



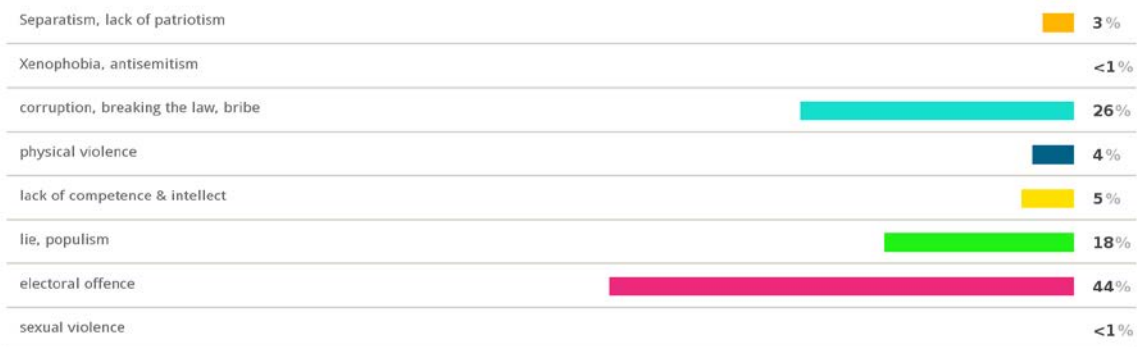
## Women in Politics: Monitoring Online Violence against Candidates for President based on Gender

***IFES is an independent, non-governmental organization (NGO) with headquarters registered in the United States of America. IFES supports citizens' rights to participate in free and fair elections. The "Violence Against Women in Elections Online" tool analyzes publicly available social media data to identify direct threats and abusive and violent rhetoric surrounding women's political participation. The tool examines the content intensity, volume and speed of cyber-discourse to halt hateful commentary in its tracks by sharing analysis with law enforcement, public service responders and other actors. The VAWE-Online project is supported by funding from USAID and UKAID, data analysis is performed by the Ukraine Marketing Association.***

**3/16/19-3/26/19**

The growing tension of political struggle clearly manifested itself in the social media discussions around the election race. Within this period, 817 relevant posts were identified from Twitter, YouTube, Tumblr, Google+ analysis. Data was collected using a machine learning social media sentiment analysis tool called Crimson Hexagon. The number of violent posts containing aggression, threats, accusations from March 16 to March 26 grew by 31% against women and by 17% men. During the observation period from March 16 to March 23, the share of electoral insults in the total number of aggressive and violent posts was on the rise. Comments on campaign events often contain unprovoked aggression that is full of offensive, disparaging, and defamatory content. This continued pervasiveness of this online content has spurred sentiments of resentment and aggression.

Diagram. Distribution of aggressive posts by presidential candidates by categories (03-16.03.2019)



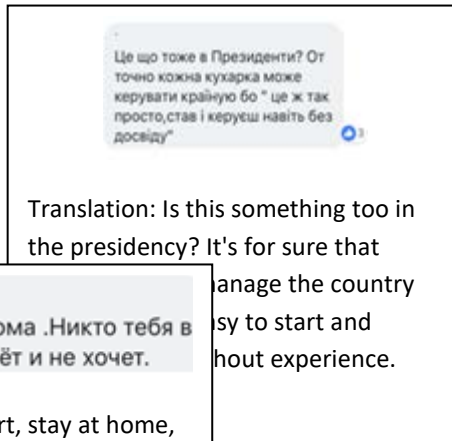


Translation: Sit from on TV and assholes for children to wipe strange, in politics she gathered

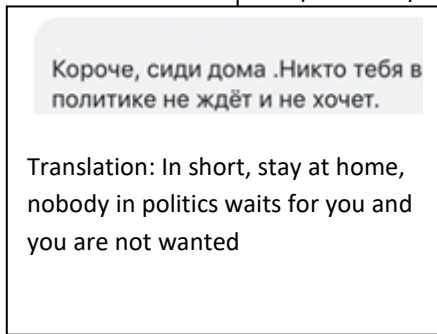
176 Facebook comments **regarding Ukrainian female candidates were identified.** Almost 43% of posts of negative content focused on preventing women’s participation in presidential elections. In their comments, online harassers continued to use buzz words (such as: children, home, cooking, etc) that relegate women away from the political sphere and towards domesticity. Some abusers also opted to focus on criticizing the appearance of female candidates instead of commenting on their actual polices or relevant past work experience.

Belittlement and dehumanization were the most common tactic used to

disparage women running in the 2019 presidential elections. Online abusers consistently used the phrase “who are you” in order to imply that these candidates are therefore, and In total there directed towards women that used the phrase “Who are you?”. This widespread sentiment reveals a patriarchal culture that goes beyond shaming

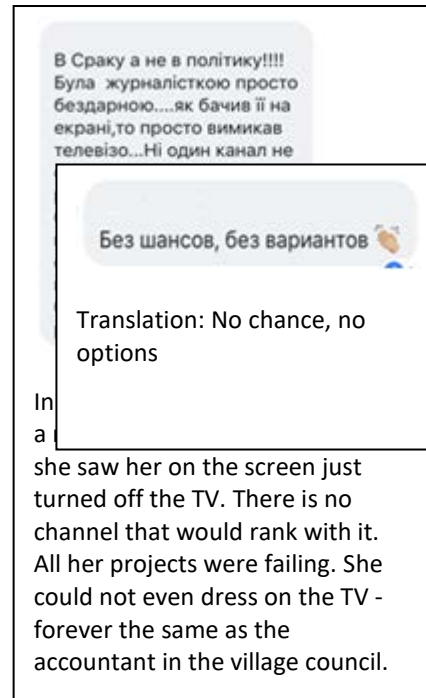


Translation: Is this something too in the presidency? It's for sure that manage the country easy to start and without experience.



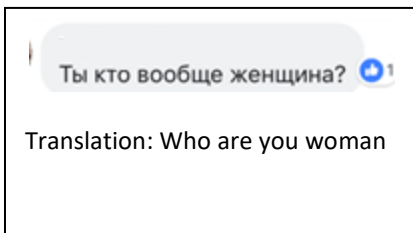
Translation: In short, stay at home, nobody in politics waits for you and you are not wanted

nobodies; and their voices, opinions platforms do not matter.

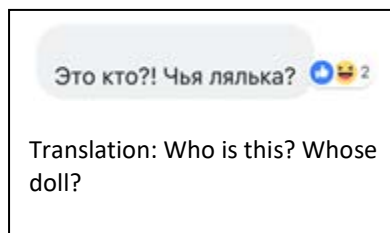


Translation: No chance, no options

In a she saw her on the screen just turned off the TV. There is no channel that would rank with it. All her projects were failing. She could not even dress on the TV - forever the same as the accountant in the village council.



Translation: Who are you woman

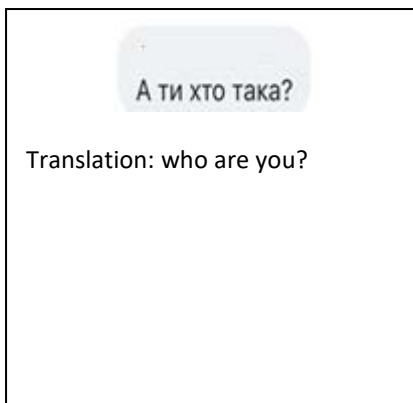


Translation: Who is this? Whose doll?



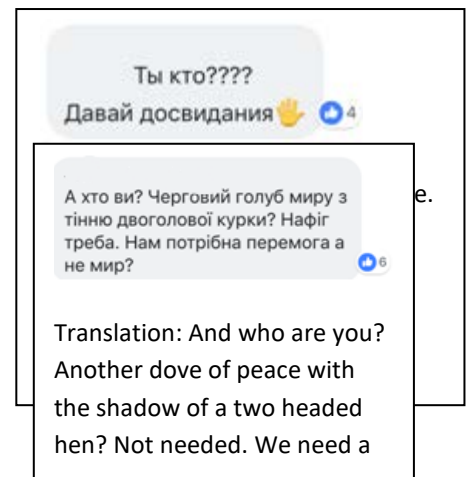
Translation: Who is this?

women and moves a step further by aiming to silence them altogether.



Translation: who are you?

These findings held true for three of the four presidential candidates. The one candidate who did not receive as much backlash was the candidate who was first place in the polls and who conducted the most active campaign during the pre-election phase.



Translation: And who are you? Another dove of peace with the shadow of a two headed hen? Not needed. We need a