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# UUT12. The governance of collaborative public sector innovation to produce public value: A comparative study

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**Emre Cinar,**

Dr. Senior Lecturer, Departmental Director of Postgraduate Research,

**Sercan Ozcan,** Dr. Assoc. Prof. in Innovation & Technology Management

Associate Head of Research and Innovation  
School of Strategy, Marketing and Innovation  
University of Portsmouth,  
Portsmouth, UK

**Oksana Prodius,**

Professor, Doctor of Economic Sciences,  
Head of Department of Management,

**Ivan Sokoly,**

Professor, Doctor of Economic Sciences,  
Department of Management

**Alina Buzunar,**

PhD student  
Institute of Economics and Management  
Odesa Polytechnic National University



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# 1. The purpose of the project and subjects of the investigation

The purpose of the project is to enhance theoretical and methodological foundations and develop scientific and practical recommendations to create a conceptual framework for introducing and managing innovation in public services through collaborative partnerships between the public and private sectors, civil society institutions.

The subjects of the investigation are the public sector innovation in public services before the war period in Ukraine and compare it with the innovations from Eastern European and Baltic regions to understand the content, collaborative management, process dynamics and public value outcomes of collaborative innovation adoption in public services.



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## 2. Tasks of the project

# Tasks of the project are:

1. To what extent can collaboration with nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), citizens, and the private sector contribute to public sector innovation?
2. What are the barriers to collaborative public sector innovation, and how can they be overcome through coping strategies?
3. What are the key success factors for producing public value through collaborative public sector innovation?
4. How does the national context influence the content, management, and outcomes collaborative of public sector innovation?
5. To what extent innovations can be transferred nationally and internationally?



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### 3. Waiting for project results

# The project aims to achieve the following results:

- Presentation: Public sector innovation in Ukraine: a promising landscape for post-war recovery, Faculty of Business and Law R&I conference, June 2023 Portsmouth, UK
- Conference paper at scientific conferences, as indicated on the following link:  
<https://economics.net.ua/ua/conferences>
- Submission Manuscript submitted to Public Administration Review: The Political Context of Public Sector Innovation in Transition Economies: A Critical Interpretative Synthesis of Evidence from Ukraine.
- Working paper to be submitted to International Review of Administrative Sciences. Title of the work: The role of collaboration with international NGOs in public sector innovation: The case of Prozorro.



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## 4. Road map of the project

# Road map of the project

| March-April                                                                                                                 | April-May                                                          | May-June                                                 | June-July                                                                                                                             | August-December                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Preliminary                                                                                                                 | Planning                                                           | Execution                                                | Analysis                                                                                                                              | Completion                                                                                                                                                                |
| Formation of a theoretical basis for the study of the political context of public sector innovation in developing countries | Investigation of current situation of public innovation in Ukraine | Comparative study of public sector innovation in Ukraine | Systematic review of 100 articles the influence of political context on public sector innovation in developing countries, using Nvivo | Qualitative and quantitative analysis of received data, preparation and dissemination of results to the publication. The findings also suggest a further research agenda. |

# Stages of the project

| Project Stages        | March                                                                     | April                                                                                                 | May                              | June                          | July                                                                                            | August-December |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>I. Preliminary</b> | Literature review (Analytical report),<br>Translation (Ukrainian-English) |                                                                                                       |                                  |                               |                                                                                                 |                 |
| <b>II. Planning</b>   |                                                                           | Literature review - comparative study<br>Analyzed and coded on NVivo<br>Preparation of academic paper |                                  |                               |                                                                                                 |                 |
| <b>III. Execution</b> |                                                                           |                                                                                                       | Participation in the conferences |                               |                                                                                                 |                 |
| <b>IV. Analysis</b>   |                                                                           |                                                                                                       |                                  | Preparation of academic paper |                                                                                                 |                 |
| <b>v. Completion</b>  |                                                                           |                                                                                                       |                                  |                               | Qualitative and quantitative analysis Presentation<br>of results at conference,<br>Final report |                 |



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## 5. Obtained project results

- This project corresponds with Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine Research Priorities (2022-2026) (Priority 1. Public policy development and its implementation in education, science, innovation and technology).
- Tackling inequality and poverty is a priority for developing countries and is crucial for ensuring economic and social stability. The need to solve these complex problems requires the introduction of innovation in the public sector of Ukraine. PSI necessitates collaboration between the state, the private sector and civil society institutions as well as the transfer of good practices nationally and internationally. A systematic literature review on the role of national context in public sector innovation was conducted. Articles have been reviewed and coded on NVivo. The review of articles on PSI in Ukraine revealed the political context at international, national, sub-national and local level has a significant influence on PSI. This finding provides fresh evidence for the argument that national context plays a key role in PSI.

- Our findings allow us to conceptualize the influence of political context on PSI at international, national and local levels. In Ukraine, innovation has been heavily dependent on international political context via knowledge transfer, international financial aid and European integration process. This emerged under the shadow of Western and Russian tensions of international relations.
- International agreements like the Association Agreement with the EU have set a transformative agenda for Public sector innovation (PSI).
- At national level, PSI has been impacted by political turmoil, citizen demands, patronage networks between politics and business, and frequently changing political agendas. Also, the empowerment of mayors has emerged as significant factors influencing PSI outcomes.

- At the local level, regional and local elites within patronage networks either hinder or exploit these innovation efforts due to their rent-seeking behavior.
- Overall, national political stability has been found to be crucial for the continuity and success of innovation activities. The collaboration with international NGOs facilitated grassroot innovation in the case of Prozorro. We have considered the impact of gender in the case of Prozorro, which has the potential to increase the transparency of public procurement and empower woman entrepreneurs to submit public procurement tenders avoiding patronage networks. In conclusion, Ukraine had a promising landscape for public sector innovation to increase the efficiency and transparency in government, however, the national context path-dependent to past legacies necessitated a unique collaboration framework to manage public sector innovation.

- Practically, research provides insights for strategists, policymakers, and international partners, highlighting the importance of aligning PSI with the relevant political climate to ensure effective reform and innovation of Ukraine. This study can be beneficial to the country's resilience and adaptability in the face of war, ensuring continuity and efficiency of government services.
- Moreover, research delineates the pathways through which PSI can align with EU standards, aiding Ukraine's aspirations for integration by showcasing practical examples of governance reforms that resonate with EU principles.
- This research, therefore, can help towards a pragmatic framework for leveraging PSI to navigate the complexities of war while advancing towards EU integration.

- Previous research on PSI has emphasized the role of collective action with external partners in solving complex policy problems through governance networks and horizontal relations. Cinar et al. (2022) studied the actors, process, and governance of collaborative PSI and how it can facilitate successful innovation transfer and outcomes in government, while also acknowledging the importance of national context. However, Cinar et al. (2021) identified numerous challenges to collaborative PSI that require coping strategies and tactics to overcome. Cinar et al. (2022) proposed a conceptual framework to understand how national context can influence the content and management of PSI.
- This project will build on this work and aim to understand the landscape of collaborative PSI in Ukraine and compare it to neighbouring contexts in Eastern Europe and the Baltic regions.

- This initial project aims to develop a long-term collaboration and further research funding to study public sector innovation in Ukraine and Eastern Europe through primary data collection.
- The project will study the landscape of successful collaborative innovation in government and public services in Ukraine and Eastern Europe & Baltic Region from a comparative perspective.
- Subsequently, the research project will study and compare innovative projects in public services that were introduced in Ukraine, East European and Baltic countries and submitted to OECD's Observatory for Public Sector Innovation (OPSI) and UN's Public Service Award databases.
- Further research bid applications to extend the work for other types of inclusive and frugal innovations in Ukraine for Public Sector Innovation.

# Publication of research materials at conferences and in scientific journals

1. **Conference Paper:** Cinar E., Ozcan S., Prodius O., Buzunar A. (2023). Public sector innovation in Ukraine: a promising landscape for post-war recovery. Proceedings of the 12th International SPC “Current Issues in Theory and Practice of Management”, May 26, National University “Odessa Polytechnic”, Odessa, Ukraine. Pp. 181-185. URL: <https://economics.net.ua/files/science/men/2023/s7.pdf>
2. **Manuscript** submitted to Public Administration Review: The Political Context of Public Sector Innovation in Transition Economies: A Critical Interpretative Synthesis of Evidence from Ukraine.
3. **Working paper** to be submitted to International Review of Administrative Sciences. Title of the work: The role of collaboration with international NGOs in public sector innovation: The case of Prozorro.

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You can find detailed information about the project by following the link:  
on the [Odesa Polytechnic National University](#) website or  
on the [Economic Scientific Portal](#)





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# Thank you very much for your attention!

<https://op.edu.ua/en/international/projects/uk-ukraine-twinning-initiative-12>

## University of Portsmouth, UK

**Dr. Emre Cinar**, Senior Lecturer, Department Director of  
Postgraduate Research School of Strategy, Marketing and  
Innovation

[emre.cinar@port.ac.uk](mailto:emre.cinar@port.ac.uk)

**Dr. Sercan Ozcan**, Associate Professor  
in Innovation & Technology Management  
Associate Head of Research and Innovation

[sercan.ozcan@port.ac.uk](mailto:sercan.ozcan@port.ac.uk)

## Odesa Polytechnic, Ukraine

**Prof. Dr. Oksana Prodius**, Head of the Department  
of Management, Institute of Economic and Management

[o.i.prodius@op.edu.ua](mailto:o.i.prodius@op.edu.ua)

**Prof. Dr. Ivan Sokoly**, Professor of the Department of  
Management, Institute of Economic and Management

[i.i.sokoly@op.edu.ua](mailto:i.i.sokoly@op.edu.ua)

**Alina Buzunar**, PhD

[alvash086@gmail.com](mailto:alvash086@gmail.com)

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