СЕКЦІЯ 1.
російсько-Українська війна: наслідки та перспективи для журналістики

ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNALISM IN THE CONTEXT OF WAR AND GLOBAL CHALLENGES: EDUCATION AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

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Abstract. *This study considers the transformation of environmental journalism in the context of Russia's war in Ukraine and the broader global ecological crisis. It highlights new educational formats, international cooperation, and innovative projects aimed at equipping future journalists with skills to report on war-induced environmental disasters. The study also underscores Ukraine's integration into European academic and media networks fostering cross-border environmental communication.*
Keywords: *Environmental Journalism, War, Ukraine, Education, Sustainability, Media Cooperation, Climate Communication*

ЕКОЛОГІЧНА ЖУРНАЛІСТИКА В УМОВАХ ВІЙНИ ТА ГЛОБАЛЬНИХ ВИКЛИКІВ: ОСВІТА Й МІЖНАРОДНА СПІВПРАЦЯ

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Анотація. *У дослідженні розглядається трансформація екологічної журналістики в умовах війни Росії проти України та ширшої глобальної екологічної кризи. Особлива увага приділяється новим освітнім форматам, міжнародній співпраці та інноваційним проєктам, спрямованим на підготовку майбутніх журналістів до висвітлення, зокрема, екологічних катастроф, спричинених війною. Дослідження також підкреслює інтеграцію України в європейські академічні та медіа-мережі, що сприяють транскордонній екологічній комунікації.*
Ключові слова: *екологічна журналістика, війна, Україна, освіта, сталий розвиток, медіа-співпраця, кліматична комунікація.*

Environmental journalism is undergoing conceptual transformations in various research dimensions in the 21st century. The existing global ecological problems have been further exacerbated by Russia's war in Ukraine. Consequently, new formats of environmental journalism education are essential for future media and communication professionals. The methodology and curriculum must expand the investigative journalist's competencies. Journalists need to investigate war-induced environmental disasters, report on them across multimedia and convergent platforms, and effectively use social media for environmental communication.

Scholars affiliated with the NGO Ukrainian Nature Conservation Group report that 44% of Ukraine's nature reserves and national parks are located in areas under russian occupation or active combat zones. The Black Sea Biosphere Reserve and the Askania-Nova Biosphere Reserve, which were

the first Ukrainian nature conservation sites included in the UNESCO list, are now threatened by the war and face the risk of destruction [1].

The academic course "Environmental Journalism" is taught and studied at various Ukrainian higher education institutions. At Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, the Educational and Scientific Institute of Journalism has offered environmental journalism courses since 1995, initially as an elective and, since the 2002/2003 academic year, as a full two-semester course including lectures and seminars. Over the years, the course title has undergone changes; at present, the master's programme includes a course entitled "Environmental Communication and Climate Journalism". Topics related to ecology, green energy, and sustainable development continue to be actively integrated into educational initiatives and researches at the Institute of Journalism [2].

One such initiative is the "Green Institute of Journalism", an educational and social project founded by Associate Professor Alevtyna Demutska from the Department of Advertising and Public Relations [3]. Since 2011, this platform has allowed students to develop strategic communication skills for promoting sustainable development ideas [4]. Key Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv divisions, such as the Olexander Fomin Botanical Garden and the Kaniv Nature Reserve, involve journalism students in programmes aimed at preserving natural ecosystems. Traditional tree-planting initiatives, launched by the University's Rector, reinforce environmental values among students, faculty, and the broader community.

The university actively promotes international educational initiatives, particularly within the framework of the European Union's Erasmus+ Programme. For example, the Institute of Journalism successfully implements the Erasmus+ GREENO2 Project – "Green Roofs in higher education institutions as sustainable cEnters for research, participation, ENvironmental consciousness and O2 generation" [5]. This initiative aims to enhance climate change education, promote ecological awareness, and develop effective environmental communication strategies. The project unites eight partners from six European countries under the coordination of the University of Tuscia (Italy).

Another key initiative at the Institute of Journalism is Erasmus+ GAME4CHANGE – "Digital Serious Games for Climate Change Education" [6]. This Project focuses on modernizing university education by integrating digital games and gamification into environmental education. Its goal is to equip educators with tools and methodological guidelines for using serious games to help students better understand environmental issues and develop real-world solutions. The Project also seeks to create innovative educational resources and build a European network for exchanging gamified learning methods in climate education. GAME4CHANGE brings together seven partners from six European countries under the coordination of the Polytechnic Institute of Leiria (Portugal).

In 2023, the Ukrainian NGO Internews-Ukraine, with support from the UNDP, developed and conducted an environmental journalism training programme for journalists from national and regional media [7]. The goal was to raise awareness of Russia's environmental crimes in Ukraine, including:

- Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Power Plant under russian military control, posing a nuclear threat to Europe and the world;
- The occupation and bombing of the Chornobyl Nuclear Power Plant;
- The destruction of the Kakhovka Hydroelectric Power Plant, which flooded 600 square kilometers of territory.

The journalist who exposed the Kakhovka Dam explosion became a key expert for many reporters through this programme.

In 2025, Internews-Ukraine, in cooperation with Journalismfund Europe, launched the "Green Watch" investigative journalism school, dedicated to covering environmental challenges [8].

The globalisation of environmental problems in war-affected Ukrainian territories necessitates academic research on journalistic practices, their impact on public perception, and the development of shared narratives through cooperation between Ukrainian media (Ukrinform, Ukrainska Pravda, Suspilne Ukraine, Hromadske Radio) and other European media. The Ukrainian environmental narrative, as interpreted by journalists, scholars, university professors, and civil society activists, with the support of the European Journalism Training Association (EJTA), can contribute to broadening the global dimension of academic discussions in European universities on how environmental issues are represented in the media [9].

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