СЕКЦІЯ: ЕКОНОМІЧНІ ТА СОЦІАЛЬНІ АСПЕКТИ НОВИХ ТЕХНОЛОГІЙ

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DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION OF UKRAINE'S ECONOMY UNDER MARTIAL LAW

Over the past three years, Ukraine has undergone a substantial digital transformation of its economy. While traditional technologies are being superseded, new digital technologies are emerging and advancing rapidly. These new digital technologies are the driving force behind improvements and efficiencies in the work of companies that provide banking, financial, government and municipal services, as well as the production of military equipment [1, 176].

The government has made digital transformation a priority in recent years. Prior to the war, the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine was already engaged in a number of key initiatives, including the development of e-government, the expansion of connectivity, and the promotion of digital skills. Ukraine has digitalized several of its public services, particularly following the launch of the "State-in-a-smartphone" initiative in 2019. In this regard, the new Ministry of Digital Transformation was also created. Significant headway has been made to improve digital literacy [2, 23]. In 2023, the Ministry of Digital Transformation successfully achieved its strategic objective, with 6 million Ukrainians participating in digital skills development programs [3].

Diia is one of the most significant and internationally recognized achievements of Ukraine's recent digitalization efforts. It offers over 100 public services online and provides access to 14 digital documents, including an ID card, a foreign biometric passport, a student card, a driver's license, a vehicle registration certificate, a vehicle insurance policy, a tax number, a birth certificate, and an internally displaced person (IDP) certificate [5; 6].

Ukraine is currently facing a series of new challenges for the Internet industry, resulting in damage to Internet infrastructure, disruptions in Internet access, an impact on the quality of data transmissions and trade, an elevated risk of cyber incidents, and the dissemination of misinformation about the war.

Consequently, the Ukrainian authorities and businesses have intensified their digitalization efforts, thereby enhancing the country's resilience in wartime. Some examples of measures taken since February 24, 2022 include:

- Uninterrupted Internet access during blackouts. One example is the launch of national roaming, which enables mobile users to switch between operators, thereby providing an alternative option in the event that the services of their current operator are unavailable.

- The provision of administrative services online. Through Diia, citizens can easily and quickly apply for state benefits, obtain official status as IDPs, and obtain temporary documents in case of lost ID (eDocument).

- Business assistance: Diia.Business significantly enhanced its assistance, including by providing services (e.g., consulting) to help small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) relocate to safer regions. The new "e-Declaration" tool replaces 374 different permits and licenses, making it easier to do business in times of war. Additionally, financial opportunities were expanded, for instance, with the launch of the government's business grant program eRobota in summer 2022. Furthermore, a marketplace of financial opportunities was established, offering

information on a range of financial resources, including loans, factoring, government programs, grant schemes, regional programs, and international aid, for SMEs facing financial challenges due to the war [4].

-       The mobilization of support for the Ukrainian military through online tools. Diia offers a range of assistance to the Ukrainian military, including the collection of donations for drones. This has resulted in the collection of tens of millions of UAH for the Ukrainian Armed Forces and territorial defense. Moreover, Diia.TV and Diia.Radio provide official and reliable information even in Ukraine's temporarily occupied regions, while the educational series "To Be There" offers mental health support to children suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

-       Access to humanitarian aid and individual support through online platforms. The digital platform eDopomoga was launched to support Ukrainians affected by the war. It brings together the state, humanitarian organizations and volunteers from across the globe. By completing an application form, Ukrainians in need can apply for assistance [7].

-       A phone application for Ukrainian refugees abroad. The "I am Ukrainian" mobile application was developed to unite Ukrainians who were forced to flee the country. It offers information on cultural events, community gatherings, and meetups abroad.

-       A single online database for damaged and destroyed property (eRecovery) [8]. It contains information on all residential, transport and social infrastructure that was damaged as a result of Russian attacks.

These digital initiatives prove that digital tools are a powerful force in the economy and Ukraine has a strong ICT sector. Digital tools provide more efficient and faster access to information, enabling seamless communication between staff, suppliers, and networks, thereby reducing transaction costs. They can also help SMEs integrate into global markets by streamlining transportation and border procedures and improving the overall range of trade services. On top of that, digitalization can be used to promote good governance and to fight corruption. In particular, it can improve the functioning of public administration institutions and bring governments closer to citizens and businesses, increasing public sector efficiency and policy effectiveness [2, 24-28].

The digital transformation of Ukraine's economy has gained considerable momentum, with the digital sector making a substantial contribution to the country's GDP and demonstrating resilience in times of war.

Despite the ongoing challenges posed by the war, Ukraine's digital resilience demonstrates its capacity for long-term modernization and recovery. The digital transformation of Ukraine remains a strategic imperative for rebuilding the country and advancing its position in the global digital economy.

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