

Editor's Preface

Denys Svyrydenko

Doctor of Philosophical Sciences, Professor, Dragomanov Ukrainian State University
(Kyiv, Ukraine)

E-mail: denis_sviridenko@ukr.net
<https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6126-1747>

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You are holding the second issue of the *Future Human Image* journal for 2023 in your hands. This challenging year for Ukraine passed under the sirens of the threat of missile attacks, and scientists were able to work thanks to the heroic resistance of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Human civilization, on a large area of our planet, simultaneously moved toward establishing the priorities of sustainable development, Industry 4.0., and inalienable values, rights, and freedoms outlined in many international documents. The armed aggression, the victim of which is Ukraine, demonstrates that, in parallel, in human nature and the practice of political systems of totalitarian states, there remains an existential space for the actualization of the “dark side of human nature”, which endangers the world order of peaceful coexistence, levels the value of human life in favor of the implementation of practices capture of territories, shows disdain for international law, implements practices of actual destruction of alternative, civilized social, cultural and political structures.

The *Future Human Image* journal, as its tasks, since its foundation in 2011, defined its mission as to create a broad academic and social platform that develops and applies futures thinking and methods with a focus on human and social perfection. For the second year, during which Ukraine is in a state of armed conflict produced by Russia, the journal acts as a platform for discussing the future of humanity in the conditions of the challenges of a brutal war. The fact that in the context of armed aggression, the nature of which is made up of the pre-modern political ambitions of the aggressor state, the civilizational achievements of the information society – information technologies with corresponding cyber security challenges, knowledge economy, distorted ideals of education for the 21st century – are also a challenge for scientists and a subject for one's reflection.

Ukrainian researchers and the Editorial Board of the journal are grateful for the attention that the international academic community pays to the current situation in Ukraine, offering

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theoretical and practical steps that will contribute to the victory over the aggressor, help the promising reconstruction of our country in many areas – security, economic, educational, etc. Also, the people of Ukraine are deeply grateful to all states that assist our state in the struggle for its territorial integrity and provide support for Ukrainians who are temporarily located on the territory of these states.

Taking into account the Ukrainian national specifics and previous global challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, our journal traditionally publishes the papers in the format of special issues. The journal's current issue is also a platform where the international scientific community expresses solidarity with Ukraine and moves us forward to victory at the scientific research level. In the Volume 20th of the journal, we tried to provide an opportunity for scientists from different countries to propose strategies for the support and development of Ukraine in various areas, to systematize effective tools that would contribute to the implementation by our state of a strategic course for Ukraine's accession to the European Union and NATO. The journal is grateful for meaningful studies offered by researchers from Georgia, Azerbaijan, the Philippines, and the United States of America!

The peculiarity of this volume is that young scientists who demonstrated solidarity with Ukraine and the desire to find answers to questions that concern the future of our country and humanity, in general, were involved in the research. Ukraine is now an arena not only for fighting for the right to its existence but also for defending the foundation for the further existence of democracy and human dignity in the civilizational project of humanity. The authors of the studies presented in the journal paid attention to the philosophical, legal, technological, energy, educational, and other aspects of preserving humanity, emphasizing the challenges for Ukraine as a state.

In particular, the pages of the journal present research devoted to cyber deterrence strategies in the 21st century. The authors should have paid attention to the essential technological problem of voice coding and finding mechanisms for non-violent conflict resolution. Some authors delved into the justification of the model of international relations and the search for tools to rationalize the activities of political forces. Considering the role of the energy sector in the 21st century, the journal has interesting solutions on its pages to ensure the energy security strategy of the European Union in the background of the Russia-Ukraine war. The journal also discusses how Ukraine's educational system should consider the war's challenges, discussing the consequences of the Russian-Ukrainian war on the Ukrainian education system. The economic development experience of post-Soviet countries, particularly Azerbaijan, was included in the journal's content.

We sincerely hope that the issue of the journal will deepen the discourse of the existence of humanity in the future and will contribute to the understanding of the future human image, based on the example of Ukraine, which defends the progressive values of our civilization!