

This is primarily about the specific circumstances of Ukraine's current geopolitical orientation, as well as the specifics of civil defense as an area of state responsibility to society.

Despite the importance of European economic integration, which is generally understood as the incorporation of domestic economic entities into the structures of the European Union, the main vector of cooperation with foreign partners is moving further west - to the Euro-Atlantic. This refers to Ukraine's cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, where, unlike the EU, the dominant language is English.

The fact is that the civil defense system as a state function to ensure the vital activity of the population and the economy in the event of emergencies began to take shape in the late 1940s, when the first samples of weapons of mass destruction appeared in the arsenals of the world's leading countries (a reaction to the massive nature of the last world war). This process took place against the backdrop of the formation of military-political blocs, the first and most powerful of which was the North Atlantic Alliance - NATO.

Despite the end of the Cold War in the late 1980s and the signing of a number of international agreements banning or limiting certain types of weapons, the importance of the Alliance did not decrease, but rather transformed towards the protection of states, civilians, and vital infrastructure while maintaining the overall military-defense nature of the organization [3]. Currently, the Alliance remains the most functional platform for the exchange of experience and interaction of national civil protection systems in the world with a clear structure of bodies, institutions, forces and rapid response means. Accordingly, English remains the most universal key to accessing the tools and resources of the specified platform.

REFERENCES

1. Майстро С.В. Освітньо-наукова складова механізму міжнародного співробітництва України у сфері цивільного захисту. URL: http://repositc.nuczu.edu.ua/bitstream/123456789/7794/1/ilovepdf_com-415-424.pdf.

2. Андрієнко М.В. Проблеми міжнародного співробітництва у сфері цивільного захисту України // Актуальні проблеми управління у сфері цивільного захисту. Збірник матеріалів І науково-практичної конференції. 25 квітня 2012 року. М. Харків. URL: https://nuczu.edu.ua/images/topmenu/science/konferentsii/--2012.pdf?srsId=AfmBOoo5dv_0xfgJ_fi1hkY88rqQ-V1VBzKICYZJrFm2IijxYRJO3bh6

3. Організація цивільного захисту в зарубіжних країнах та міжнародне співробітництво України у сфері цивільного захисту. URL: <https://studfile.net/preview/7359446/page:4/>.

ENGLISH AS A TOOL FOR INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATION IN THE SPHERE OF CIVIL PROTECTION

Olga KRICKER, PhD in History
Natalia YEREMEIVA, PhD in philology
National University of Civil Protection of Ukraine

English is acknowledged for its top position in the international relations sphere and used as lingua franca for written and oral communication all over the world in every possible area of life to establish contact among representatives of different nation: the internet, business, technology, science, diplomacy, etc.

The resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine of May 2023 “On Approval of the Procedure for Translating into Ukrainian Acts of the European Union’s Acquis Communautaire and into English Acts of Ukrainian Legislation Related to the Fulfilment of Ukraine’s Obligations in the Field of European Integration” has emphasized its exclusive position and has further consolidated its leadership over all the other European languages.

Heading to the EU, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine passed the law No. 9432 “On the Use of the English Language in Ukraine” according to which English has become the language of international communication in the state. It sets requirements for the English language proficiency for several categories of officials including the SESU personnel.

English language proficiency is undoubtedly crucial for the Civil Protection personnel in Ukraine due to the close cooperation with European countries as a participant of the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EU-CPM). Moreover, this consolidation has increasingly deepened under the martial law when our country is seeking for protection and help, both humanitarian and military, from the rest of the world.

There are multiple cases of mutual activities where the integration of Ukrainian and EU forces proved the necessity of English language proficiency. The most meaningful are as follows:

- involvement of Ukrainian Civil Protection personnel in joint training exercises, such as NUSAR (National Urban Search and Rescue) simulation held in 2024 in Ukraine and EU MODEX (module exercises) held in 2025 in Poland where English is official language of communication;

- aid delivery and evacuation of patients when English is a must not only for the medical care personnel but, of course, for the rescuers and management teams to interact with colleagues from around the world;

- sharing experience, as in the case when in September 2023, Ukrainian volunteer rescuers studied Estonia's experience in organizing the work of volunteer rescue teams and the interaction between state and volunteer rescue teams;

- holding strong and active position in governance and strategic dialogue with European countries, i.e. taking part in the meeting of Directors-General of the EU-CPM, etc.

Thus, considering the above-mentioned ideas it's possible to make several conclusions. English is a language of international rescue operations and disaster response where rescuers have to coordinate their work with their international colleagues, provide fast response, etc. The biggest common activities of the 2020s Ukrainian rescuers took part were the following ones:

- in February 2023, the Heavy USAR MRC Ukraine Team eliminated the consequences of the earthquake in Turkey and surely English was needed for collaboration;

- 51 State Emergency Service of Ukraine rescuers took part in EU MODEX CYCLE 12 training exercises with the general number of about 500 participants from different European countries and had intensive training sessions to improve coordination with international teams;

- in September 2023, 44 representatives of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine joined international field **training on the response to radiation, chemical, biological and nuclear threats in Poland together with the** rescue teams from Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Estonia and Romania;

- the 2025 International trainings supported by the Ukrainian Red Cross where volunteers of voluntary fire departments from 9 regions of Ukraine worked at six locations that simulated various emergency situations together with the specialists from Poland, the Czech Republic, and Germany, etc.

Understanding that the English language proficiency is necessary for the effective communication and implementation the best world practices, in 2024, the representatives of the National University of Civil Protection of Ukraine took part in the training project «Maximizing Learning: Developing Speaking Skills Course» organized by Slovenia Military Schools Center.

The experience of the National University of Civil Protection of Ukraine also proves the key role English plays in the sphere of civil protection as it gives the opportunity for its employees to take part in the international conferences («International Commander and Commandant Conference – 2023» in the Netherlands, «SICC Series CBRN Conference

2023», «SICC Series CBRN Conference 2023»in Italy), common projects and experience exchange (“Exchange of Civil Protection Experts – Ukraine and the Netherlands”, etc.)

Any international activity or meeting requires engagement of participants into coworking, socializing and networking, consequently the B2 level of English is compulsory to its participants. While involvement in the international trainings guarantees interoperability between the representatives of different countries, common language provides for better understanding between the participants which makes the English language not just an important element but a key tool for cooperation for the sake of survival.

TEACHING PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE SPHERE OF CIVIL PROTECTION

Olga KRICKER, PhD in History

Olesia MINENKO, PhD in philology

National University of Civil Protection of Ukraine

As a part of the European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EU-CPM), the personnel of the State Emergency Service of Ukraine (SESU) have faced new challenges due to the need in cooperation with the other participants of the system. Ukrainian firefighters and rescuers have always been there to assist in case of any disaster but now it comes not only to helping other nations who suffered from various kinds of emergencies but also about experience exchange and conferences as a member of the EU-CPM.

When it comes to any international task either related to rescuing, training or learning, the obstacle is the English language proficiency. The law No. 9432 “On the Use of the English Language in Ukraine” shifted the emphasis from empirical to practical necessity to know professional English to be able to interact with multinational community of rescuers where the lingua franca is obviously the English language. While earlier the certificate of B2 English was enough, nowadays it is the real language proficiency that matters. No certificate can help the SESU personnel interact with colleagues at emergency sites, conferences or during field exercises. They should be prepared to speak fluent English to cooperate with the international team, give and understand commands, participate in meetings, briefings, etc.

The participation of Ukrainian SESU professionals in rescuing the victims of the 2023 earthquake in Turkey can be a vivid example of the need in good command of English. There worked a multinational team from 90 countries, and their activities were coordinated by the INSARAG which means that all the reports and documentation was in English. The rescuers had to coordinate their actions and stay in touch with foreign teams (rescuers, medical and logistics personnel, and representatives of different humanitarian organizations). All safety briefings were held in English. So, English played a key role in understanding the overall situation and coordinating actions with the teams.

Although the facts prove the necessity for the personnel of the SESU, especially for the management and the rescuers, of learning professional English, unfortunately, they have not affected the SESU higher educational establishment curriculum. English is an obligatory subject but the number of classes doesn’t allow learners acquire the level of proficiency needed to interact and co-work with foreign specialists. Thus, the emphasis should be shifted from talking about the importance of English to increasing the number of classes so that graduates of the SESU universities could have a good command of the language and can work with the representatives of other countries of EU-CPM and other international organizations.

The English language curriculum should reflect the needs of the learners and cover the topics related to the civil protection of the population. Taking into consideration real life situations where English can be used in their professional activities, foremost the main