

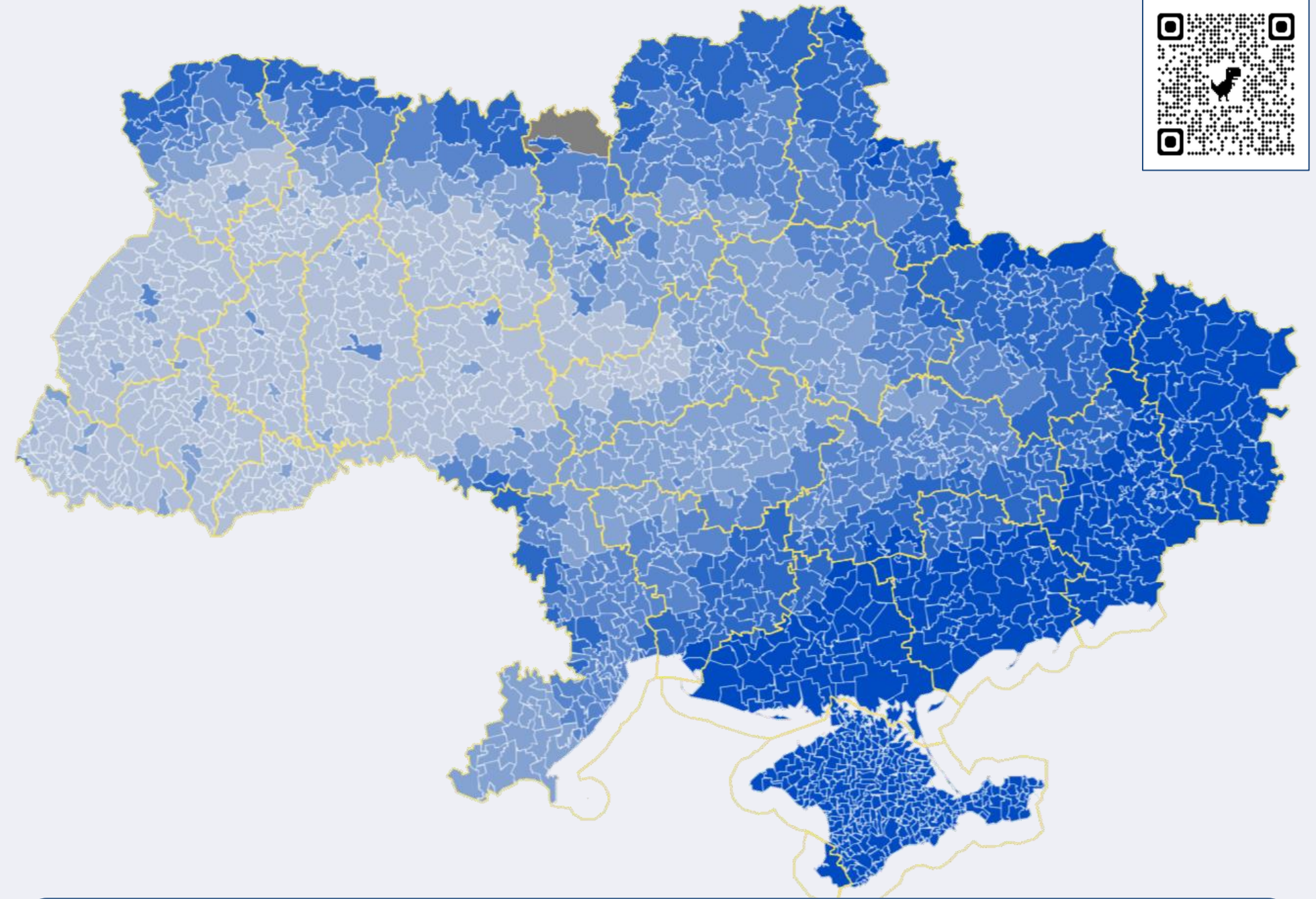
Key Facts – Inefficiency of the School Network- UKRAINE

The school network in Ukraine faces significant challenges driven by full-scale war, demographic shifts and regional disparities.

Declining student numbers, especially in rural and border areas, have created inefficiencies.

More than 35% of general secondary education institutions are small schools with fewer than 100 students, often situated in mountainous or conflict-affected regions.

Many schools are operating at just 30-50% capacity, leading to elevated costs per student and underutilized resources. Addressing these inefficiencies is critical for improving education quality and equity nationwide.



The image shows the current risk map of Ukraine. Dark blue areas indicate regions where in-person learning is not possible due to high danger — for example, the time it takes for a missile to arrive is shorter than the time needed to reach a shelter.



Ukraine GSE: Consequences of Network Inefficiency

Resource Inequity

Small schools incur high per-student costs and often lack qualified teachers, educational materials, and essential support services. This results in persistent disparities in learning outcomes between urban centres and outlying rural areas.

Quality Access Constraints

Students in isolated or underpopulated schools miss opportunities for advanced courses, extracurricular programmes, and tailored career guidance, limiting their development and future opportunities.

Community Concerns

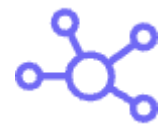
Parents and local stakeholders express dissatisfaction with the condition of school infrastructure and the quality of education, fearing diminishing prospects for their children's academic and professional futures.

UA National Policies for Network Optimisation



Strategic Goals

- Create adaptive school networks aligned with shifting demographics
- Develop hub schools to ensure adequate enrolment and transport accessibility



Key Reforms

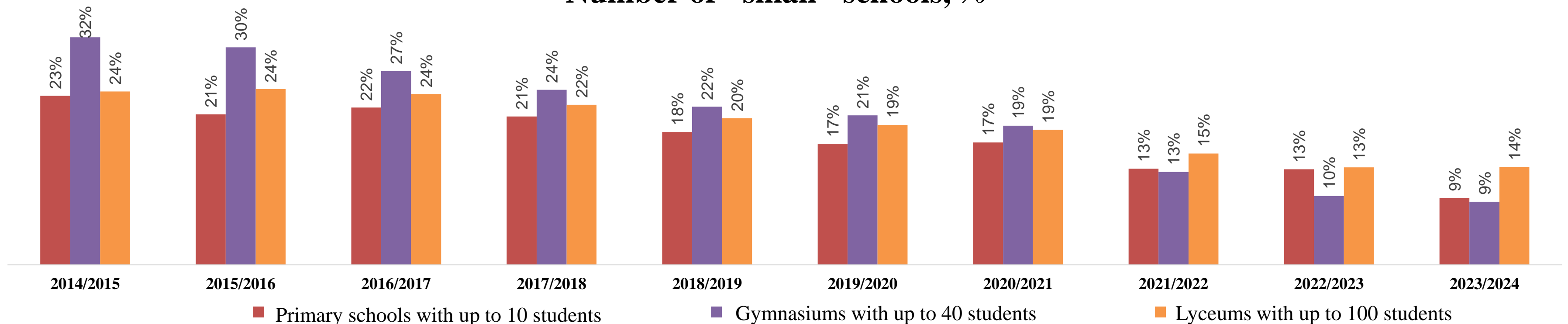
- Shift to 3-year specialised upper secondary education by 2027
- Establish academic lyceums distinct from basic schools



Supporting Measures

- GIS demographic planning tools for local authorities
- Expansion of digital and blended learning modalities

Number of "small" schools, %





UA National Context – SWOT Considerations

Strengths

- Comprehensive National Education Reform Framework (NUS)
- Strong political backing
- Donor-supported programmes

Weaknesses

- Fragmented data systems hinder effective planning
- Limited capacity at local levels slows implementation
- Public resistance to closures and school consolidation

Opportunities

- Digitalisation bridges rural-urban education gaps and keeps children in education
- Aligning education better with regional labour market demands

Threats

- Ongoing war and displacement impacting network stability
- Unpredictable migration complicates demographic planning