INTERNATIONAL SCIENTIFIC CONFERENCE

Economic Development and the Legacy of Simon Kuznets

Income, Service Access and Perceived Inequality in Wartime Ukraine

Implications for Public Policy

Oleksandra Moskalenko, Dr. Sc. (Economics)

Professor, Department of Economic Theory
Kyiv National Economic University named after Vadym Hetman

Guest Researcher, Macro and International Economics Section
Amsterdam School of Economics, University of Amsterdam



University of Amsterdam

Amsterdam School of Economics

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The political economy of unequal burdens

How do people judge economic differences when war puts livelihoods at risk?

Material circumstances

Income adequacy, access to essential services and the resources available to absorb losses.

Distributive judgements

Whether rewards reflect contribution, opportunities are accessible and public rules apply fairly.

Contribution Connecting material position with respondents' explanations of how advantages arise and why they appear justified or unfair.

Conceptual framing and contribution, based on the article and respondents' accounts.

Survey design and analytical population

Economic Inequality in Ukraine during the War

Author-designed questionnaire · Ukrainian · 4–25 June 2024

Recruitment and screening

Academic-network recruitment, voluntary participation

183 submissions → 173 consenting records → 170 retained after potential-repeat screening

Methods and scope

Descriptive distributions, binary logit models and interpretive analysis of open-ended answers

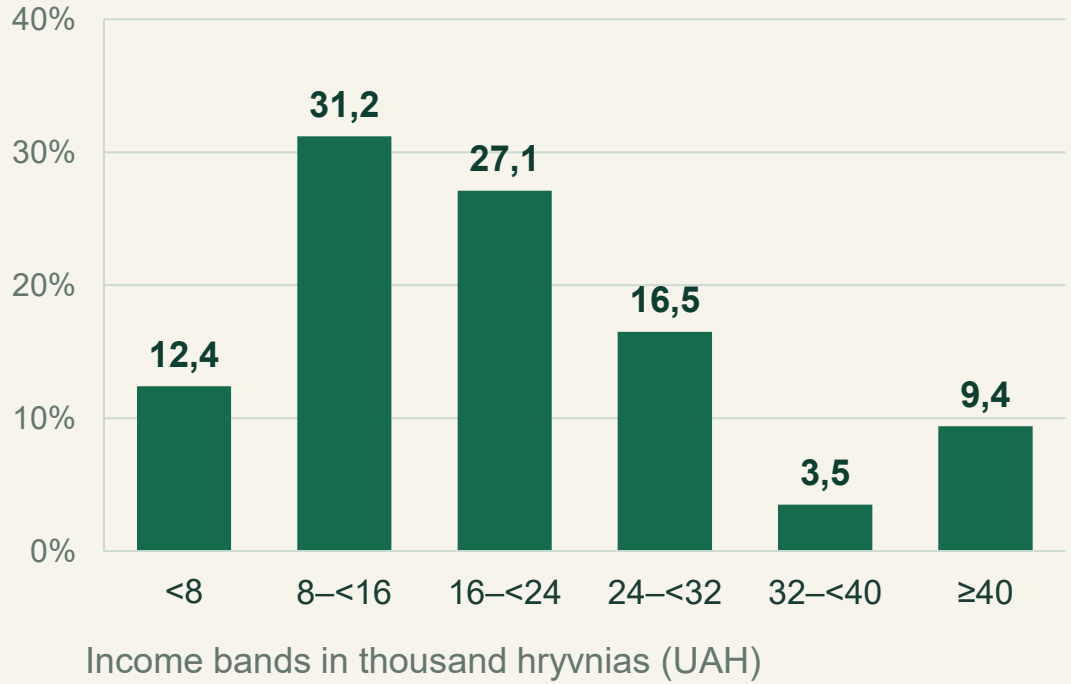
73.5% women · 88.8% urban · 62.9% public employment

The findings describe surveyed participants. They do not estimate national prevalence.

Source: Author's survey, June 2024. Non-probability sample, n = 170.

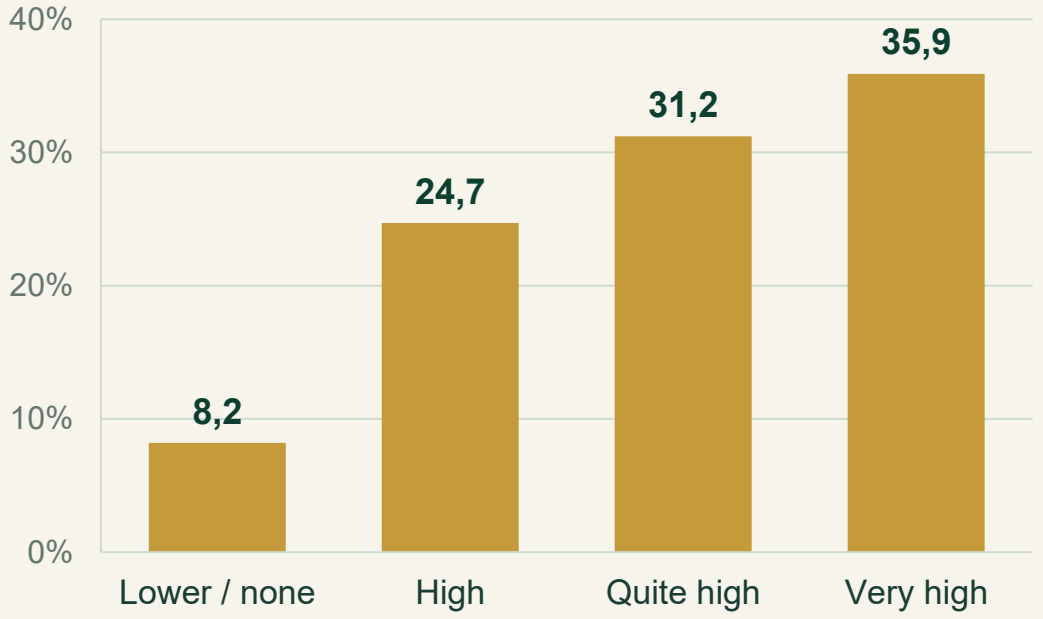
Income and perceptions of inequality

Personal monthly income after tax



43.5% report income below UAH 16,000

Perceived level of inequality

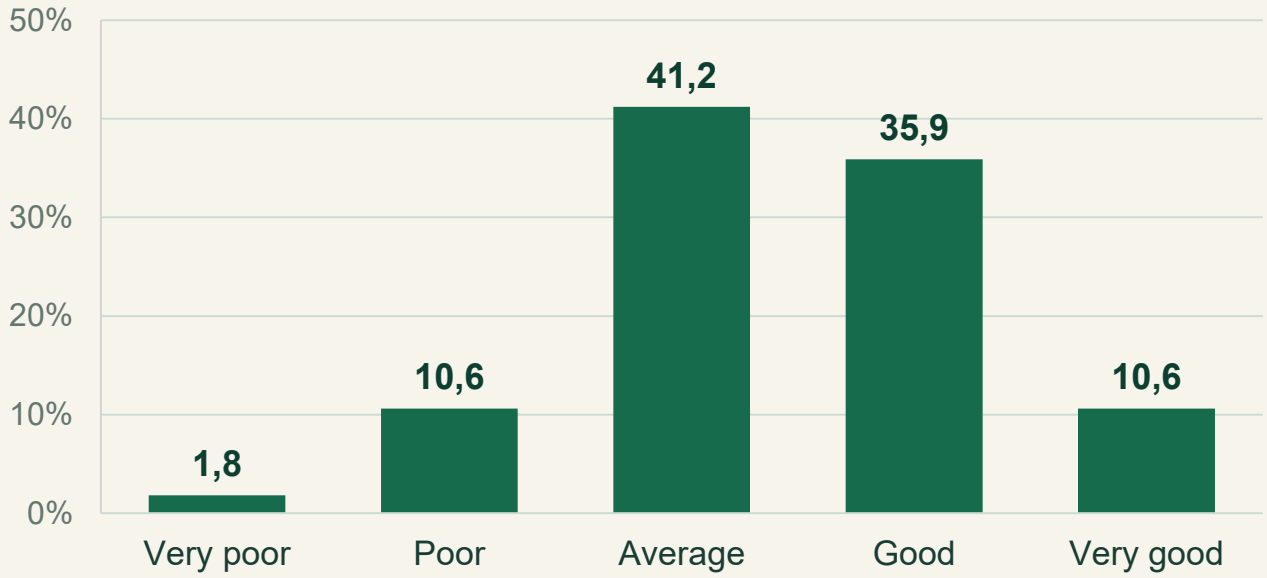


91.8% describe inequality as at least high

Source: Author's survey, June 2024. Non-probability sample, n = 170.

Service access and economic opportunities

Own access to essential services in the region



55.3%

disagree that economic opportunities are equally accessible across Ukraine

94 of 170 respondents

Public-economics mechanism

When services fail, the ability to pay for alternatives differs by income.

Source: Author's survey, June 2024. Non-probability sample, n = 170.

How respondents explain unfairness

The cost of everyday life

Food and medicines absorb most income, leaving little room for other needs.

Reward and contribution

Large differences between senior managers' pay and ordinary wages appear difficult to justify.

Access and connections

Respondents associate unequal access to education and care with personal connections.

Unequal wartime trajectories

Some lose resources and livelihoods, while others retain opportunities or find new earnings.

Source: Article, Table 4 and open-ended responses. Non-identifying paraphrases, not verbatim quotations or verified allegations.

Econometric approach

$$\Pr(Y_i = 1 \mid X_i) = \Lambda(\alpha + \beta_1 L_i + \beta_2 S_i + \gamma' Z_i)$$

i denotes a respondent. $\Lambda(t) = 1 / [1 + \exp(-t)]$ converts the model score into a probability.

Outcome and focal variables

$Y_i = 1$ for "very high" inequality, 0 otherwise
$L_i = 1$ for personal income below UAH 16,000
$S_i = 1$ for poor or very poor service access

Z_i contains the controls in P2

Public employment, internal displacement, female indicator and age 45+ indicator.
$\gamma' Z_i$ is their coefficient-weighted sum.

P1 · baseline

Income and service access
No additional controls

P2 · principal

P1 plus the four controls in Z_i

P3 · sensitivity

P2 plus inability to save

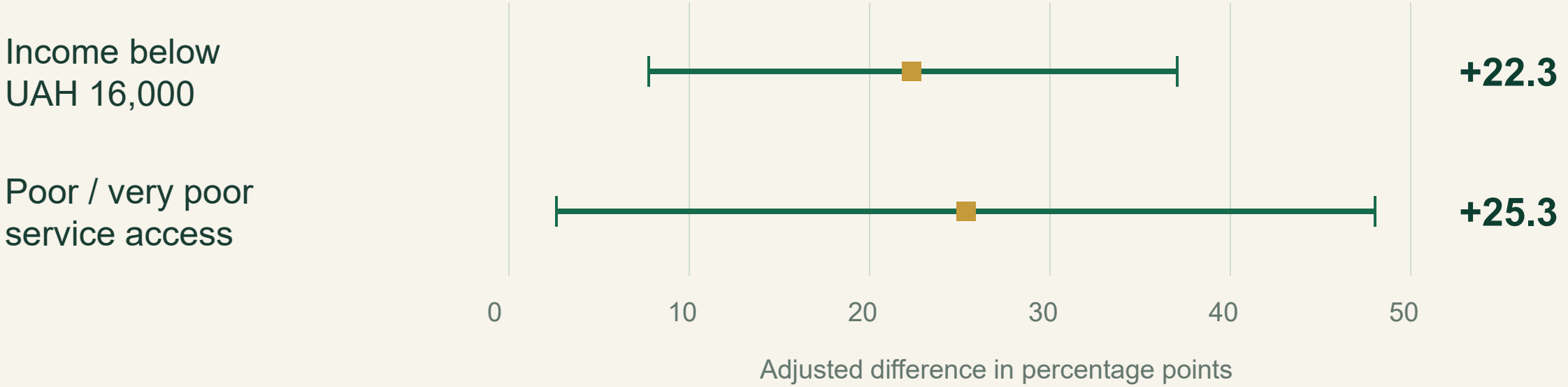
X_i contains all predictors. α is the intercept; β_1, β_2 and γ are estimated coefficients.

Reported results: adjusted probability differences in percentage points, not causal effects.

Maximum likelihood · n = 170 · HC1 robust covariance · 95% delta-method confidence intervals

Income, service access and perceived inequality

Probability of reporting “very high” inequality



Sensitivity

Broader outcome: income +11.9 [−2.1, 25.8]
Including average access: services −2.4 [−16.5, 11.7]

Source: Article, Tables 2–3. P2 adjusted probability differences in percentage points, with 95% HC1 delta-method intervals.

Contribution and public policy implications

Essential services

Investigate unmet need, travel costs and administrative barriers among people reporting severe access difficulties.

Public remuneration

Assess ordinary pay adequacy and the justification of pay differences using responsibility, skills and retention needs.

Main conclusion

Respondents judge inequality through both material hardship and the legitimacy of economic advantages.

Recovery assessment should examine who can use restored services, alongside aggregate capacity.

Interpretation and research priorities. The survey does not estimate policy effects or a causal effect on resilience.

How can a state ask citizens to bear extraordinary burdens if the allocation of protection and opportunity is perceived as unfair?

Thank you. I welcome your questions and discussion.

Oleksandra Moskalenko

Professor, Department of Economic Theory, KNEU
Guest Researcher, Macro and International Economics Section
Amsterdam School of Economics, University of Amsterdam

Oleksandra.Moskalenko@gmail.com
o.m.moskalenko@uva.nl

