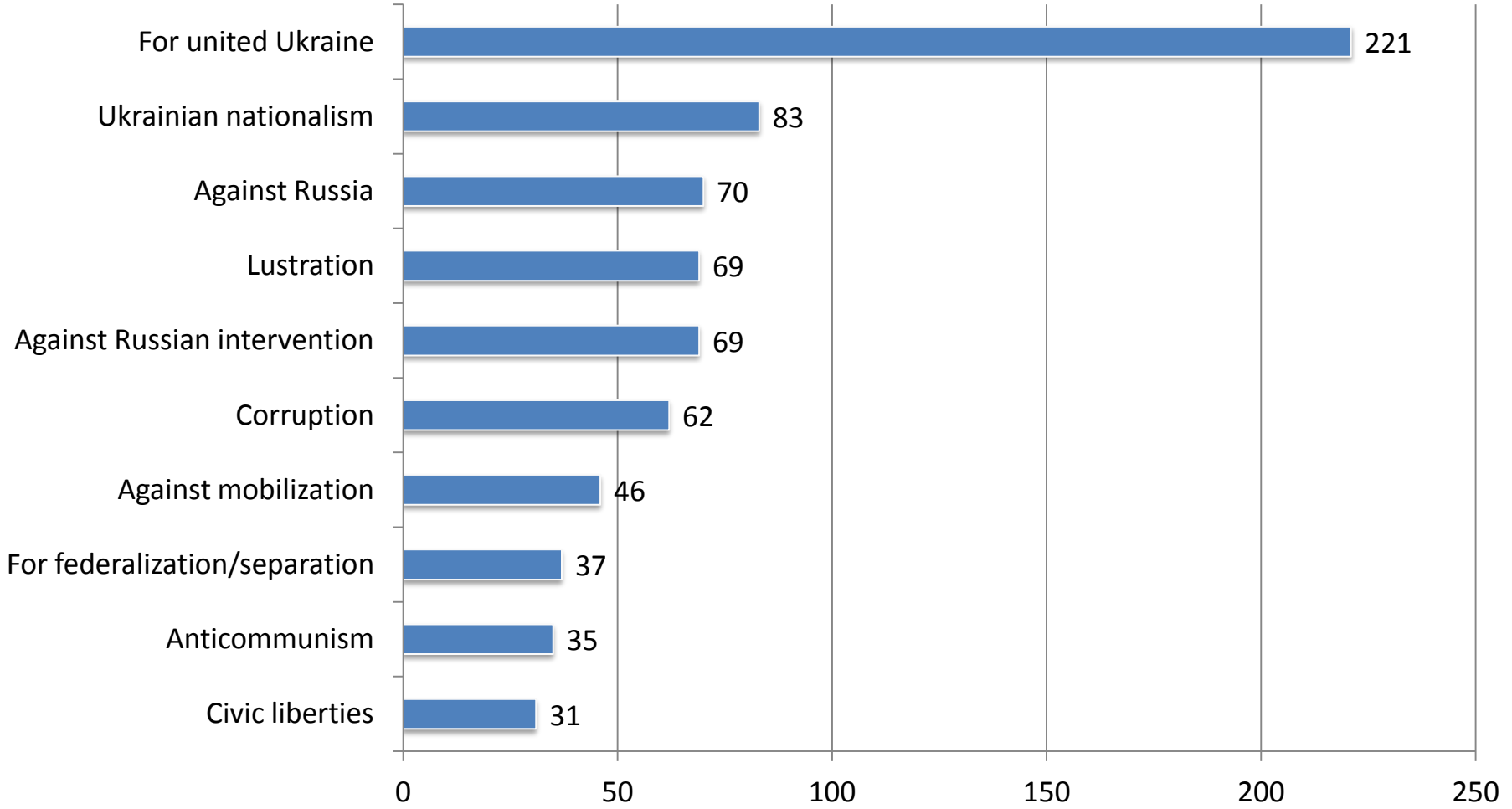
	2013 before Maidan		Maidan		August 2014	
	Number of events	Percentage	Number of events	Percentage	Number of events	Percentage
<10	389	11%	352	9%	66	10%
<100	1 560	46%	1 064	27%	220	32%
<1000	520	15%	854	22%	59	9%
<10000	103	3%	333	8%	11	2%
<100000	15	0%	29	1%	0	0%
>100000	0	0%	5	0%	0	0%
Unknown	841	25%	1 313	33%	334	48%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3 428</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3 950</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>100%</b>



# Protest issues: patriotic mobilization instead of social explosion



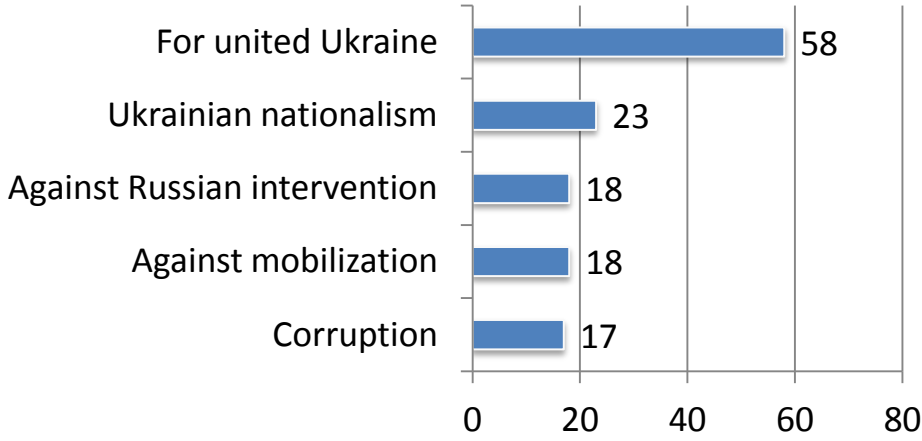
# TOP-5 issues most frequently raised by protests in August (across Ukraine, number of events)



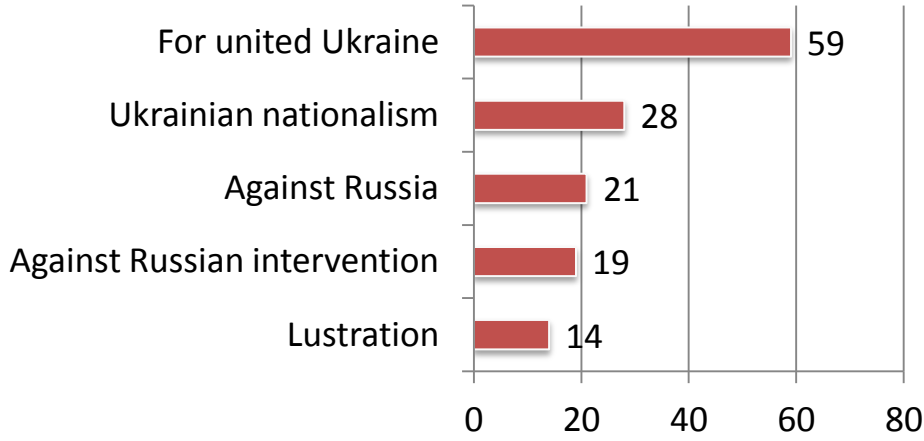


# TOP-5 issues most frequently raised by protests in regions in August (number of events)

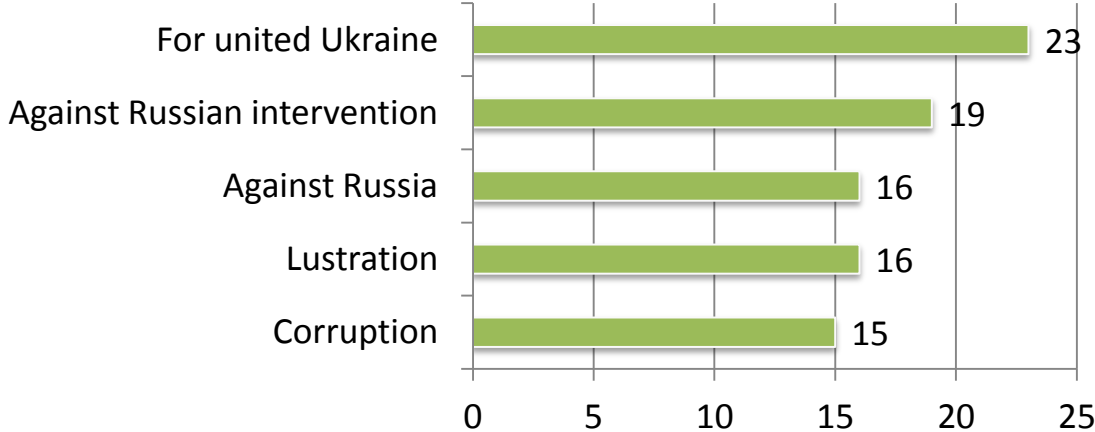
## West



## Center

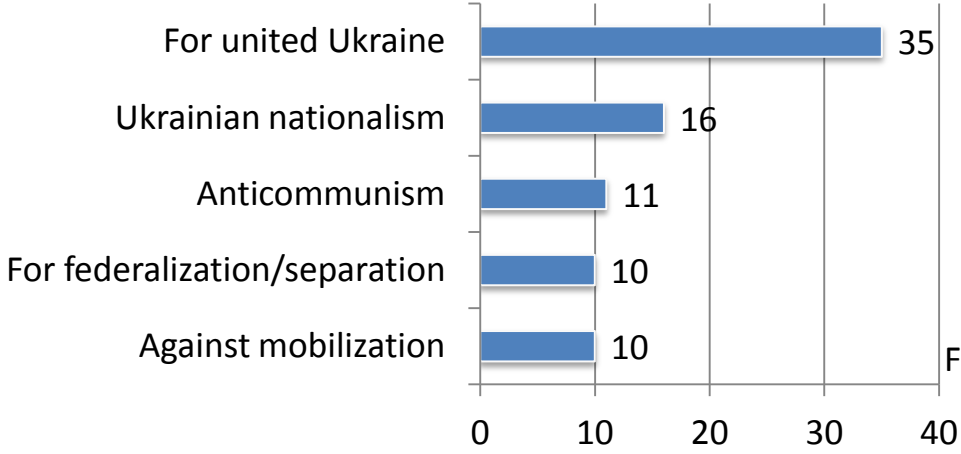


## Kyiv

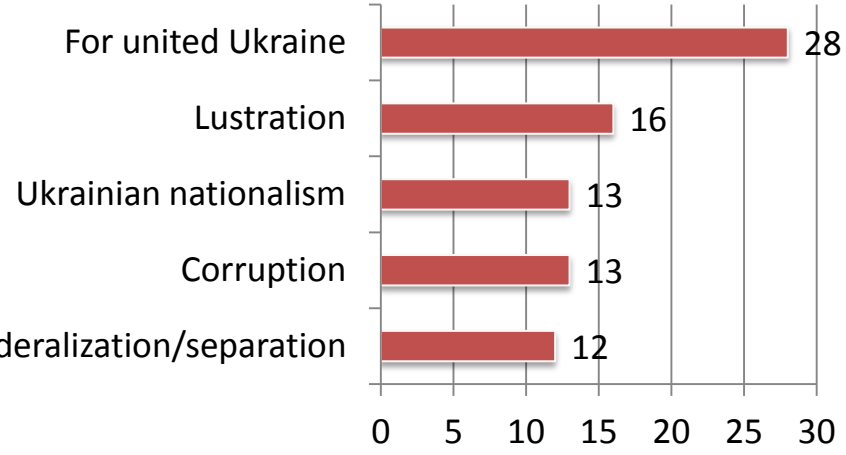


# TOP-5 issues most frequently raised by protests in regions in August (number of events)

## East



## South



# TOP-5 issues most frequently raised by protests in regions in August (number of events)

### Donbass



### Crimea



# Tactics of protests

	2013 before Maidan		Maidan		August 2014	
	Number of events	Percentage	Number of events	Percentage	Number of events	Percentage
<b>Conventional</b>	2 504	73%	2 546	64%	314	46%
<b>Confrontational</b>	661	19%	905	23%	274	40%
<b>Violent</b>	263	8%	499	13%	102	15%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>3 428</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3 950</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>690</b>	<b>100%</b>

## Tactics of protests in regions\*, August 2014

Region	Conventional	Confrontational	Violent	TOTAL
Center	69	73	17	159
Crimea	9	1	2	12
Donbass	12	9	9	30
East	52	26	20	98
Kyiv	40	26	19	85
South	51	38	28	117
West	81	95	5	181
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>314</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>682</b>

\* The “nationwide” events (i.e., those that were impossible to locate in a particular settlement) are not included in the regional distribution

# Reactions to protests and other repressions

	2013 before Maidan		Maidan		August 2014	
	Number of events	Per 100 protests	Number of events	Per 100 protests	Number of events	Per 100 protests
<b>Negative reactions</b>	604	18	1 075	27	160	23
<b>Other repressions</b>	199	6	251	6	68	10
<b>Positive reactions</b>	155	5	263	7	19	3
<b>Protests</b>	<b>3 428</b>	-	<b>3 950</b>	-	<b>690</b>	-



## Reactions to protests and other repressions in regions, August 2014\*

Region	Negative reactions	Other repressions	Positive reactions	Protests
Center	27	7	4	159
Crimea	3	25	1	12
Donbass	2	1	0	30
East	33	13	1	98
Kyiv	19	6	0	85
South	50	2	6	117
West	20	12	7	181
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>682</b>

\* The “nationwide” events (i.e., those that were impossible to locate in a particular settlement) are not included in the regional distribution

# **METHODOLOGY AND EVENTS TYPOLOGY**



# Coding methodology

## Monitoring sources

In 2013-2014 protests, repressions and concessions has been coded based on the monitoring of daily news from more than 190 national, regional and activist websites. The full description of the project methodology, coding scheme and the list of monitoring sources are available here: <http://www.cedos.org.ua/protests> as well as the databases of coded events and full-text reports for 2013.

## General principles of coding

The basic unit of coding – *protest event* – is defined by the following criteria:

- 1) the presence of political or social demands or criticism;
- 2) it should be an action (i.e. it is not purely verbal) of public character;
- 3) it is made by a group of people or one person that are not part of the central government;
- 4) the settlement on the territory of Ukraine where the event took place and at least the approximate date of the event (up to a month) are known.

In addition to the protests the following types of events are included to the database:

- Positive reactions to the events (concessions) – practical actions aimed to fully or partially satisfy the demands of the protestors. Promises to satisfy the demands are not included, but official orders, decrees, commands aimed to satisfy protestor's demands, regardless of whether they were eventually completed or not are included.
- Negative reactions to the protests (repressions) – practical actions aimed to prevent or to suppress protest actions, pressure on the protestors, both physical and legal, by the state or non-government organizations-objects of a protest.
- Other repressions (systematic coding started from July 28, 2014) – practical actions of the government or private companies aimed to prevent or suppress critical or opposing sociopolitical activity which does not fit the definition of the protest event.

Every event is coded separately, even if it is connected to the previous one except for some extremely similar typical sequences of events. Only those events are coded which *have already happened* according to mass media reports. However, *unsuccessful attempts of protest events* which were prevented by law-enforcement bodies are coded. The protest activities which were canceled by protestors because of a court order are not included into the database. A multi-day event is considered to be a single event regardless of its duration.

## Events typology and background information

### The regions of Ukraine are defined as follows:

*Center:* Zhytomyrska, Kyivska, Chernihivska, Sumska, Vinnytska, Cherkaska, Kirovohradska, Poltavaska oblasts;

*Crimea:* Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol;

*Donbass:* Donetska, Luhanska;

*East:* Kharkivska,, Dnipropetrovska, Zaporizka oblasts;

*Kyiv:* the city of Kyiv;

*South:* Odeska, Mykolaivska, Khersonska oblasts;

*West:* Volynska, Rivnenska, Lvivska, Ternopilska, Ivano-Frankivska, Chernivetska, Zakarpatska.

By the **tactics** we divide protests into three categories:

*conventional* – well-known and commonly accepted forms of protest that do not impose direct pressure on the protest targets, such as pickets, rallies, demonstrations, performances, etc.;

*confrontational* - protest actions involving direct pressure on the goals of a protest ('direct action') but not yet causing any direct damage for people or property, such as blocking roads, strikes, hunger strikes, etc.;

*violent* – protest actions with causing (or threat of causing) of direct damage to people or property, such as beating or vandalism.

**Center for Social and Labor Research** was created in 2014 as an independent non-profit centre for the analysis of socioeconomic problems, collective protests, labor relations and conflicts. From August 2014 it includes the team that has been monitoring protests, repressions and concessions at the Centre for Society Research since 2009, but had to leave it because of the fundamental differences in the vision on further development of this organization.

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