

Review for a monograph

**"The Donbas disaster: localization and liquidation of the consequences through modernization and smart specialization (economic, ecological, social, and scientific and technical dimensions). Part I. Disposition" / collective of authors; National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Institute of Industrial Economics.
Kyiv; Kramatorsk, 2021. 302 p [in Ukrainian].**



Jozef Zat'ko

*Dr.h.c. mult. JUDr., PhD, MBA, LL.M., Honor. Prof. Mgr.
Prezident Európsky inštitút ďalšieho vzdelávania, Slovakia
ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-2422-0131>*



Beata Glinkowska-Krauze

*PhD, Associate Professor at the University of Lodz, Faculty
of Management, University of Lodz, Lodz, Poland
ORCID ID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6915-3297>*

The full-scale war of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, which began in February 2022, has led to numerous challenges for Europe and, to a large extent, for the world community as a whole. One of these defining challenges is the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine. An objective analysis of the causes and course of the Russian-Ukrainian war shows that the processing of all issues of the post-war reconstruction of Ukraine should be carried out, first of all, by Ukraine itself: its political establishment, scientists, and civil society.

In the peer-reviewed monograph, the authors of which are well-known scientists of one of the leading scientific research centers of Ukraine - the Institute of Industrial Economics of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, the prerequisites and prospects of the post-war reconstruction of Donetsk and Luhansk regions are analyzed. The special value of the monograph lies in the fact that the Russian-Ukrainian war began precisely with the capture of significant parts of these two regions in 2014 (after the occupation of Crimea). At the same time, it should be realized that these two regions were one of the most developed industrially oriented regions of Ukraine. That is, the model of the recovery of Donbas - Donetsk and Luhansk regions, is legitimate to consider as the original perspective model of the post-war recovery of Ukraine as a whole.

The anthological chronicles of the events of the hybrid war of 2014-2015 in the East of Ukraine are presented and researched in the monograph. The book is a collection of cases on localization and liquidation of the consequences of war through modernization and smart specialization.

The study is focused on determining the social, economic, ecological, and scientific and technical dimensions of the disaster in Donbas. In particular, it has been proven that the main characteristics of the social dimension are financial impoverishment, population outflow, lack of trust and non-acceptance of the activities of central authorities; low level of social infrastructure development; a drop in the quality of life and the value of the "social capital" of the working population of the studied regions.

Based on the authors' calculations, the economic dimension of the disaster in Donbas is considered, which is characterized by a drop in the gross regional product of the regions (from 2nd to 21st place - Donetsk and from 5th to 25th - Luhansk region per capita); a rapid decline in the competitiveness of the economy; the decline of industrial potential; lack of regional cooperation of large, medium and small businesses in Donbas.

The environmental dimension is particularly problematic, and it needs an immediate solution. For the ecological dimension of the disaster in Donbas, there are risks of coming to the surface and flooding underground horizons with drinking water and basements of the residential sector with mine waters; an increase in cases of methane mine gas entering residential premises and the existing threat of a local radiation leak as a result of a nuclear test in one of the mines ("Yunkom" conducted during the times of the USSR); lack of environmental risk monitoring system.

The authors characterized the scientific and technical dimension of the disaster in Donbas, which is related to the underdevelopment of innovative infrastructure (incubators, scientific and technoparks, etc.), as well as institutional support (organizational and legislative measures) of its sustainable development; the lack of state and regional support for the "innovation elevator" (a system for supporting innovations from school to commercial implementation on domestic and foreign markets); the presence of a shortage of decentralized sources of funding for applied developments, in particular, energy-saving technologies in the production sphere and communal economy.

Cases for localization and liquidation of the consequences of the war in Donbas are given for each dimension. Of particular practical value are the authors' proposals regarding the establishment of the international fund "Rebooting Donbass - 4.0", which would provide for the creation of relevant branches: environmental; social; neo-industrial modernization; scientific, and innovative.

In this context, it would be possible to advise the authors of the monograph, without in any way diminishing its scientific and applied practical value, to pay more attention to the problems and prospects of the implementation in Ukraine of the world experience of post-war recovery with further development of a kind of analog of the "Marshall Plan" for Europe, the "Monnet Plan" for France, the "Dodge Plan" for Japan, the reconstruction of South Korea and the countries of the modern Western Balkans.

There are all the institutional, scientific, and specific historical reasons to note that the topic of the monograph is becoming especially relevant after the full-scale war in Ukraine. It will be useful for a wide range of scientists and specialists from the countries of the European Union on localization and liquidation of the consequences of the war in Donbas and representatives of the business community.

