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NGO Committee on Intergenerational Solidarity



NGO Committee on Ageing-NY

The Second in a Series Presented by the NGO Committee on Intergenerational Solidarity (COIGENS) on the Theme:

“Social Trauma and Intergenerational Programmes”

This symposium is an approved side event during the 61st meeting of the Commission on Social Development

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEMS ARE REMARKABLY RESILIENT EVEN IN TIMES OF EXTREME SOCIAL TRAUMA: LESSONS FROM THE UKRAINE

SPEAKERS: **Vasyl Kostrytsia**, Association of Employer Organizations of Ukraine and former International Labor Organization Chief; and **Elaine Fultz**, author of a recent article on the Ukraine. Both are members of the National Academy of Social Insurance.

Virtual Event: February 6, 2023 from 1:15 to 2:30pm. Use the Zoom link to Join:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87880687771?pwd=TXRBZIA4M0k1dFZadWJkaUI3V0Zldz09>

Social Security Systems and related social protection programs are inherently intergenerational providing income for older persons through tax transfers from the working age population and helping to maintain the support that wage earners provide to children even in times of unemployment. In this context they closely support the dominant value systems of most nations. Because of this they have shown themselves to be remarkably resilient even when faced with extreme social trauma. Here are some inspiring examples from the Ukraine.

Social Security institutions are being called on to reach those newly eligible for benefits due to unemployment, disability, injury, or death of a family wage earner. At the same time, they must find ways to continue to support beneficiaries driven from their homes to seek refuge in safer regions of the country or who have left it altogether. They are coping with dysfunctional banks, post offices, and social security offices, as well as with unpredictable phone and internet connections.

Ukraine's government offices remain mostly open, and its social security policymakers and institutions are actively taking on the challenges they face, often relying on creative workarounds, including adapting benefits and extending outreach.