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### **The Double Challenge of War and Distrust**

The paper describes Ukrainian views on the war in the eastern region of the country and other worries of the people, as well as Ukrainian-Russian relations and the views on the EU. The conflict in the east is the main concern, but there are also major worries related to employment and income. The confidence in the government and its bodies to lead the country is not high, due to problems of governance: according to the public opinion the government is leading the country into a wrong direction, without seeing an alternative. Ukraine faces a double challenge: it must bridge the cleavage between the government and the people, while suffering from the war in the east. There are major regional differences in public opinion, with some impact on politically feasible solutions for Ukraine. The empirical material to be presented is from various opinion polls carried out by the Kyiv International Institute for Sociology in 2014-2017. The findings are interpreted reflecting a prolonged transition from an anti-modern society into something new but still in the process of making.