



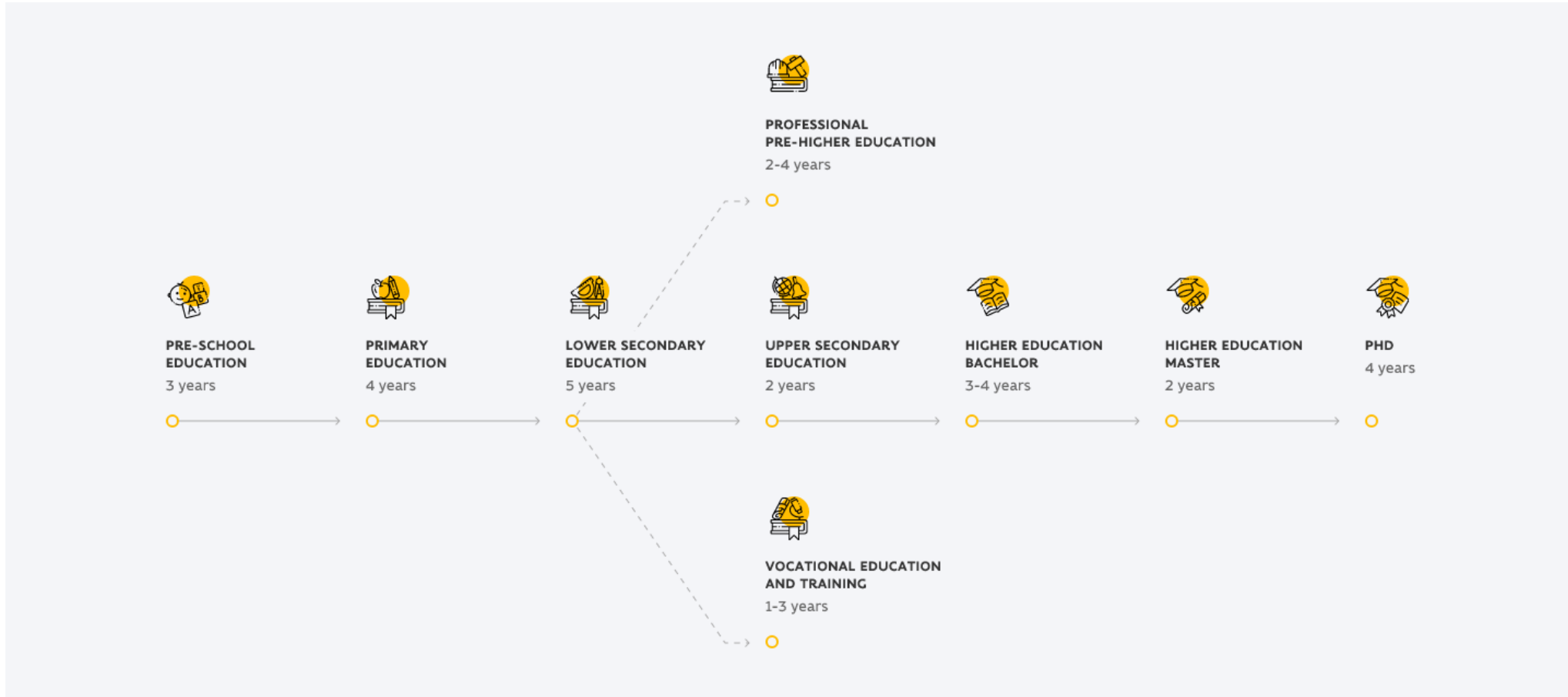
# **An overview of education sector in Ukraine**

TFK-haku, infotilaisuus korkeakouluille

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Minna Hakkarainen, Embassy of Finland

# Education system in Ukraine



# Impact of the Russian aggression on Ukrainian education



- Over 3100 educational institutions have been damaged by bombing and shelling with 440 completely destroyed (24 February 2023, data by MoES).
- Three modalities to facilitate learning are currently used: face-to-face, online and blended learning.
- Out of 12,092 general secondary schools (primary & secondary), 3,955 schools are providing face-to-face education serving 1.1 million students (28%). 4,363 schools offer only distance/online learning serving 1.67 million students (42%), and 4,608 schools are using blended approach with 1.2 million learners (30%).



# Damage caused to HEIs by Russian aggression

- 174 colleges and universities were damaged or fully destroyed by 28.10.2022.
- According to a recent survey (WB et. al 2022) over half (58%) of the HEIs have continued providing tuition exclusively online, with another 42% opting for a hybrid format. (N=749\*)
- About 21% (or 165) of the respondent tertiary institutions reported infrastructure damages due to the war. Most of the damaged institutions are from Eastern oblasts.
- \*Note: 34% of the respondents were universities and 66% professional pre-higher education institutions (colleges).



# Relocation of the HEIs and unknown data

- 115 institutions relocated since 24 February 2022 from the frontlines to safer regions (MoES data).
- No data is available for the Temporary Occupied Territories on any type of educational institutions.



# Education in HEIs during the war

- Over half (58%) of the institutions have continued providing their services online only, while 42% organizes tuition in a hybrid format (face-to-face and online).
- **Main barriers** to the continuation of education *for students* are the **lack of internet connection** (reported by 79% of institutions), deteriorated **security situation** (46%) and the **lack of electronic devices** for online learning (39%).
- *For academic staff*, the security situation (reported by 60% of institutions), the lack of internet connection (50%) and the lack of electronic devices for online teaching (33%) constitute the main obstacles.



# The war trauma and learning

- The war is negatively affecting students ability to work and study. Ukrainians are experiencing high levels of stress but also psychological trauma, and need adequate mental health support.
- 95% of tertiary institutions reported that the war and the related psychological trauma would impact students' ability to study. Nearly 10% of tertiary institutions indicated that more than half of their students would need psychological support.
- Providing psychosocial support to both students and teachers in all levels of education is one of the key needs identified by MoES.



# Higher education – no 1 choice for Ukrainians

- At the beginning of the 2021/2022 academic year more than 282,000 students studied in professional pre-higher education and more than 1,046,000 in higher education (data by the State Statistics Service of Ukraine).
- Enrollments in tertiary education in Ukraine are very high: in 2020, 57.1% of 30–34-year-old Ukrainians (49.7 % of men and 64.8 % of women) had completed a tertiary level of education, compared to 41.0 % in the EU (46.1 % among women and 36.0 % among men).
- A large share of students pursues a masters' degree – in 2018, 74% of bachelor's degree graduates entered master's programs.





# Declining number of students

- The student population in universities and colleges declined by 45% between 2010 and 2021, from over 2,417,000 in 2010 (2,066,000 in universities and 351,000 in colleges) to 1,328,000 in 2021 (1,046,000 in universities and 282,000 in colleges).
- The development is largely due to the declining population, as well as to a brain drain of students.
- Education network has not followed the same trend as the student population: School and HEI network optimization is an ongoing discourse. (The average size of a surveyed professional pre-higher education institution is 545 students, compared to 3,473 for a higher education institution.)



# International collaboration & the main challenge

- Ukraine is keen to increase international collaboration in education and science.
- One of the biggest challenge is the language barrier. Most Ukrainians, including students and teachers in HEIs do not speak English in the level required for international collaboration with foreign, English speaking counterparts.
- Those Ukrainians who speak English fluently have often studied in special language schools and have stayed in English speaking countries (US/UK) for exchange studies. In many cases, their language skills are better than English spoken by average Finnish students.



# Sources and further information

- Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine: <https://mon.gov.ua/eng>
- Ukraine Higher Education Needs Assessment: 25 June – 25 October 2022 ([WB et. al 2022](#))
- Ukraine's Recovery Plan Education and Science ([draft version](#))
- GPE Multiplier (Ukraine), draft Project Document by UNICEF (2023)



**Thank you!**

**[minna.hakkarainen@formin.fi](mailto:minna.hakkarainen@formin.fi)**