



Establishing the Museum of Resistance and Occupation in Kherson

Report on Sociological Online Survey

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July

2024

Research background

Methodology: an online survey using an interactive structured questionnaire; a relevant link was sent to potential respondents from the database (online research panel of Kherson community). The sample was based on demographic indicators as of January 1, 2022. Given the indicators, the research margin of error does not exceed 5%, with a probability of 0.95. The sample included Kherson residents both currently residing within the community and those who left Kherson after February 24, 2022 to other regions of Ukraine or abroad. Currently, there is no official data on Kherson residents' migration, so it is not possible to assess the given respondent sample representativity. However, there are reasons to believe that the presented ratio of respondents still residing within the community is greater than the de facto ratio, which may affect the research results.

Research objective: find out the attitude of Kherson residents regarding the issue of establishing a new museum dedicated to the period of occupation and liberation of the city.

Sample scope: 400 respondents.

Field stage period: June 8 – 30, 2024.

Research client: "Community Foundation of Kherson "Zakhyst".

Research prepared by:

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The research group carries on activities on increasing and improving the online panel of Kherson city community to align it with the general population indicators and invites all Kherson residents to join the panel. This can be done at: <https://lemur.ua/sign-up>



Most surveyed Kherson residents (**91%**) support **the establishment of a museum** dedicated to the events of 2022. According to the respondents, the following three topics should be presented: **the public resistance of Kherson residents** (76%), **the liberation of Kherson** (65%), and **the city's occupation by Russian troops** (58%).

The main museum activities should be a collection of testimonies and memories (77%), a collection of museum exhibits (54%), and an organization of exhibitions, performances, and art events (49%).

As for **the museum's name**, most respondents supported the “Museum of Indomitability” [ukr: Музей незламності, Muzey nezlamnosti] (65%) of all proposed options (in a multiple-choice question), however, responses to the question “In your opinion, should the word ‘museum’ be used in the name, or is it better to use another word, such as ‘center,’ ‘historical space,’ etc.?” were almost tied between yes and no. 43% believe that the word “museum” should be used in the name, while 41% believe it is better to use another word.

Most Kherson residents support the creation of **an indoor museum (62%)**, although a fifth (**19%**) of respondents support **an open-air museum**. Based on the next question, Buzkovyy Gai should be included, where the Kherson Territorial Defense forces fought against the invaders. The museum should be located in downtown Kherson according to 55% of respondents. According to 26%, it should be on the river embankment, and 13% say it should be in one of the city's outer microdistricts.

According to Kherson residents, **the museum's founders** should include, first and foremost the Kherson City Council (47%), then civil society organizations (45%), the Kherson Regional Council (38%), and public authorities (32%). Accordingly, respondents believe that such a museum should have multiple founders and that the civil component is important. It should be (co-)financed primarily by public authorities (51%), Kherson City Council (50%), and Kherson Regional Council (46%).

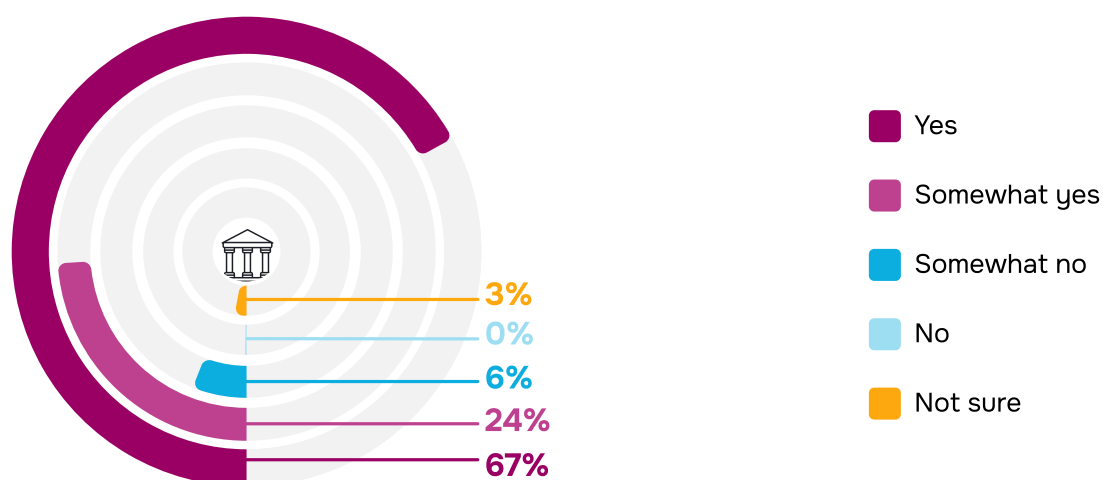
According to Kherson residents, **protest campaigns** held in 2022 are the most important event of the occupation period: 76% of respondents believe that items from pro-Ukrainian rallies should be exhibited in the new museum.

Almost half (41%) of Kherson residents have **their own stories (memories)** that could be recorded for a new museum, and 24% have items, photos, and video files that could be exhibited there.

Answer Breakdown

Establishing a new museum (N=400), %

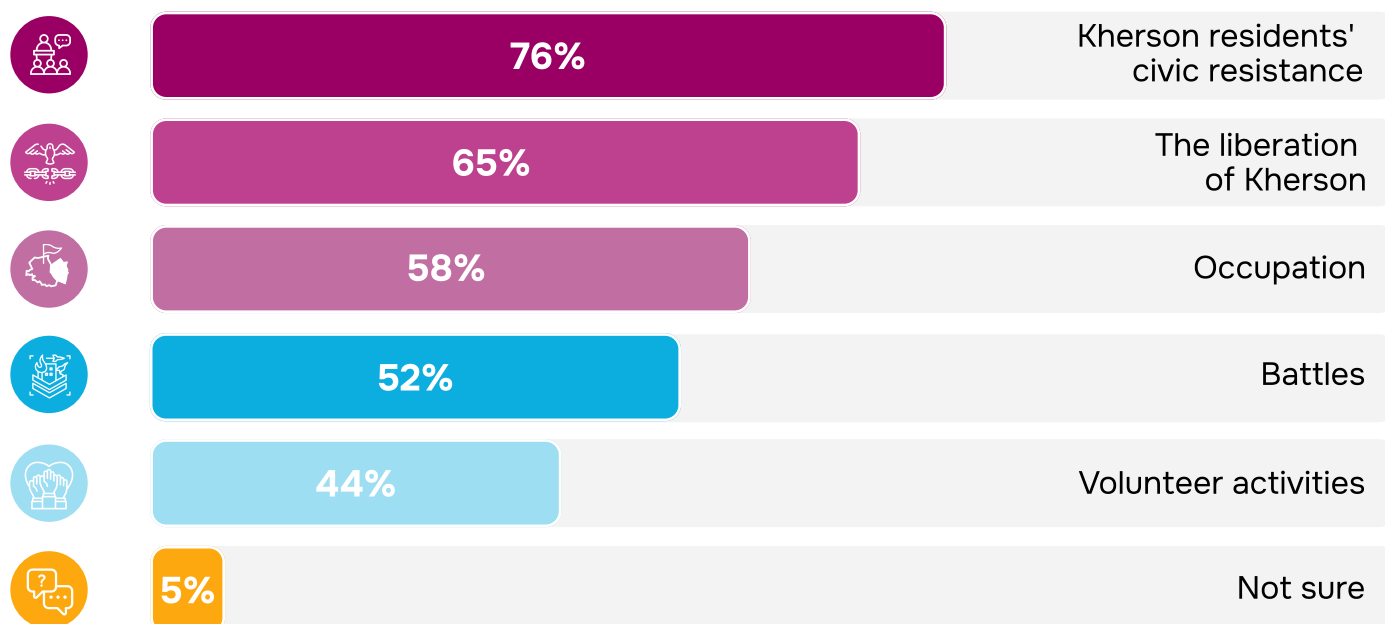
Q.: In your opinion, should a museum be dedicated to the events of 2022 in Kherson?



Thematic exhibitions of the new museum (N=400), %

Q.: In your opinion, what events should the exhibitions be dedicated to?

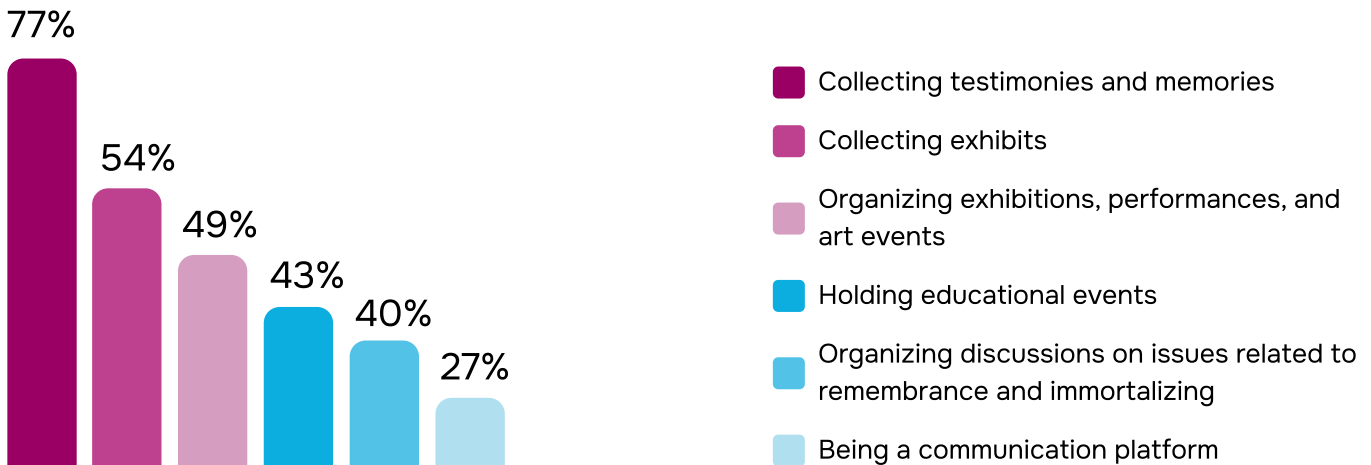
Multiple choice



Functional activities of the new museum (N=400), %

Q.: What purpose should this museum fulfill?

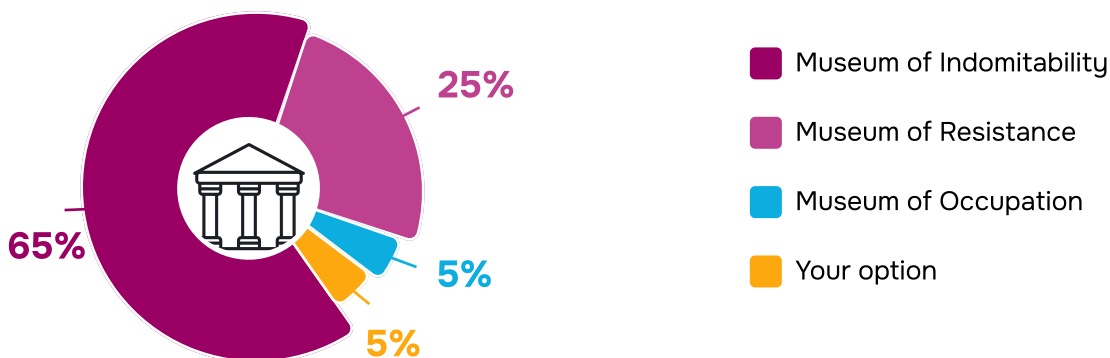
Multiple choice



Name of the new museum (N=400), %

Q.: What should the museum name be?

Choose one name from the following

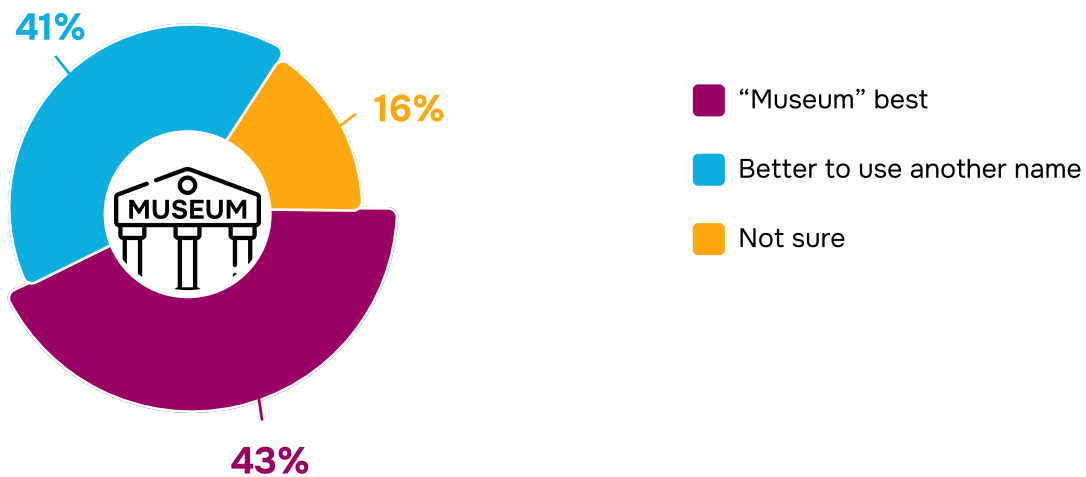


Other options:

- Hero City;
- We are Kherson;
- Museum of the Unconquered;
- Museum of Memories;
- Museum of Resistance / Courage;
- Museum of the Russo-Ukrainian War;
- Indomitable Kherson People, etc.

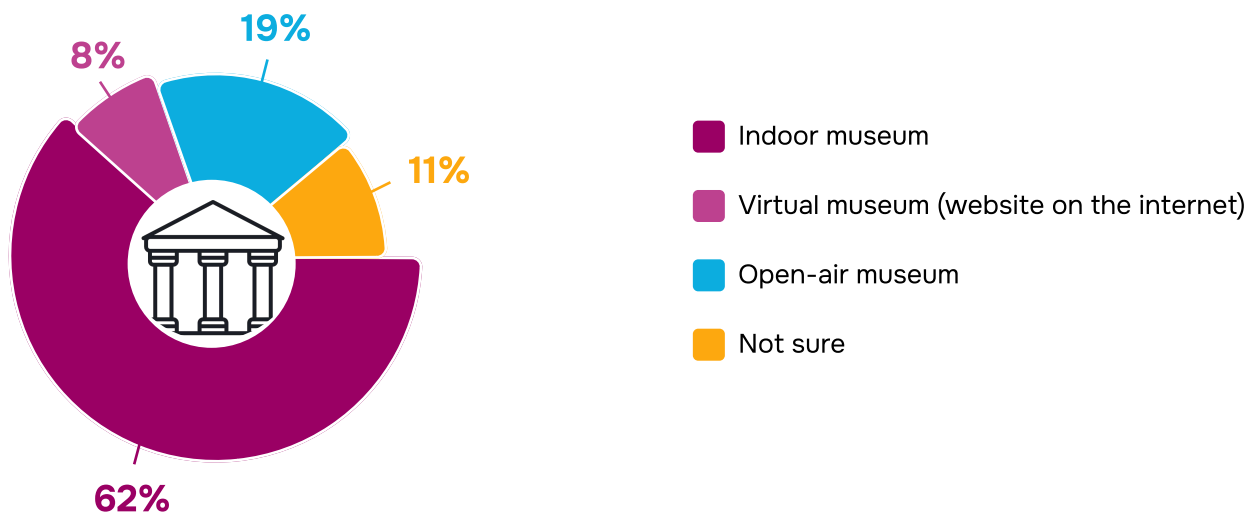
Using the word “museum” in the name (N=400), %

Q.: In your opinion, should the word “museum” be used in the name of such an institution, or is it better to use another word, such as “center,” “historical space,” etc.?



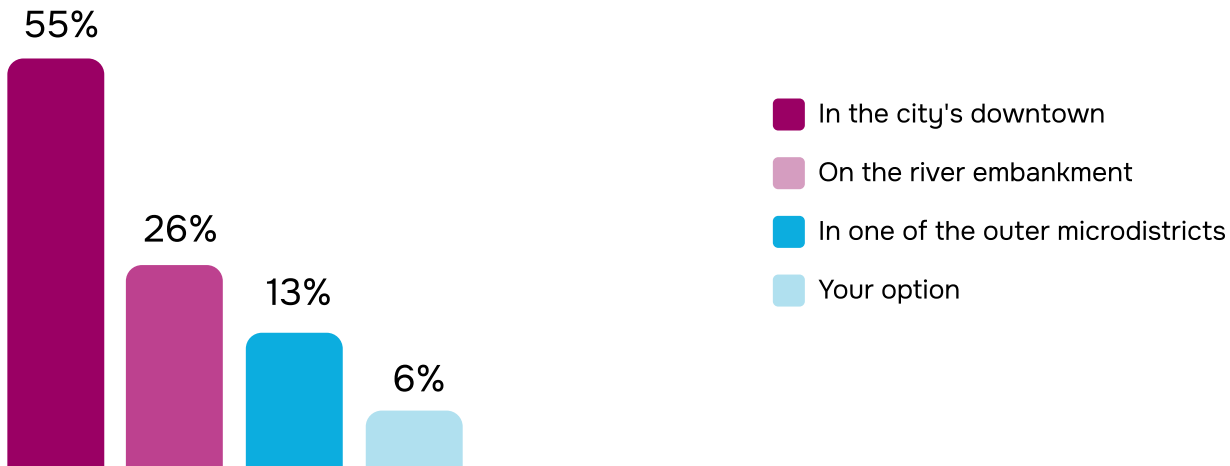
Format of the new museum (N=400), %

Q.: In your opinion, what format is the most suitable for this museum?



Location of the new museum (N=400), %

Q.: Where should the museum be located

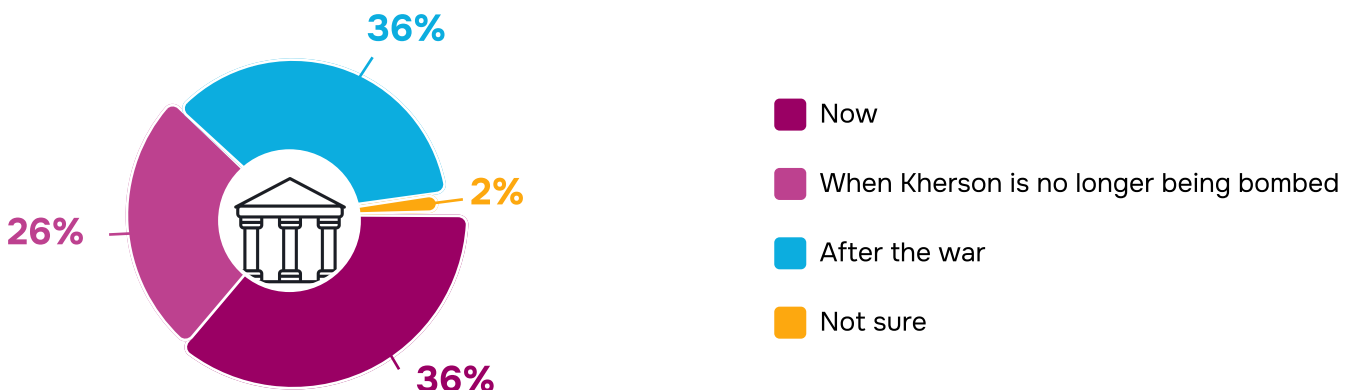


Other options:

- near Buzkovyy Park / Shumensky micro-district;
- in one of the parks; by the Antonivsky Bridge;
- on the premises of the former “Ukraine” cinema;
- the central library on the embankment by the eternal flame - although currently badly damaged, it is a beautiful and spacious building;
- well-known locations where significant events following the 2022 invasion took place (provided that the premises or space are available);
- it depends on whether it is open-air, or indoor, or mixed format institution;
- we already have a local history museum with plenty of free space.

Launch of the new museum (N=400), %

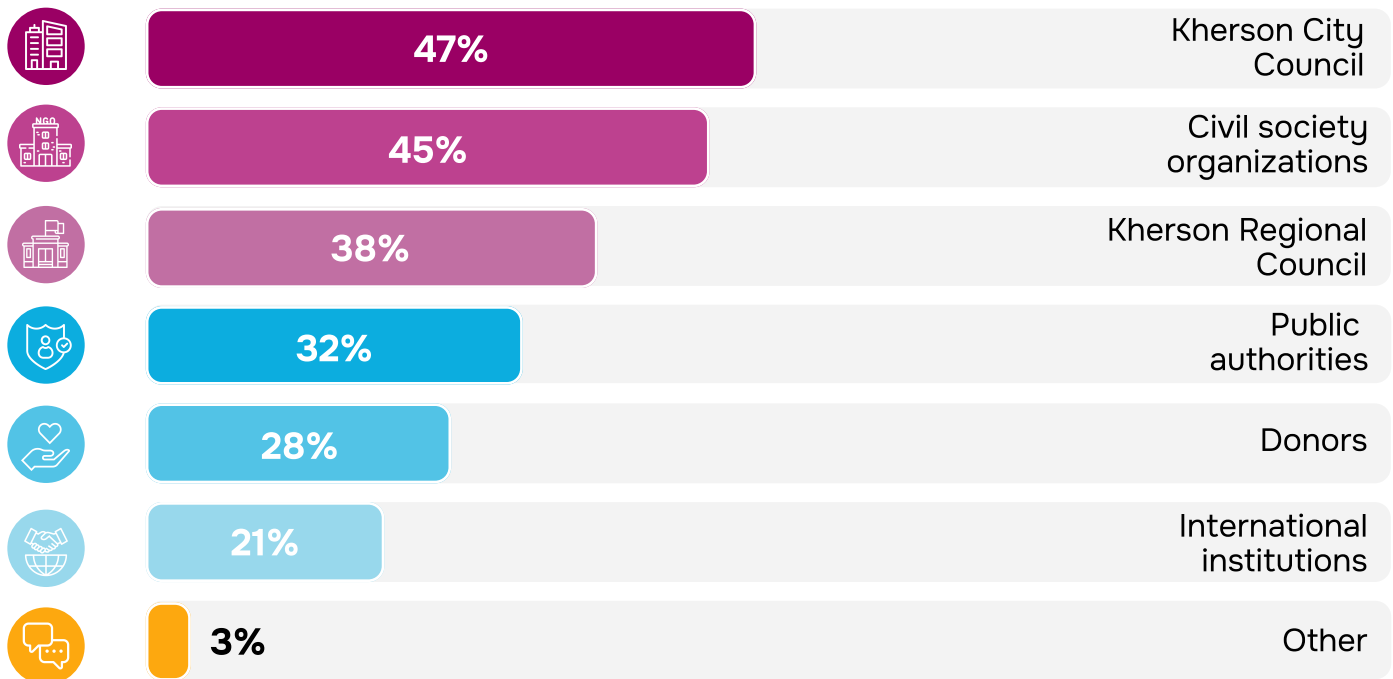
Q.: In your opinion, when should work on the museum establishment (developing concept, collecting exhibits, memories, etc.) start?



Founder(s) of the new museum (N=400), %

Q.: Who should be the founder(s) of this museum?

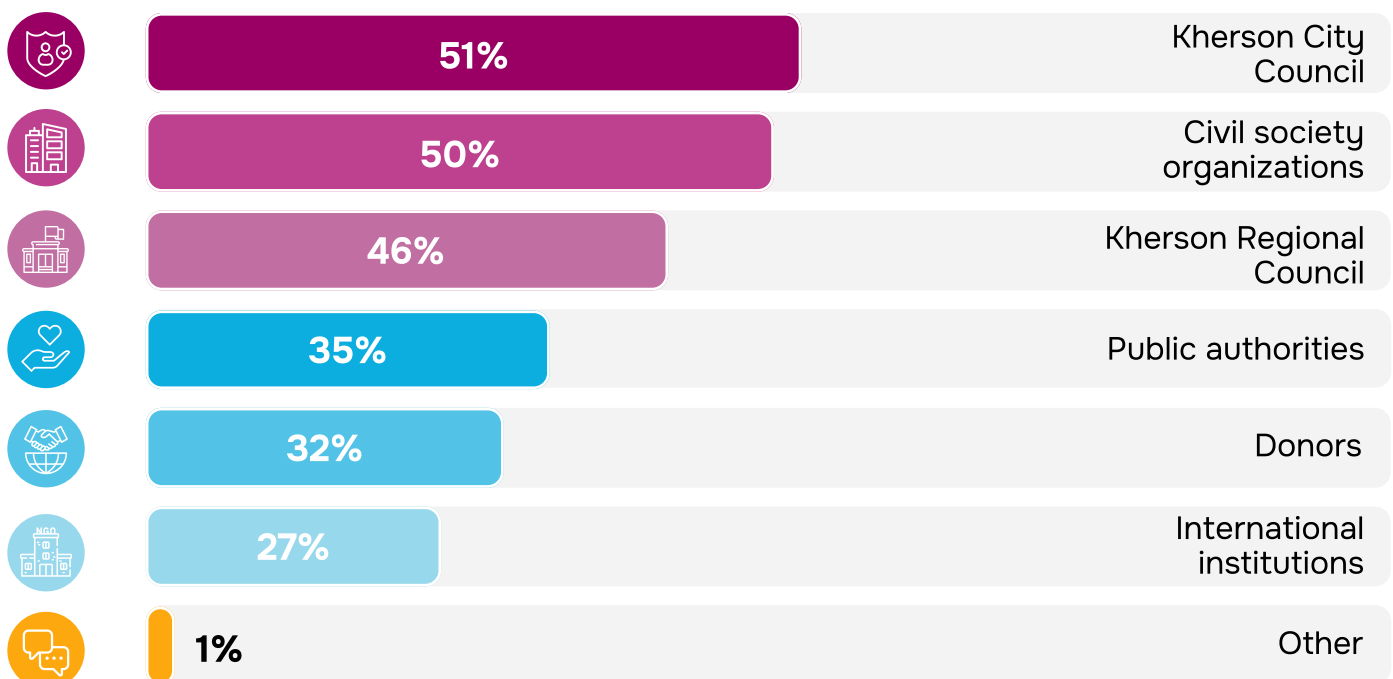
Multiple choice



Funding the new museum (N=400), %

Q.: Who should fund this museum?

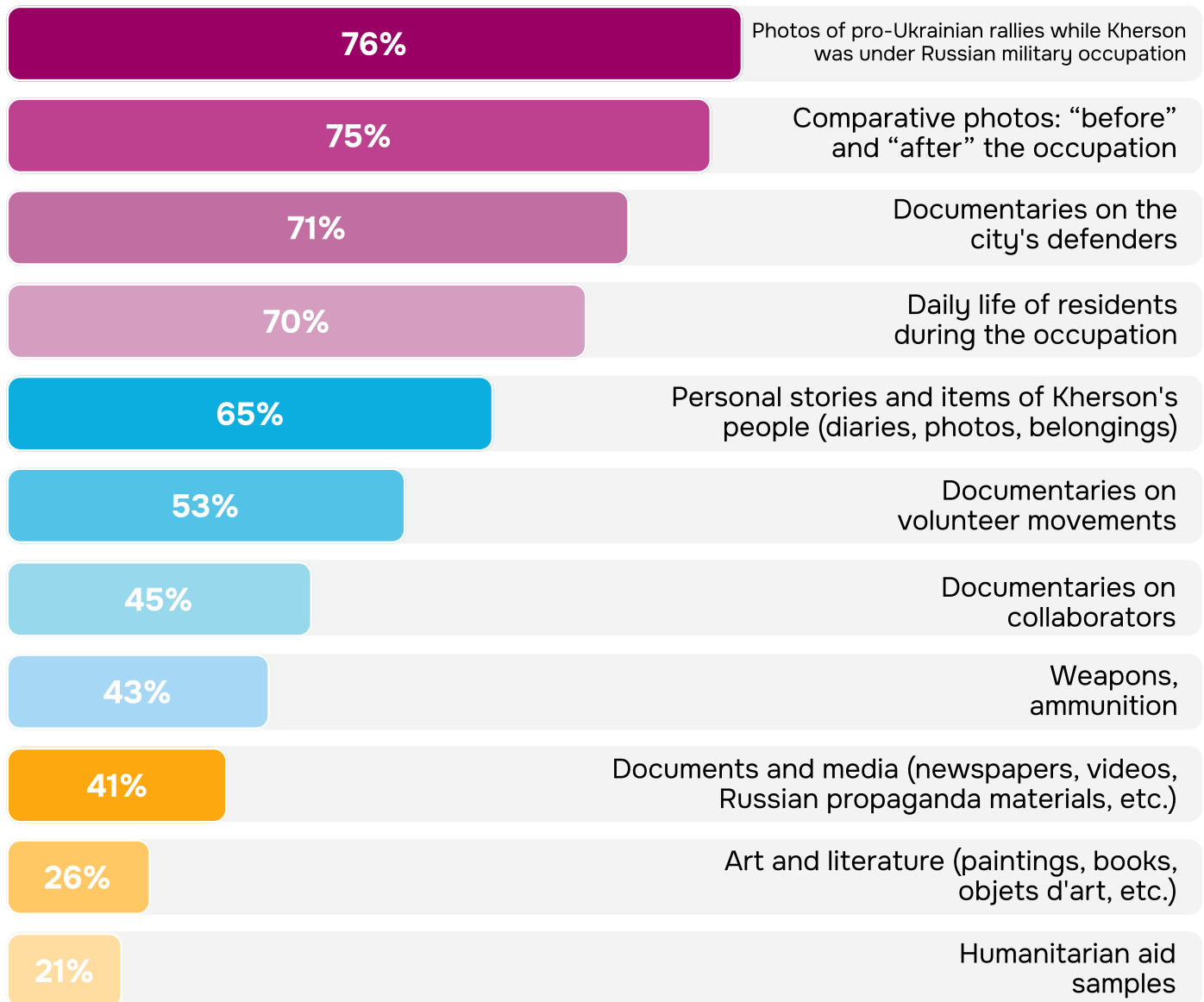
Multiple choice



Exhibits at the new museum (N=400), %

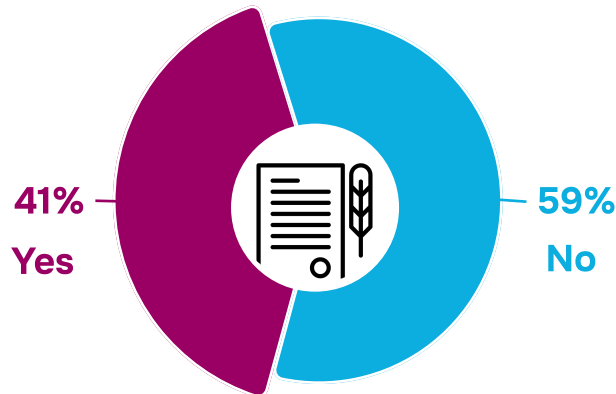
Q.: What should the museum's main thematic exhibitions be?

Multiple choice



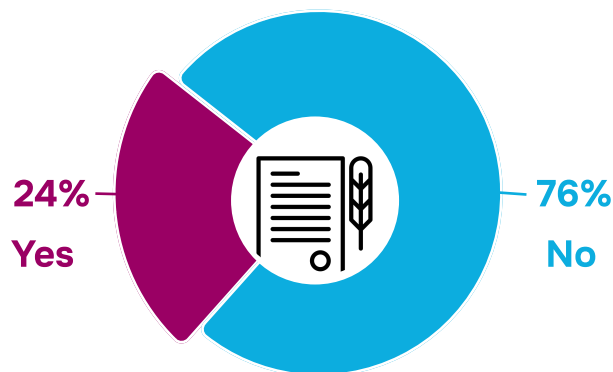
Availability of information to be presented in the museum (N=400), %

Q.: Do you yourself have a story (memory) to be presented in such a museum?



Availability of exhibits to be donated to the museum (N=400), %

Q.: Do you have any items that could be donated to such a museum?



Respondents' profile

Gender



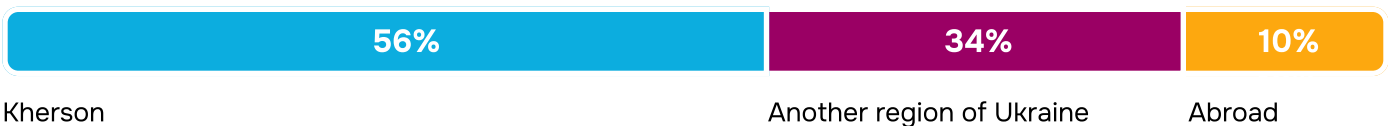
Age



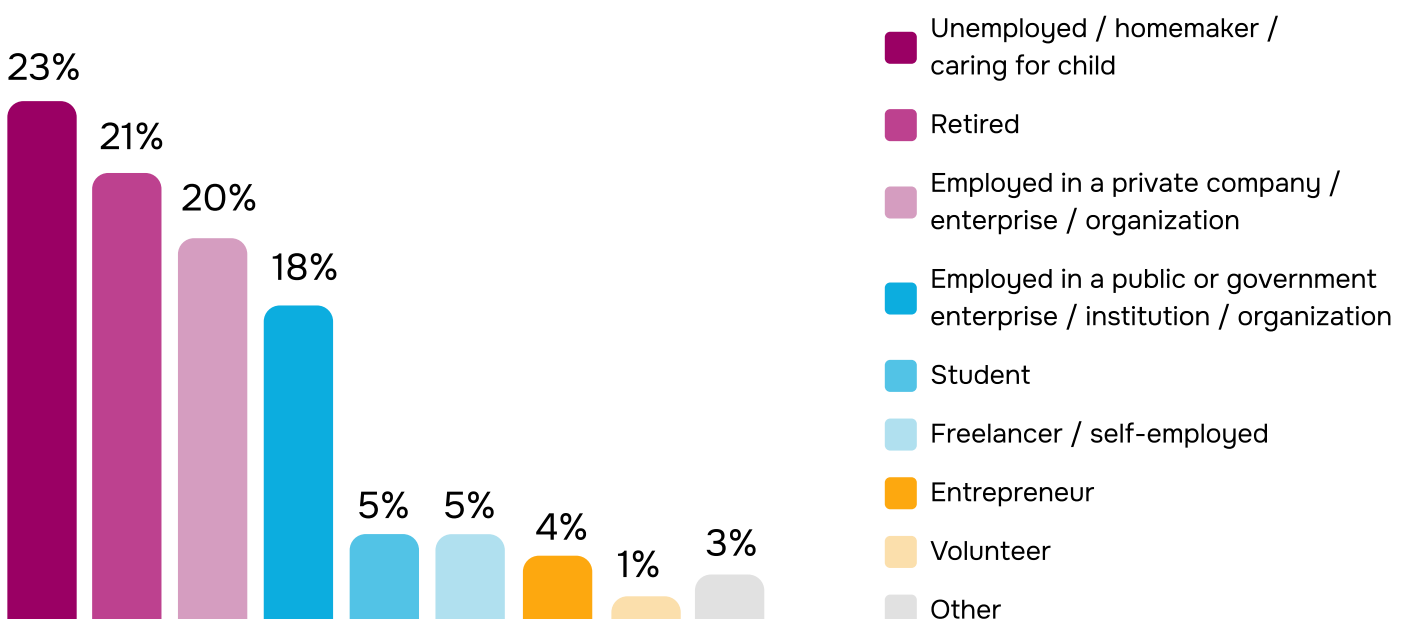
Place of residence before February 24, 2022



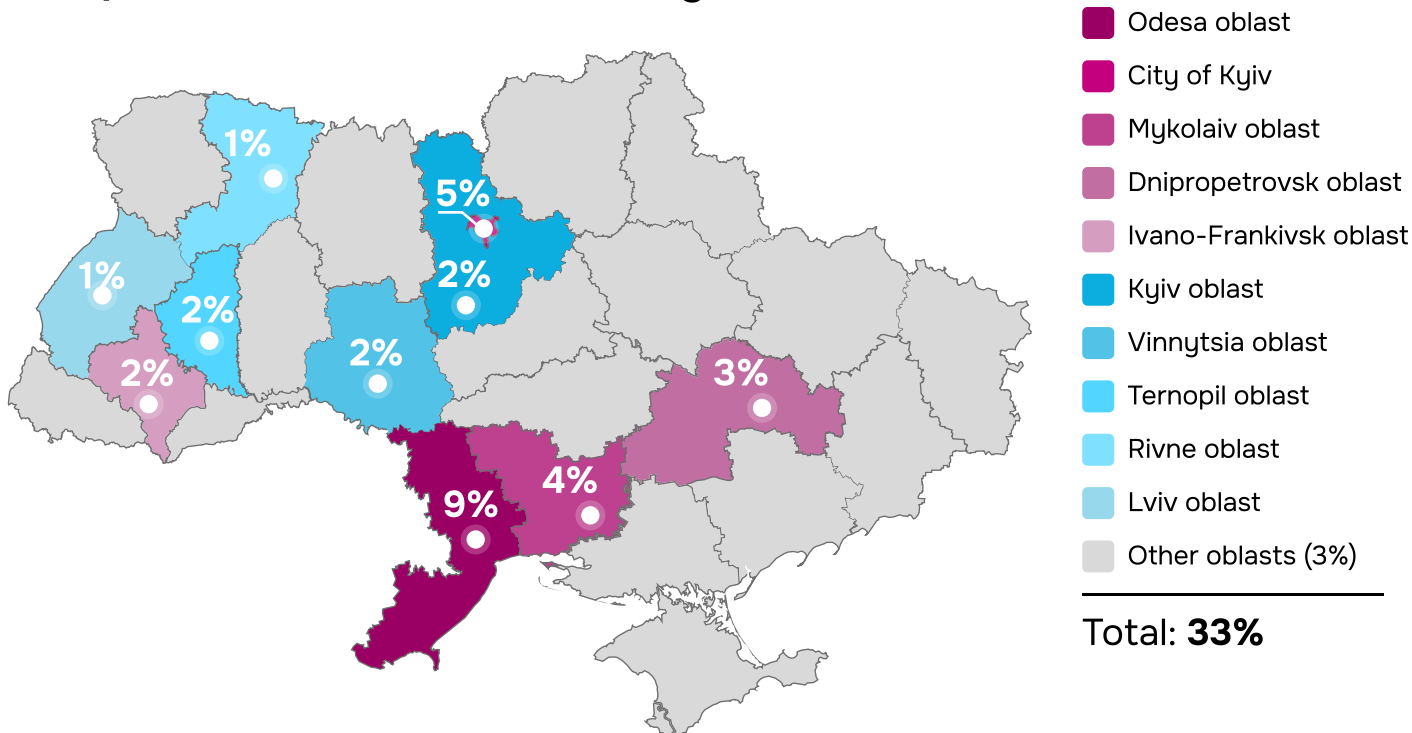
Current place of residence



Employment

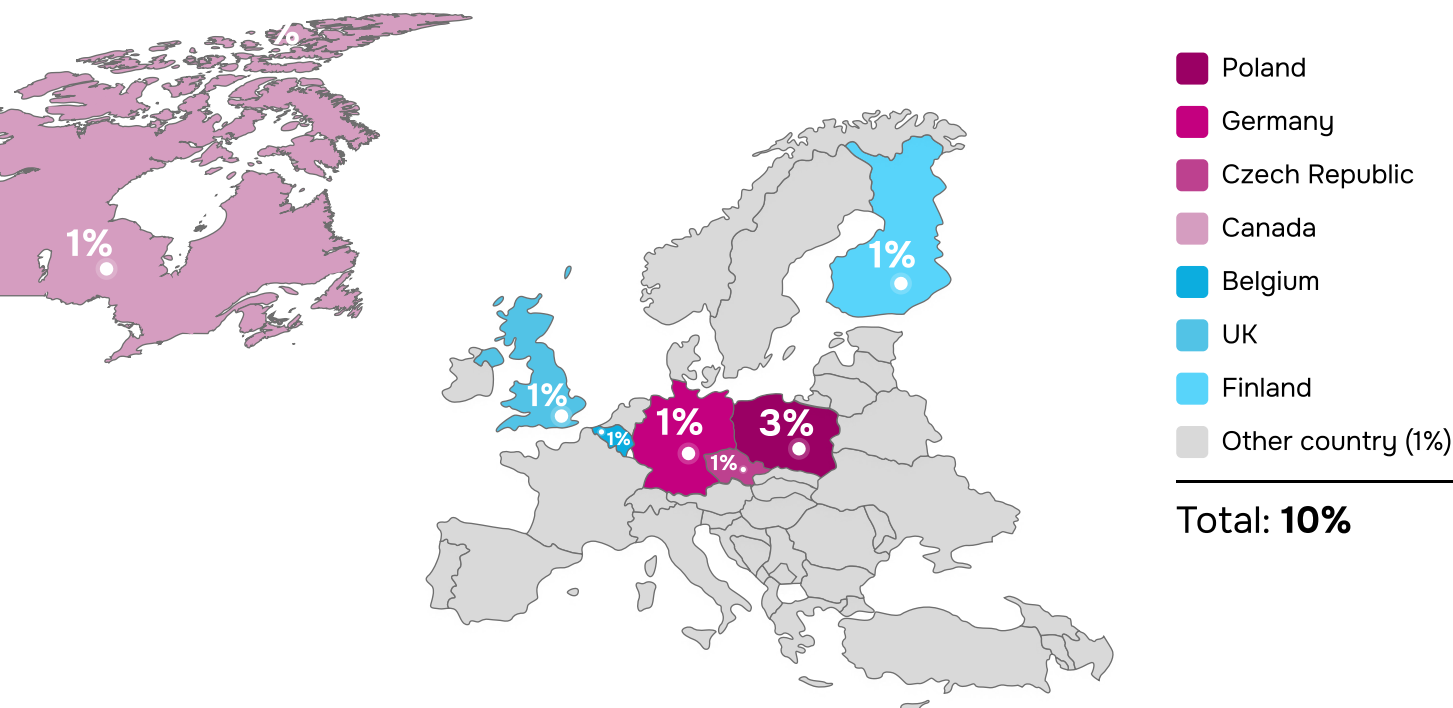


Current region of residence (of those who changed their place of residence after February 24, 2022)



Total: **33%**

Country of residence (of those who changed their place of residence after February 24, 2022)



Total: **10%**