

ADMINISTRATIVE AND LEGAL SUPPORT FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL SUPPORT AND REHABILITATION OF SERVICEMEN OF THE ARMED FORCES OF UKRAINE

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Abstract

The article explores the administrative and legal framework for providing psychological support and rehabilitation to servicemen of the Armed Forces of Ukraine amid prolonged armed aggression. It analyzes the current state of normative-legal regulation in this area, including key legislative acts, subordinate normative documents, and their compliance with the urgent needs of servicemen who have suffered psycho-emotional trauma due to combat operations. The main gaps have been identified, including insufficient systematization, lack of clear procedures for providing psychological assistance, and the need to improve coordination between government bodies, military units, and healthcare institutions. Special attention is given to the analysis of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Resolution № 1338, which defines the main principles, forms, and levels of providing free psychological support to war veterans and their families. The influence of the Law of Ukraine "On Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities in Ukraine," which expands legal guarantees for servicemen affected by martial law conditions, is also discussed. The authors emphasize the necessity of adopting a specialized legislative act regulating psychological assistance at a systemic level, as well as amending relevant normative acts to enhance administrative and legal mechanisms. Approaches to the formation of an integrated and comprehensive system of psychological support are proposed, taking into account both international experience and the specifics of current military challenges, ensuring effective protection of servicemen's mental health and increasing their combat readiness.

Keywords: servicemen; normative-legal regulation; administrative and legal support; military psychology; social protection.

Introduction

The full-scale armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, ongoing since 2022, has resulted not only in colossal human and material losses but also in profound socio-psychological consequences for Ukrainian society. These effects are particularly acute among members of the Armed Forces of Ukraine (AFU), who are exposed daily to highly stressful combat conditions, suffer the loss of comrades, and endure prolonged physical and emotional exhaustion. Psychological research indicates that between 20% and 30% of combatants are at risk of experiencing post-traumatic

stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and anxiety disorders (Yehuda & Lehrner, 2018). Consequently, the issue of psychological support and rehabilitation for military personnel emerges not only as a humanitarian concern but also as a matter of national security, given that the mental health of service members directly impacts the combat readiness of the army and the defence capacity of the state (Brenner et al., 2021).

In Ukraine, the development of a system for providing psychological assistance to military personnel has long remained outside the priorities of state policy. Only after 2014, in response to Russian aggression in the east, was a series of legal acts adopted, initiating progress in this area. Nevertheless, even following the outbreak of the full-scale war in 2022, the existing legal and regulatory framework remains fragmented, inconsistent, and insufficiently adapted to actual needs. Research conducted by the National Institute for Strategic Studies (2023) highlights the lack of adequate interagency coordination, unified standards for psychological support, and a clearly designated authority responsible for this domain. Similar conclusions have been drawn by Ukrainian legal scholars and psychologists (Kochuhur & Lytvyn, 2023; Kurkova & Lutsenko-Myskiiv, 2024).

In the scholarly literature, the issue of psychological support for military personnel is examined through both medical and legal lenses. Psychological studies emphasise the need for early diagnosis of trauma-related conditions, the use of crisis interventions, multidisciplinary approaches, and rehabilitation programmes (Hoge et al., 2016). Legal scholarship, in turn, analyses the normative foundations for providing psychological assistance, issues of governmental coordination, and the alignment of national legislation with international standards (Dimich, 2019; Angelska, 2025).

International experience demonstrates that in NATO countries, psychological support for military personnel is integrated into the broader system of military medicine and social protection. For instance, in the United States, the Military OneSource programme provides free counselling to service members and their families, while in the United Kingdom, the Defence Medical Services operates a network of rehabilitation centres. In Israel, where the military continuously operates under threat conditions, the administrative and legal provision of psychological support is enshrined in specific legal acts, ensuring rapid access to specialists for military personnel (Shalev, 2020). For Ukraine, studying this experience is critically important, as it allows the avoidance of common mistakes and the integration of best practices.

Despite certain positive steps, including the adoption of Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Resolution No. 1338 of 29 November 2022, significant challenges remain in the provision of psychological support for military personnel. Chief among these is the absence of a dedicated law on psychological assistance that would establish legal foundations, procedures, and standards for service delivery. Equally problematic is the unclear coordination between governmental bodies—the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Health, Ministry for Veterans Affairs, and other agencies—resulting in duplicated responsibilities and bureaucratic barriers. Existing subordinate legislation remains insufficiently systematised, complicating its practical application. Additional challenges include the absence of a unified training system for personnel providing psychological support to the military and the limited implementation of international standards within Ukrainian institutions. These gaps are corroborated both by scholarly publications (Kolesnichenko, 2018; Angelska, 2025) and analytical reports from leading expert centres. Accordingly, the issue is complex and requires an interdisciplinary approach.

The aim of this study is to identify and substantiate effective approaches to the administrative and legal provision of psychological support and rehabilitation for members of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. To achieve this aim, the study sets out several objectives: to analyse current legislation and subordinate acts in the field of psychological support for military personnel; to identify the main gaps and inconsistencies in

regulatory frameworks; to examine international experience (NATO, Israel, USA, UK) and the possibilities of its adaptation in Ukraine; to formulate proposals for improving administrative and legal mechanisms, including the adoption of a dedicated law and the designation of an authorised body; and to propose a model for an integrated system of psychological support for military personnel (Shalev et al., 2017). The study hypothesises that the enhancement of administrative and legal provision for psychological assistance to the military is feasible only through a systemic approach, encompassing the enactment of a dedicated “Law on Psychological Assistance,” the establishment of a single coordinating authority, the unification of service standards, and the integration of best international practices. This approach would enable the creation of an effective model capable of responding to contemporary wartime challenges and the needs of post-war reconstruction.

Previous studies (Kochuhur & Lytvyn, 2023; Dimich, 2019) have largely focused on describing existing legislation and providing a general analysis of implementation challenges. This article proposes a novel approach by formulating a model of an administrative and legal mechanism that integrates normative, institutional, and procedural components. The study argues for the establishment of a central executive authority responsible for policy in the field of psychological support for the military. Specific legislative amendments are proposed, including the concept of a dedicated “Law on Psychological Assistance.” Comparative legal analysis of international practices is employed to generate recommendations for adapting the best experiences from NATO and countries with prolonged conflict exposure. The study advances the hypothesis that effective psychological support is not merely a medical or social service but a component of national security, requiring specific legal regulation.

Literature Review

The issue of psychological support and rehabilitation for military personnel in the context of full-scale war has increasingly attracted the attention of both domestic and international scholars, practitioners, and analytical centres. Ukrainian research emphasises that the mental health of service members is not solely a humanitarian concern but also a direct determinant of combat readiness and national security (Kochuhur & Lytvyn, 2023; Kurkova & Lutsenko-Myskiv, 2024). This issue has gained particular urgency following 24 February 2022, when the escalation of hostilities led to a sharp increase in cases of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and other psycho-emotional disorders.

Analytical centres and non-governmental organisations have made a significant contribution to shaping the scholarly discourse. Reports by the Ukrainian Institute for the Future, the Centre for Civil Liberties, and the NGO “Mental Health Platform” highlight systemic deficiencies in coordination between state bodies regarding the mental health of military personnel, as well as the absence of unified standards of care. Similar findings are presented in the report of the National Institute for Strategic Studies, *Psychological Support for Military Personnel in Wartime: Challenges, Resources, Prospects* (2023), which emphasises the need to establish a single administrative centre to coordinate activities between the Ministry of Defence, Ministry of Health, Ministry for Veterans Affairs, and other agencies. The report advocates the development of a network of psychological centres attached to military units, which would ensure rapid access to services and reduce bureaucratic obstacles.

Scholars also underline the misalignment of the existing legal and regulatory framework with the actual needs of military personnel. Kochuhur and Lytvyn (2023) conducted a comprehensive analysis of legislation governing medical and psychological rehabilitation, including the Law of Ukraine On Social and Legal Protection of Military Personnel and Their Families, noting both positive developments after 2022 (such as

rehabilitation abroad and assistance for released prisoners of war) and persistent gaps related to interagency coordination. Dimich (2019), prior to the full-scale invasion, examined psychological and medical rehabilitation of participants in the Joint Forces Operation as an element of national security logistics, emphasising the insufficient effectiveness of legal regulation. Angelska (2025) highlighted challenges associated with severe injuries among service members and the need for multidisciplinary rehabilitation encompassing medical, psychological, and social components. Kurkova and Lutsenko-Myskiv (2024) concluded that legislation requires adaptation to wartime conditions, particularly regarding support for military personnel with PTSD, and proposed measures to strengthen interagency coordination.

Internationally, the psychological support of military personnel has long been a subject of study. In the United States, it has been established that 20–30% of combat veterans experience PTSD and other mental disorders (Hoge et al., 2016; Brenner et al., 2021). Comprehensive support programmes have been developed, notably Military OneSource, which provides free counselling to service members and their families. In the United Kingdom, the Defence Medical Services system offers multi-level medical and psychological support to service members, including rehabilitation centres for veterans. The Israeli experience is also instructive: administrative and legal mechanisms ensure rapid access to psychologists for military personnel, and PTSD is treated as a priority public health issue (Shalev, 2020).

Contemporary scholarly literature increasingly emphasises that psychological support for the military constitutes not merely a medical or social service but is an integral component of national security (Yehuda & Lehrner, 2018). This implies the necessity of a distinct legal status and formal normative recognition. Research demonstrates that effective support models require the integration of administrative, legal, and medico-social mechanisms, alongside close collaboration between state authorities, military structures, and civil society (Journal of Veterans Studies, 2025).

Accordingly, the literature indicates that, despite some positive developments, Ukraine has yet to establish a comprehensive system of psychological support for military personnel. Both domestic and international studies stress the importance of systematisation, unified standards, and adequate funding. Scholars concur that, without the adoption of dedicated legislation and the designation of an authorised body, it is impossible to create an effective administrative and legal mechanism. At the same time, international experience demonstrates that the implementation of a comprehensive psychological support system is not only achievable but critically necessary in the context of prolonged conflict and post-war reconstruction.

Materials and Methods

The methodological framework of this study is grounded in an interdisciplinary approach, encompassing jurisprudence, psychology, sociology, and public administration. This approach is necessitated by the complexity of the phenomenon under investigation—the legal and regulatory provision of psychological support and rehabilitation for members of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. Psychological assistance for military personnel possesses not only a medico-social dimension but also an administrative and legal one, requiring a comprehensive analysis of various levels of legal regulation, implementation procedures, and human and material resources.

To achieve the objectives of the study, several groups of methods were employed: general scientific, specialised legal, and comparative-analytical. In the initial stage, a systems-structural method was applied, which allowed the identification of components of the legal and regulatory framework—constitutional, legislative, subordinate, and departmental levels. This method enabled the examination of the interrelationships between general legal acts (the Constitution of Ukraine, the Laws On Health Care, On Social

Services) and specialised documents, notably Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine Resolution No. 1338 of 29 November 2022. The systemic approach facilitated the identification of the fragmented nature of the regulatory framework and the consequences arising from the absence of a unified strategy.

The second key method employed was formal-legal analysis, which facilitated a detailed examination of the content of existing legislative and subordinate acts. Particular attention was paid to the definitions of concepts such as “psychological assistance,” “rehabilitation,” and “social services,” their codification in legislation, and their alignment with international standards. The application of this method revealed that, although the laws establish basic frameworks for psychological support, these provisions are general rather than specialised, complicating their practical implementation.

In the third stage, a comparative-legal method was used to analyse international experience in NATO countries, the EU, the United States, and Israel. The materials analysed included legislative acts, strategic documents, and scholarly publications by foreign researchers (Hoge et al., 2016; Shalev et al., 2017; Yehuda & Lehrner, 2018; Brenner et al., 2021). Comparative analysis indicated that, in most of these countries, psychological support for military personnel is regarded as a component of national security and is enshrined in specific legal instruments. For Ukraine, this experience is particularly relevant in the context of developing a dedicated Law on Psychological Assistance.

Content analysis also played a significant role and was applied to scholarly publications by Ukrainian and international authors, analytical reports from the National Institute for Strategic Studies, the Ukrainian Institute for the Future, non-governmental organisations (such as the “Mental Health Platform”), and publications in leading international journals (Journal of Psychiatric Research, American Journal of Psychiatry, Journal of Veterans Studies). This facilitated the assessment of the current state of scholarly discourse and the identification of research gaps.

Additionally, a historical-legal method was employed to trace the evolution of legal regulation of psychological support in Ukraine from the early 1990s to the present. This allowed the conclusion that, prior to 2014, psychological support for military personnel was scarcely considered a state policy priority, whereas following the conflict in eastern Ukraine, and particularly after 2022, it has become a central component of national security.

The study drew on a wide range of material sources, including Ukrainian legal and regulatory acts: the Constitution of Ukraine; the Laws On Health Care, On Social Services, On the Rehabilitation of Persons with Disabilities in Ukraine, On Psychiatric Assistance, On Social and Legal Protection of Military Personnel and Their Families; and subordinate legislation, primarily Cabinet of Ministers Resolution No. 1338 (2022). Drafts and concepts developed by the Ministry of Health, Ministry of Defence, and Ministry for Veterans Affairs were also examined. Additional sources included scholarly monographs and articles by Ukrainian researchers (Kolesnichenko, 2018; Kochuhur & Lytvyn, 2023; Angelska, 2025; Kurkova & Lutsenko-Myskiv, 2024), as well as international publications addressing PTSD, trauma prevention, and interdisciplinary rehabilitation programmes (Shalev et al., 2017; Brenner et al., 2021).

The research was conducted in sequential stages. Initially, existing legal and regulatory acts governing psychological support for military personnel were reviewed and systematised. Subsequently, scholarly and analytical sources were analysed to identify the main practical challenges in the implementation of legislation. The next stage involved a comparative-legal analysis of the experiences of other countries. Finally, proposals were developed to improve Ukrainian legislation and administrative mechanisms.

The selection of these methods is justified by the complexity of the research problem. Only through the combination of formal-legal analysis, an interdisciplinary

approach, and comparative-legal research was it possible to evaluate the effectiveness of the existing legal framework, benchmark it against international standards, and formulate practical recommendations. The use of a comprehensive methodology ensured the scientific validity of the findings and allowed for conclusions relevant to both legal theory and state policy in the field of psychological support for military personnel.

Results and Discussion

The legal and regulatory framework for the psychological support of military personnel in Ukraine has developed gradually in response to the increasing significance of safeguarding the mental health of service members during armed conflict. In the early stages of Ukrainian statehood, psychological assistance to military personnel was largely a secondary concern and addressed primarily within the general provisions for medical care. However, following the onset of Russian aggression in 2014, and particularly after the full-scale invasion in 2022, the issue assumed exceptional importance. The war has imposed unprecedented psychological burdens on both active service members and veterans, highlighting the urgent need to establish a comprehensive, systematically regulated legal framework to ensure effective psychological support and rehabilitation. Consequently, the development of legal mechanisms in this area has become the subject of active scholarly debate and practical investigation.

Analysing the current state of legal provision for psychological assistance, most researchers emphasise its fragmentation and dispersion. Scholars, including Lytvyn, note that although the overall level of legal regulation can be considered satisfactory, it is characterised by incremental development, slow legislative processes, and significant deficiencies in practical application. Kolesnichenko rightly observes that the existing legislative framework reflects a reactive rather than proactive approach: regulatory acts are adopted in response to specific challenges or incidents rather than establishing a coherent systemic strategy. This results in uneven delivery of psychological support, dependent on the initiative of individual agencies, international partners, or civil society organisations (Kochugur & Lytvyn, 2023). Furthermore, as Kolesnichenko (2018) emphasises, the current legal framework for psychological support, particularly for service members affected by combat, remains fragmented and underdeveloped both in general and specialised contexts. A key gap is the absence of a dedicated law regulating psychological assistance and the provision of corresponding services at a systemic level. This contrasts with psychiatric care, which is governed by the separate Law of Ukraine on Psychiatric Assistance, establishing the legal and organisational foundations for its provision (Law of Ukraine No. 1489-III, 2000). Such a situation necessitates urgent legislative refinement to create an effective, comprehensive mechanism for psychological support for those affected by armed conflict. At present, there is no unified framework outlining the fundamental principles of state policy on psychological support for military personnel. These principles should include mandatory psychological support throughout the service lifecycle, integration of psychological assistance into national security structures, interagency coordination with clearly defined responsibilities, guaranteed state funding, and active participation of civil society organisations and international partners as fully recognised stakeholders.

A key positive development in this regard was Cabinet of Ministers Resolution No. 1338 (29 November 2022), which initiated the creation of a single interagency registry of psychological service providers. This measure aims to reduce fragmentation and enhance service quality; however, its implementation has faced numerous challenges, including insufficient resources for proper coordination, a shortage of certified specialists, and a disconnect between military and civilian approaches to psychotherapy. Consequently, even legally established mechanisms remain largely declaratory, hindered by the absence of a coherent institutional architecture (Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers

of Ukraine No. 1338 of 2022).

Particular attention must be given to the concept of psychological security for service members, which should be considered an integral component of Ukraine's national security. In the current conditions of war, the psychological resilience of the armed forces is as critical a resource as material and technical support. Psychological security encompasses not only the treatment of existing mental disorders, including post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), but also systematic preventive measures aimed at developing stress resistance, crisis management skills, and a positive moral-psychological climate within units. This necessitates the development and codification of strategies, methodologies, and programmes covering all stages of service—from training to demobilisation and reintegration into civilian life (Gorbunova et al., 2016).

International experience demonstrates the importance of a comprehensive approach. In the United States, the Mental Health Services for Veterans Act provides for specialised units within the Department of Veterans Affairs, integrated with military medical services. NATO and EU countries emphasise close cooperation between state structures and the civil sector: for example, the United Kingdom operates the Veterans' Mental Health Transition, Intervention and Liaison Service, covering both service members and their families, while Germany has a dedicated network of accredited psychotherapists for Bundeswehr veterans. WHO recommendations underline the need to ensure access to mental health services at all levels, from primary care to highly specialised centres, and to incorporate psychological support into national crisis response systems. The 2023 European Mental Health Strategy emphasises the importance of prevention and the integration of psychosocial interventions across health, education, and security sectors (Law of Ukraine No. 1338). For Ukraine, it is not only important to implement selected elements of this international experience but also to develop a model tailored to the specific conditions of protracted hybrid warfare, a substantial mobilisable population, and the social challenges associated with veteran reintegration. Unlike most European countries, where veterans constitute a relatively small proportion of the population, in Ukraine this figure is expected to increase significantly in the coming years, requiring adaptation of the entire mental health system. Therefore, the enactment of a dedicated law on psychological support for military personnel and veterans is not merely desirable but essential (Bortnyak, 2022).

Within the scope of administrative law, amendments are also warranted to relevant legislation, including the Laws On Social Services, On the Fundamentals of National Resistance, and On the Status of War Veterans and Guarantees of Their Social Protection, as well as subordinate normative acts. Such amendments should harmonise interagency procedures, delineate the powers of executive authorities, regulate access to services, and ensure quality control. It is also necessary to designate a central executive authority responsible for the formulation and implementation of state policy in psychological rehabilitation, granting it coordination, supervisory, and regulatory functions. These measures would establish a comprehensive administrative and legal mechanism to address mental health challenges in wartime (Law of Ukraine No. 2671-VIII, 2019).

The prevention of psychological disorders and engagement with service members' families merit particular attention. International experience confirms that family environments significantly influence the effectiveness of psychological rehabilitation. Programmes in the United States and Canada include specialised courses for family members, equipping them to understand the behavioural manifestations of PTSD and to provide a supportive environment (Hoge et al., 2016). In Ukraine, such approaches are only nascent and require legislative consolidation. Without this, even successful treatment risks being undermined by an unsupportive environment, complicating reintegration.

Statistical data further underscore the scale of the problem. According to the

Ministry of Health, in 2023 the number of service members and veterans seeking help for PTSD symptoms increased by over 70% compared to 2021. International experts estimate that at least one-third of combatants require professional psychological support (National Institute for Strategic Studies, 2023). Meanwhile, the number of certified military psychologists in Ukraine remains critically insufficient, with estimates suggesting over a thousand potential clients per specialist. This highlights a systemic gap between need and capacity that cannot be bridged without a comprehensive regulatory approach encompassing funding, personnel training, and international collaboration.

Another significant challenge concerns staffing. While the Resolution establishes qualification requirements, there is a shortage of trained psychologists specialised in combat trauma and military rehabilitation. University curricula and in-service training are not always updated in line with current clinical and legal standards, resulting in reliance on generalist psychologists, which reduces the quality of care for PTSD and complex trauma cases (Brenner et al., 2021). Geographic disparities further exacerbate inequities: access is better in major cities and regions with military hospitals and veterans' centres, whereas in district centres and frontline areas services are often limited or absent.

Coordination between military services and the healthcare system also presents ethical and legal challenges. Tensions exist between command imperatives, which may require information on personnel status for operational purposes, and principles of medical and psychological confidentiality (Yehuda & Lehrner, 2018). In practice, there are no clear standards governing information sharing between medical-psychological services and command structures, creating risks of rights violations or, conversely, impeding adequate care. The absence of legally established rules on commanders' access to medical data undermines trust and may reduce service members' willingness to seek help.

Practical inconsistencies also arise regarding standardised methods and validated assessment tools. Although the use of validated instruments is codified, some agencies employ adapted or untested methodologies, leading to inconsistent diagnostic conclusions and, consequently, unstable clinical decisions concerning rehabilitation (Goodson et al., 2025). There is also no centralised mechanism for accrediting methodologies or monitoring the quality of their application.

Procedural barriers and bureaucracy further impede effective support. Accessing certain services requires multiple steps, including commissions and specialist panels, before prolonged rehabilitation or overseas treatment can be granted. In crisis situations, such procedures delay interventions, reducing their effectiveness, as early support is critical in preventing chronic disorders. Simplified referral pathways and "fast-track" protocols for critical cases have proven more effective, yet they are not codified at a national level.

Thus, although recent legislation contains key provisions and principles (right to assistance, standards, confidentiality), practical implementation is hindered by insufficient systemic funding, staffing deficits, procedural inconsistency, fragmented record-keeping, and weak interagency coordination. This underscores the need not only for codifying rights and mechanisms in law but also for establishing an implementation "architecture": clear procedural algorithms, guaranteed funding, a unified registry, personnel training systems, and information-sharing protocols to ensure that legal norms function effectively in practice.

Practical measures to enhance normative effectiveness may include: (1) codifying financial mechanisms for the psychological support network in budgetary legislation; (2) establishing a unified registry of service providers and recipients; (3) standardising rules on command access to medical data and restoring trust in confidentiality; (4) centralising accreditation of methodologies and training programmes; and (5) implementing fast-track pathways for crisis interventions. The implementation of these measures would

strengthen the link between legal norms and practice, creating a genuinely effective system of psychological support for military personnel.

Conclusion

The present study has generated new insights into the status and prospects of the legal and regulatory framework for psychological support and rehabilitation of service members of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. For the first time, the principal directions of legal regulation in this sphere have been systematically consolidated, and the key gaps that significantly undermine the effectiveness of the guarantees provided have been identified. It has been established that, despite the adoption of progressive acts in recent years—most notably Cabinet of Ministers Resolution No. 1338 (29 November 2022)—the regulatory framework remains fragmented and does not ensure sufficient coherence between different institutions.

The findings indicate that the current legal framework does not provide a unified mechanism for interagency coordination, adversely affecting the consistency of psychological support programme implementation. There is no single dedicated law establishing fundamental principles, procedures, and standards for providing psychological assistance to service members and their families. This creates legal uncertainty and increases the risk of systemic “gaps” in support, leaving certain categories of individuals without adequate attention from the state. A novel contribution of this research is the systematic analysis of resource and personnel challenges: staffing deficits, the absence of specialised training programmes for psychologists experienced in combat trauma, and the instability of funding for psychorehabilitation programmes constitute critical barriers to the practical implementation of regulatory provisions. It has been established that, without the creation of sustainable financial mechanisms and a centralised accreditation system for specialists, improvements in the quality of psychological support are unattainable.

Another original contribution is the conclusion regarding the necessity of integrating Ukrainian legislation with best international practices. Comparative analysis demonstrates that in NATO and EU countries, psychological support for military personnel is enshrined in dedicated laws and strategic programmes encompassing both rehabilitative and preventive dimensions. For Ukraine, it is important not only to adapt these approaches but also to develop a model tailored to the conditions of protracted warfare and the needs of veterans' reintegration into society.

Accordingly, the study demonstrates that psychological support and rehabilitation of service members should be regarded not merely as a social service or healthcare provision, but as an integral component of state policy in the field of national security and defence. The conclusions formulated provide a basis for the development of comprehensive measures: the adoption of a dedicated Law of Ukraine on Psychological Assistance, the establishment of a unified registry of recipients and services, the implementation of interagency coordination mechanisms, the enhancement of personnel training, and the provision of sustainable funding.

The results have significance not only for the theoretical development of administrative law and social security law, but also for practical policy-making in the field of mental health. Future research should focus on detailing the mechanisms for implementing the proposed reforms and evaluating their long-term effectiveness.

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