

The National Center for Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading  
Treatment or Punishment and  
the Center for Social Research and Development

# The 2024 Survey Report

## “Perceptions of Kyrgyz Conscripts on Their Rights”

Bishkek, 2024

# The 2024 National Report on Results of Perceptions Survey on the Rights of Conscripts in Kyrgyzstan

## Introduction

The Standardized Perceptions Survey on the Rights of Conscripts was initiated by the Geneva Center for Security Sector Reform, DCAF ([www.dcaf.ch](http://www.dcaf.ch)) and first launched in Kyrgyzstan in 2022. The aim of the survey is to monitor how the civil, social, and economic rights of conscripts are ensured in the country. The survey was also carried out in 2024 to see the changing and concurrent trends. The Center for Social Innovation and Development in Kyrgyzstan administered the survey while the data was collected by the National Center on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment in Kyrgyzstan, whose staff have access to military units in which conscripts serve. The survey was funded by the DCAF.

## Methodology

The survey was intended for current conscripts, who have already served at least two to three months of their mandatory military service. This survey was anonymous so that no participant's responses could be traced back to them. All conscripts who participated in the survey were informed of their anonymity. This also helped to reduce bias and ensure that conscripts were free to express their opinion. Indeed, conscripts filled out the survey without anyone overseeing their responses. Participants completed the survey in their individual capacity, based on their own experiences, views, and perceptions.

Surveys were completed on paper because conscripts in Kyrgyzstan are prohibited from using mobile phones and the Internet.

Overall, 200 conscripts took part in the survey in 2024. Regarding the geographical coverage, conscripts from both new and previous-year military units took part in the survey. A military unit located in Buzhum, Batken province was included in the survey from the previous 2023 year. This year, new military units from Djalala-Abad, Talals and Chuy provinces were included to diversify the range of respondents. As a whole, conscripts from seven military units located in both the northern and southern provinces listed below took part in the survey:

- 1) Mombekov village, Nookan District, Jalal-Abad province
- 2) Kara-Darya village, Suzak District, Jalal-Abad province
- 3) Barpy village, Suzak District, Djalal-Abad province
- 4) Zhyide village, Suzak district, Jalal-Abad province
- 5) Kara-Kul town, Djalal-Abad province
- 6) Buzhum village, Batken province
- 7) Bishkek, Chuy province

The demographical data of respondents, including their educational background, ethnicity, and religion are provided below.

## Section 1: Demographic Data of Respondents

<b>Total number of respondents:</b>	200		
<b>Period of service of respondents:</b>	Autumn conscription: 29.5% Spring conscription: 70.5%		
<b>Total duration of compulsory military service:</b>	1 year (12 months)		
<b>Institution of service (e.g., Armed Forces, Ministry of Interior, etc.)</b>	Ministry of Defense: 46% Ministry of Interior Affairs: 32.5% Border Service: 21.5%		
<b>Age:</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>%</b>	
	18	36,00	
	19	26,5	
	20	8,00	
	21	3,50	
	22	9,00	
	23	5,50	
	24	4,50	
	25	1,50	
	27	0,50	
	28	0,50	
	29	0,50	
	33	0,50	
	Not answered	3,50	
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Level of Education</b>	<b>Level of education:</b>	<b>%</b>	
	Primary education	17	
	Secondary education	39	
	Vocational education	22.5	
	Bachelor degree	16.5	
	Master degree	1	
	Not answered	4	
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>100</b>	
<b>Ethnicity</b>	<b>Ethnicity:</b>	<b>%</b>	
	Russian	1	
	Uzbek	1	
	Uigur	0,5	
	Kyrgyz	94,5	
	Not answered	3	
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>100</b>	

<b>Religious Affiliation</b>	<b>Religious Affiliation</b>	<b>%</b>
	Muslim	92
	Christian	0
	Atheist	1
	Not answered	7
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Primary language/mother tongue</b>	<b>Language</b>	<b>%</b>
	Russian	3
	Uzbek	0,5
	Kyrgyz	93
	Not answered	3,5
	<b>Total:</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Origin (Are you from a major city or from a village/rural area/countryside):</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Major/ larger city – 34.5 % <input type="checkbox"/> Village or Rural area – 62.5% <input type="checkbox"/> Not answered – 3%	

## Section 2: Human Rights during mandatory military service:

### 2.1. Civil and Political Rights:

#### ❖ Torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, and right to life

**Table 1. Torture, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and right to life**

Questions	Percentage of responses by value									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Were you informed by military authorities about what constitutes and how to identify instances of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment during your service?	3	0	2	1	9	4.5	10	10	8.5	52
Were you informed about appropriate reporting and complaint procedures in the cases of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment during your service?	4	1	2.5	0.5	3.5	5	9.5	9.5	8	56.5
Did you or other servicemen experience torture, inhuman or degrading treatment during your service?	1	6	2.5	1	2.5	0	2.5	1.5	3	80
Did you feel like if torture, inhuman or degrading treatment occurred during your service, you would be able to report it or make a complaint against the officer or serviceman?	13	0.5	0.5	0.5	5	3.5	5	5.5	6	60.5
During your service did you or other servicemen think about committing or committing suicide?	3	2	2	1	1	0	1	0	1	89
Did you feel like the military authorities took sufficient precautions to protect your life?	18.5	2	0	1.5	1	2.5	3.5	7	4.5	59.5
Did you feel like the distress and suffering that you experienced during your service corresponded to the actual demands of that service?	10.5	1	1.5	1	9	4.5	7.5	8	6	51

**In cases when you or other servicemen around you were mistreated, did you feel like the following factors played a role in being a target of mistreatment?**

Factors	%		
	Yes	No	Not answered
Age:	2	98	0
Status in the hierarchy in the military unit:	4.5	96	0
Level of Education	3	97	0

<b>Ethnicity:</b>	2.5	97.5	0
<b>Religious affiliation:</b>	0.5	99.5	0
<b>Language spoken:</b>	0.5	99.5	0
<b>Rural or urban origin:</b>	0.5	99.5	0
<b>Other factors (please specify):</b>			None

**If you were to report or make a complaint about an instance of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment, would you feel like:**

	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>Not answered</b>
There would be an investigation into your complaint?	92	8	0
The authority investigating and assessing the complaint would be competent?	89.5	10.5	0
The investigation of the complaint would be prompt?	61	38	1
The investigation of the complaint would be impartial?	64.5	34	1.5
Sufficient safeguards would be provided to you (and witnesses) to ensure that you are protected from negative consequences as a result of making the complaint?	66	33.5	0.5
The officer or servicemen found guilty of misconduct would be punished?	85.5	13.5	1
You could receive psychological support to help you cope with that experience?	81.5	17.5	1
You could receive proper medical support if needed?	91.5	7.5	1
Your family members/relatives will be immediately informed of this case?	90.5	8.5	1

<b>Analysis:</b>	
<p><b>Key observations:</b>  <i>Describe key observations from the results of the survey – e.g., highest, and lowest values, high or low deviation, etc.)</i></p>	<p>The survey results show that the majority of conscripts (88.5%) were instructed by military authorities on how to report and complain about the cases of torture, inhuman or degrading treatment during their service. These respondents (88.5%) choose a grading ranging from 5 to 10 in answering this question. At the same time, 32% of responses from 88.5% scattered between the scales of 6 and 9. This implies that the reporting procedures were clear to this particular group of conscripts (32%), but not straight-forward.</p>

	<p>The dominant number of conscripts (87%) indicated that they did not experience any torture or inhuman and degrading treatment during their military service. Nonetheless, 19.5% of them would not file a complaint if such cases occur because they do not believe that an investigation would be conducted promptly (38%) and impartially (34%). In addition, conscripts lacked confidence that they would be shielded from negative consequences as a result of reporting (33.5%) and that officers found guilty would be penalized (13.5%). Besides, some conscripts (17.5%) also did not anticipate receiving psychological support.</p>
<p><b>Relationship with demographic data:</b> <i>Describe any trends and correlations that can be observed when comparing responses with reference to demographic data in Section 1 – e.g., is there any relationship between ethnicity and the perceptions that conscripts reporting experiencing mistreatment)</i></p>	<p>Neither ethnicity, religious affiliation, language nor urban/rural origin was regarded by conscripts as the elements leading to the torture, inhuman and degrading treatment. On the other side, the prevailing majority of respondents were ethnic Kyrgyz (94.5%) and Muslims (92%), and the Kyrgyz language was the mother tongue for 93% of conscripts. Consequently, the minimal presence of minority groups eliminated the potential for conflict. The conscripts also did not regard the age or status in the military unit's hierarchy as the primary factors contributing to being the target of mistreatment. On the other side, it seems that conscripts were not quite open in indicating the key factors playing a role in being a target of mistreatment. Despite the survey's anonymity, they did not specify any factors contributing to the inhuman and cruel treatment. It seems conscripts were still reluctant to openly indicate the cases or causes of torture in the survey due to the prevailing culture of non-openness in the armed forces. The army remains a closed institution, where filing a complaint is often not welcome by military authorities.</p>
<p><b>Discussion:</b> <i>(Please explain how the data can be understood with respect to the national context – e.g., legislation, cultural aspects, etc. Is this a persistent problem or are the findings new, etc.)</i></p>	<p>The survey results show that the vast majority of conscripts did not experience torture or inhuman treatment. Yet, 13% of respondents reported either personally encountering it or witnessing it. This percentage is similar to the 2023 survey results, when 13.4% admitted about being the target of mistreatment or cruel treatment. However, compared to 2022, this percentage is a bit higher, when 10.72% were subject to mistreatment. The 2024 survey results show that mistreatment, including hazing and bullying, has not been fully abolished within military units.</p> <p>As far the right to complain, under <a href="#">the Law on Disciplinary Charter of Armed Forces</a>, all military personnel, including conscripts, have the right to file a complaint regarding human rights violations, unlawful actions of commanders (chiefs) or other servicemen, or other issues. The complaint is to be sent to the complainer's immediate superior. A complaint can also be filed with the immediate superior of the defendant, a person whose actions are being appealed against. The law forbids to forward complaints to the persons, whose actions are being appealed against. If the superior (commander), who receives the complaint, lacks the authority to address a complaint, it needs to be escalated within a maximum of 5 days to the higher-ranking military commander. Unfortunately, anonymous complaints are not considered within the armed forces.</p>

	<p>As required by this Law, prompt action is required from the commander of a military unit or any other superior officer to address the complaint. Decisions on complaints need to be taken without delay, but not later than 7 days from the day of receipt.</p> <p>At the same time, the survey results demonstrated the continuous trend of a significant proportion of conscripts' distrust in reporting and complain mechanisms, which was also observed in 2022 and 2023. More precisely, one-third of respondents (33.5%) believe that sufficient safeguards would not be provided to them or witnesses to protect from adverse outcomes resulting from filing a complaint. In 2023 and 2022, this percentage was also high: 47.83% in 2023 and 36.36% in 2022. Moreover, like in 2022 and 2023, a high number of conscripts (38%) think that the investigation of the complaints would not be prompt. In 2022, it was equal to 36.31% and even higher at 47.83% in 2023. The same trend persists for conscripts' distrust of investigation impartiality. In 2024, 34% of conscripts, 34.52% in 2022, and 39.13% in 2023 believed that the investigation of complaints would be impartial.</p> <p>Only 13.5% of conscripts think that officers or servicemen found guilty of misconduct would not be punished. The percentage of conscripts having this opinion was higher at 40.99% in 2023, and 24% in 2022. This indicates that there was an upward trend in 2024, which implies that conscripts had increased confidence that the servicemen at fault would face consequences.</p> <p>In 2024, conscripts (33.5%) lacked confidence that they would be shielded from negative consequences as a result of reporting. The national legislation proposes only one mechanism to protect the complainer from any adverse consequences resulting from making a complaint. A commander (superior) or other person taking part in its consideration of a complaint cannot not disclose any personal information concerning a complainer without his consent. The national legislation does not provide any other measures to protect the complainer from any negative consequences resulting from making a complaint, such as offering physical protection or addressing the possibility of retaliation.</p> <p>In 2024, more conscripts (91.5%) believed that they would receive proper medical support in cases of injuries resulting from cruel and inhuman treatment. This percentage was only 60.25% in 2023 and 72.02%.</p>
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❖ Freedom of expression

Question	Percentage of responses by value									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Did the authorities inform you how you can and cannot express yourself (including virtually) during your service?	9	0,5	0	0,5	1	2,5	6	2,5	6,5	71,5
Was it clear to you how you are or are not allowed to communicate and express yourself (including virtually) during your service?	5,5	1,5	0,5	1	5,5	3,5	4,5	6,5	5,5	66
Did you feel like your freedom of expression was restricted beyond what you would consider reasonable during your service?	26,5	4	2,5	1,5	7	7,5	6,5	8	4	32,5

Analysis:	
<b>Key observations:</b>	Approximately 90% of conscripts (responses spanning from 5 to 10) reported that military authorities provided them with guidance on how to communicate, including virtually, while serving in the military. At the same time, 14% of respondents indicated that it was not clear for them on how they are allowed or not allowed to express themselves during the service. It is also worth noting that 41.5% of conscripts, or around half of respondents, claimed their freedom of expression was constrained beyond what they deemed reasonable. It suggests that a large number of conscripts desired greater freedom of expression through media or social media platforms, or as well as the usage of mobile phones to obtain public information.
<b>Relationship with demographic data:</b> <i>(e.g., did conscripts from rural origin perceive their freedom of expression to be unreasonably restricted more often?)</i>	There was no significant correlation between demographic factors and restrictions on freedom of expression. Most conscripts identified as ethnic Kyrgyz (94.5%), Muslims (92%), and Kyrgyz speakers (93%), which limited the representation of minority groups in the survey. However, a correlation was observed concerning educational levels. Conscripts with bachelor's degrees tended to be more skeptical about their freedom of expression, expressing that it was restricted beyond what they considered reasonable during their military service.
<b>Discussion:</b>	Freedom of expression and information is strictly regulated in the armed forces in Kyrgyzstan. Pursuant to the Law on Status of Military Servicemen, military personnel enjoys citizens' rights and freedoms, but with restrictions due to the requirements of military service. <sup>1</sup> Article 6 of this Law stipulates that military servicemen are guaranteed freedom of speech and press, freedom of opinion

<sup>1</sup> Article 1, Law of the Kyrgyz Republic on Status of Military Servicemen, Available at: <http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/817?cl=ru-ru>

	<p>and expression, but only under the condition of maintaining the state and military secrets, as well as the confidentiality of correspondence and telephone conversations.<sup>2</sup> It means the freedom of expression of conscripts in Kyrgyzstan is categorized as a limited right.</p> <p>Moreover, conscripts cannot publicly express their opinion via TV, radio, or other mass media without the prior consent of their superior commanders. The Ministry of Defense (MoD) has internal publications (newspapers, bulletins, and journals) where soldiers can express their thoughts. However, there is strong censorship when critical papers are normally not published there. In addition, these publications are mostly circulated internally within the MoD.</p> <p>One of the main issues for the conscripts is that they are banned to use mobile phones during their 12-month service. Hence, conscripts lack access to media to express their thoughts, have limited access to public information, or regularly communicate their relatives or friends. Conscripts learn about the national and global news through TV-sets installed in halls or libraries of military units. To contact their relatives or close ones, conscripts use the personal mobile phones of commanders, but only at their discretion. Typically, commanders bear the expenses associated with these mobile calls.</p>
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❖ **Freedom of assembly and association**

Question	Percentage of responses by value									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Were you informed by the military authorities about your freedom of assembly and association (including virtual ones) and restrictions thereto during your service?	14	0,5	1	1,5	7,5	3	4	4	4,5	60
Was it clear to you how you are and are not allowed to meet (including virtually) with other servicemen outside of your tasks and duties in your location of placement?	4	0,5	1,5	1,5	4,5	2,5	2,5	6	8,5	68.5
During your service did you feel like your freedom of assembly and association was restricted beyond what you would consider normal and proportionate to safeguard military discipline?	27	2,5	3	4	10.5	5,5	7	5,5	3	32

**Analysis:**

<sup>2</sup> Article 6, Law of the Kyrgyz Republic on Status of Military Service, Available at: <http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/817?cl=ru-ru>

<p><b>Key observations:</b></p>	<p>The majority of conscripts, 75.5% (responses ranging from 5 to 10) reported that the military authorities informed them about their right to association and assembly, along with the associated restrictions. Most conscripts (88%) were also aware of the circumstances under which they may or may not meet with other servicemen outside of their tasks and duties. Meantime, around half of respondents (47%, responses by value from 1 to 5) consider that their freedom of assembly and association was restrained beyond what you would consider normal and proportionate.</p>
<p><b>Relationship with demographic data:</b></p>	<p>The correlation was evident when comparing urban and rural backgrounds of the respondents. More conscripts from urban areas perceived restrictions on their freedom of assembly and association as excessive compared to their rural counterparts. This trend also applied to conscripts with higher education levels, as those holding bachelor's degrees reported that their freedom of assembly and association was limited beyond what they considered reasonable and proportionate.</p>
<p><b>Discussion:</b></p>	<p>According to Article 24 of the Law on Status of Military Servicemen, conscripts are prohibited to establish, join or support any political party. This law also prohibits military personnel to take part in any strike (protests, demonstrations, and rallies). It also bans military servicemen to be members of trade unions. As per Article 7 of this Law, it is not allowed to create and support religious associations on the territory of a military unit. Yet, members of religious groups, who cannot serve in the army due to their religious beliefs (<i>e.g., Jehovah's Witnesses</i>) are allowed to choose the alternative conscription service. Consequently, the legislation intends to protect the rights of religious groups, including minorities, while within the military service, the activity of religious groups is prohibited. It is also prohibited to have a mosque or church within the military units, but there are still small prayer rooms for Muslims in some military units. As the legislation does not specify the procedures and requirements for praying, it is now the commander of a military unit, who individually decides the time and regularity for praying of conscripts. Overall, the national legislation imposes restrictions on the freedom of assembly and association of conscripts as well as their access to information.</p> <p>The survey results for the last three years show the increasing trend in the level of awareness of conscripts about their freedom of association and assembly. In particular, in 2022, 85% of respondents indicated about being informed, 77.5% in 2023 and 75.5% of conscripts in 2024. It indicates that the military authorities are advised to spread more information about the freedom of association and assembly and associated restrictions of conscripts.</p> <p>The same percentage of conscripts in 2022-2024 (87% in 2022, 85.71% in 2023, and 88% in 2024) were aware of the circumstances under which the conscripts may or may not meet with other servicemen outside of their tasks and duties.</p> <p>Compared to 2022 and 2023, higher percentage of conscripts in 2024 (47%) think that their freedom</p>

	of assembly and association was restrained beyond what you would consider appropriate. In 2022 and 2023, a smaller number of conscripts (30.5% in 2023 and 31.54% in 2022) shared the same opinion. It indicates that the respondents (young people) strive for more liberal approach while serving in the army.
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❖ **Prohibition of forced labour**

**Was there any work that you have conducted during your compulsory military service that was not of a purely military character?**

27,5%	71,5%	1%
Yes	No	Not answered

<p><b>Please list the types of tasks that you conducted during your service which were not of a purely military character:</b></p> <p><i>List all tasks mentioned by conscripts, in cases when the same/similar tasks were mentioned multiple times include the number of responses</i></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Cleaning barracks (bath rooms, toilets, and classrooms)</li> <li>2. Cleaning the territory of military units</li> <li>3. Aiding in the kitchen of a military unit</li> <li>4. Renovation works (painting of kitchen walls)</li> <li>5. Guarding the military unit</li> <li>6. Mowing grass within the territory of military units</li> <li>7. Washing personal clothes</li> <li>8. Repair of the car</li> </ol>
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<b>Analysis:</b>	
<b>Key observations:</b>	Approximately 27.5% of conscripts indicated their participation in non-military work activities. The remaining 71,5% of respondents had never engaged in such work. In particular, conscripts listed such non-military work as cleaning of barracks, providing assistance in the kitchen of a military unit, painting walls in the kitchen of a military unit, and moving grasses in the military unit.
<b>Relationship with demographic data:</b>	There was no correlation between demographic factors and the non-military tasks performed by conscripts. Both urban and rural conscripts reported engaging in this type of work. Furthermore, no relationship was found between these tasks and the conscripts' education level, religious affiliation, or ethnic background.
<b>Discussion:</b>	The non-military activities undertaken by conscripts included cleaning of barracks (including bath rooms and classrooms), cleaning of the territory of military units, grass cutting, providing assistance in

	<p>the kitchen of a military unit, renovation (painting of walls), and washing personal clothes. Nevertheless, none of these works can be categorized by the national legislation as non-military, i.e. forced labour. In particular, according to <i>the Law on the Charter of the Armed Forces' Internal Service</i>, cleaning of barracks and yards of the military units is the daily function of conscripts (Article 232).<sup>3</sup> They are also to do a weekly deep cleaning of all the rooms and premises. This law stipulates that all buildings, facilities, and military unit territories are to be kept clean and tidy (Article 179) and conscripts are to be involved in this work. The same law also prescribes to remove the snow in the winter (Article 371) and cut grass in the summer (Article 18).<sup>4</sup> Conscripts are also to assist in the kitchen of the military unit. Conscripts perform these tasks as the armed forces do not outsource them due to the budgetary constraints. It seems to be costly for the government to hire business companies for such services. Second, it is still a Soviet practice when conscripts, but not private entities, perform non-military tasks.</p> <p>The guarding of military units was listed by two conscripts as non-military work. However, this is a primary task of conscripts. It appears they were either not informed of their key duties or considered them as burdensome. Moreover, one conscript reported that he repaired a car. He did not specify whether it was a private or military vehicle. Regardless of ownership, the national legislation does not consider vehicle repair to be the responsibility of the conscripts. Thus, in 2024, this case (repair of car) was the sole instance of a non-military character.</p> <p>When the survey data for 2022-2024 are compared, 19.64% of conscripts reported being involved in non-military work in 2022 and 13.66% in 2023. Nonetheless, in 2022, none of the reported cases were in fact non-military. In 2023, only one case (painting of the private car by a conscript) was classified as non-military. It indicates that a higher percentage of conscripts (27.5%) considered fulfilling work of a non-military nature. This underscores the need for the MoD to consider outsourcing such services, a practice common in many Western countries.</p>
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❖ **Prohibition of Discrimination and Right to respect for private and family life**

**Were you aware of any instances when you or another serviceman was discriminated against due to their...?**

<sup>3</sup> Article 232, Law on the Charter of the Armed Forces' Internal Service. Available at: <http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/125?cl=ru-ru>

<sup>4</sup> Articles 18 and 371, Law on the Charter of the Armed Forces' Internal Service. Available at: <http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/125?cl=ru-ru>

	Yes	No
Age:	1,5	98,5
Status in hierarchy in the military unit:	5,5	94,5
Level of Education:	2,5	97,5
Ethnicity:	3	97
Religious affiliation:	3	97
Language:	2	98
Rural or urban origin:	1,5	98,5
Other factors (please specify):	None	

Question	Percentage of responses by value									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Were you able to retain regular and sufficient in-person/physical contact with your family and loved ones during your service?	11,5	2	5	9,5	12	6	5,5	8,5	4,5	35,5
Were you able to retain regular and sufficient virtual contact with your family and loved ones during your service?	17,5	2	6,5	5,5	12	9,5	7,5	8,5	4,5	26,5
Did you feel like the authorities unjustifiably restricted you from being in contact with your family and loved ones during your service?	9	3	3	2,5	6,5	2,5	5,5	3,5	3,5	61

Analysis:	
<b>Key observations:</b>	<p>The survey results show that discrimination against conscripts based on religion, language, age, rural/urban origin, and level of education is minimal. Specifically, 97% - 98.5% of respondents reported that they were not aware of any instances in which they or another serviceman experienced discrimination based on these factors. Only 5.5% of conscripts indicated that there were cases of discrimination based on the status in hierarchy in the military unit.</p> <p>Around 40% of conscripts (responses ranging from 5 to 10) admitted that they were unable to maintain regular and sufficient in-person/physical contact with their family members as well as other close people during their service. A higher percentage of conscripts (56.5%, above half) responded they were not able to retain regular virtual contact with their family members. About 24% of conscripts think that restrictions to contact family members were not justifiable.</p>
<b>Relationship with demographic data:</b>	There was no correlation between demographic factors and the non-military tasks performed by conscripts. Both urban and rural conscripts reported undertaking such work. Additionally, no

	relationship was found between these tasks and conscripts' education level, religious affiliation, or ethnic background.
<b>Discussion:</b>	<p>The predominant majority of conscripts and their fellow servicemen did not experience discrimination (97-98%), which is a positive aspect. The low rate of discrimination could be attributed to the dominance of ethnic, religious, and language majority groups among respondents. As stated above, 94.5% of the survey participants belonged to one ethnic group (Kyrgyz), 92% were Muslims, and 93% spoke Kyrgyz. Only 5.5% of conscripts indicated the presence of discrimination based on hierarchical standing inside the military unit. It shows that discrimination between conscripts and higher-level military officers still exists in the armed force, despite only a small percentage of conscripts (5.5%) admitting to it.</p> <p>A high number of respondents (40%) reported that they were not able to keep regular contact with their family members or other close people. A greater proportion of conscripts (56.5%) reported about inability to have regular virtual communication with their loved ones; mobile phones are banned for conscripts. Conscripts often use personal mobile phones of their commanders or any other senior military officers to contact their parents or other loved ones. At the same time, 76% of conscripts deem these restrictions (both in-person and virtual communication) justifiable.</p> <p>The comparison of survey findings for the past three years reveals a consistent trend, with the majority of conscripts (95-98% in 2022, 93.79% in 2023, and 97-98% in 2023) indicating that they were unaware of any cases of discrimination. Yet, the survey results for 2024 are slightly more optimistic. There was a declining trend in the percentage of conscripts who stated they maintained regular in-person/physical contact with their family members. In particular, 80% in 2022, 72.05% in 2023, and 60% in 2024 reported about keeping regular contact. It shows that an increasing number of conscripts have expressed dissatisfaction with the frequency of communication with their family members over the past three years.</p> <p>In 2022, around 20% of conscripts, 29% in 2023, and 24% in 2024 indicated that the rules limiting their communication with family members were unjustifiably restrictive. It shows a relatively consistent trend without significant hikes.</p>

## 2.2. Economic and Social Rights:

### ❖ Right to decent and adequate housing and accommodation

Did the accommodation during your service provide for:

	Yes	No	Not answered
Adequate lighting:	6%	93%	1%
Adequate ventilation:	20.5%	77.5%	2%
Sufficient heating:	7%	90%	3%
Sufficient space for those residing there:	4.5%	94%	1.5%
Adequate bathing and toilet facilities:	10%	89%	1%

**Was the accommodation:**

	Yes	No	Not answered
Clean:	93.5%	4%	2.5%
In good state of repair:	92.5%	5%	2.5%
Adequately furnished:	92.5%	5%	2.5%
Separate from toilet facilities from sleeping area:	90.5%	5.5%	4%

<b>Analysis:</b>	
<b>Key observations:</b>	Lighting, heating, and living space were highly rated, with 93%, 90%, and 94% of survey participants giving these services top marks, respectively. About 90-93% of respondents found their accommodation clean, repaired, furnished, and separate from toilet facilities. Ventilation, bathing, and toilet facilities received the lowest ratings. Specifically, 22.5% of conscripts expressed dissatisfaction with the ventilation system in military units, while 11% were unsatisfied with the bathing and toilet facilities.
<b>Relationship with demographic data:</b>	There was no correlation between accommodation conditions and the demographic data of respondents.
<b>Discussion:</b>	According to the national legislation, the government is to take measures to provide military personnel with a sufficient and decent standard of life and to continuously improve the conditions of military service. <sup>5</sup> According to the Law on the Charter of the Armed Forces' Internal Service, each military unit is required to have the following rooms (premises) for the military service of conscripts: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- sleeping areas,</li> <li>- a recreation and information room,</li> <li>- a stationery room,</li> </ul>

<sup>5</sup> Law on the Internal Service of the Armed Forces.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a weapons storage room,</li> <li>- a room for cleaning weapons,</li> <li>- a room/premise for sports activities,</li> <li>- an amenity room,</li> <li>- a storage room for keeping the personal belongings of conscripts,</li> <li>- a room for smoking and shoe-cleaning,</li> <li>- a room to dry uniforms and boots,</li> <li>- a washroom,</li> <li>- a shower room,</li> <li>- restrooms.<sup>6</sup></li> </ul> <p>The 2024 survey results show that the significant majority of conscripts (90-93%) were content with their housing and accommodation services, except ventilation and toilet-bathing facilities. This is consistent with the levels recorded in 2022 and 2023. In both 2022 and 2024, approximately 90-94% of conscripts expressed satisfaction with housing and accommodation services. In 2023, this level was slightly lower, ranging from 83 to 85%, but still high. This reflects the government's prioritization of defense spending in response to regional security challenges, including border conflicts with Tajikistan, political instability in neighboring countries (such as Russian-Ukrainian war, and Afghanistan), as well as issues related to international extremism and terrorism. Government led by President Sadyr Japarov also started to allocate more funding for the defence sector since he came to power in 2020. This allocation is a part of a broader national strategy aimed at enhancing national security, improving the military's operational capabilities, and modernizing military equipment.</p> <p>Nevertheless, there is room for improvement. Ventilation received the lowest ratings in both 2023 and 2024, with 20.05% and 16.15% of conscripts expressing dissatisfaction, respectively. In 2024, toilet and bathing conditions were reported to be the problem area as well, similar to 2022. Conditions of toilets and bathing facilities were rated as the most inadequate in 2022, with only 88.69% of conscripts expressing satisfaction.</p>
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❖ **Right to health protection**

Question	Percentage of responses by value										I don't know		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10			

<sup>6</sup> Law on the Charter of the Armed Forces' Internal Service

Did you feel like the military authorities took sufficient and adequate precautions to protect your health?		1	0,5	1	1,5	3,5	2,5	3	8	4	75	0
Were healthcare services available for you at all times in cases of injury or illness?		1,5	1,5	1,5	4	4,5	0,5	6	5,5	6	62,5	6,5
Were you satisfied with the healthcare service provided during your service?		4	0	1,5	1	3,5	2,5	4	8,5	6,5	61,5	7

**Analysis:**

<b>Key observations:</b>	A high proportion of conscripts were satisfied with the measures taken by military authorities to protect their health as well as the quality of the medical services provided. In particular, 92.5% of respondents, who rated their response between 6 and 10, reported that military authorities made appropriate efforts to safeguard their health. Additionally, 80.5% of respondents reported that medical services were available to them at all times in cases of injury or illness. Nearly the same percentage of conscripts (83%, who provided ratings from 6 to 10) expressed their contentment with healthcare service, reflecting a high level of satisfaction.
<b>Relationship with demographic data:</b>	Half of the respondents who believed that military authorities did not adequately care for the health of conscripts (rated on a scale from 1 to 5) were from urban areas. There was no correlation between this belief and other demographic factors such as ethnicity or religious affiliation. A similar pattern emerged regarding access to healthcare services; half of those who felt that medical services were not consistently available also came from urban areas. Furthermore, more than half of the conscripts dissatisfied with the treatment they received were from metropolitan regions as well. Other demographic information, including education level and ethnicity, showed no connection to these concerns.
<b>Discussion:</b>	<p>The precautions implemented by military units to safeguard conscripts' health were rated highly, with most conscripts (92.5%) deeming them adequate and sufficient. This figure closely mirrors the 92% reported in 2022. Even though the 2023 figure was slightly lower at 86.97%, it remained significantly high. This suggests that over the past three years, there has been a consistent trend reflecting that health precaution measures adopted by military units met the needs of conscripts.</p> <p>In terms of the quality of medical services offered, most soldiers expressed satisfaction over the past three years, although there has been a slight decline from 2022 to 2024. In 2024, 83% of soldiers reported being satisfied with the healthcare services received during their military service, while the percentages were slightly higher at 84.47% in 2023 and 86.31% in 2022.</p>

	<p>Medical services have remained accessible to conscripts for injuries and illnesses over the past three years, according to the majority of respondents. However, there has been a slight declining trend, with higher percentages observed in 2022 and 2023 compared to 2024. In 2024, 80.5% of respondents reported unrestricted access to these services, while the figures were 83.24% in 2023 and 91% in 2022.</p> <p>Despite high satisfaction and accessibility of medical services, there have been several challenges over the years concerning the healthcare services available to conscripts. These include outdated and insufficient medical equipment and facilities. Medical centers in military units are only able to provide pre-hospital, primary care due to the lack of medical equipment.<sup>7</sup> Moreover, there was also a scarcity of medical supplies and medication there. Military units also lack specialized doctors such as dentists. Additionally, there is a lack of ambulances to transport conscripts from military units to hospitals. It is a serious issue for military units located in remote areas.</p> <p>The medical facilities of the armed forces are separate from the system of the Ministry of Health. This jeopardizes the enhancement of capacity of military medical staff as they are limited to capacity-building events systematically delivered by the Health Ministry.<sup>8</sup> Moreover, this resulted in the use of old clinical protocols (treatment approaches) by military medical personnel within the MoD.<sup>9</sup></p> <p>Efforts to improve the situation have been made by Kyrgyz government, but changes and investments in healthcare system of the MoD are necessary to ensure that conscripts receive the care they need.</p>
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❖ **Right to work security**

Question	Percentage of responses by value									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Were you given regular and sufficient periods to rest?	1,5	0	1	1,5	2	3,5	6	7	7,5	70
Did you feel safe during your period of military service?	4	0	0,5	1	3,5	2,5	2,5	7	7	72

**Analysis:**

<sup>7</sup> The Observance of the Military Personnel’s Rights in the Kyrgyz Republic: The Report of the National Center for Prevention of Torture, Bishkek, 2018, Available at: <http://npm.kg/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Soblyudenie-prav-voennosluzhashhih-v-uchrezhdeniyah-Vooruzhennyh-sil-KR-2018g.pdf>

<sup>8</sup> Ibid

<sup>9</sup> Ibid.

<b>Key observations:</b>	The vast majority of conscripts (94%) (values ranging from 6 to 10) reported having regular and sufficient periods for rest. Similarly, a high number of conscripts (91%) indicated they felt safe while serving in the military.
<b>Relationship with demographic data:</b>	The majority of conscripts who reported not having regular and sufficient periods were from rural areas and had a secondary level of education. This same group also indicated that they did not feel safe during their military service. No other correlations were identified with the remaining demographic variables.
<b>Discussion:</b>	<p>According to the Law on the Status of Servicemen, conscripts are entitled to regular rest periods to maintain their physical and mental well-being. This right is guaranteed by providing weekly rest days, holidays, and daily breaks for rest and meals. The working week for conscripts is six days with one day off (Sunday). This one day off can be spent outside of the military unit if authorized by the senior officers. In addition, holidays are celebrated by conscripts, except those who are on duty. On these days, as well as in their free time, cultural and leisure activities, as well as sports games are organized.</p> <p>The 2024 survey findings show that most of the conscripts in Kyrgyzstan have enough and regular time for their rest. This was also supported by the monitoring report produced by the Ombudsman Office. According to their report, all military units have recreation rooms, which usually have a television, newspapers, and if available, board games.<sup>10</sup> Military units also have libraries where conscripts can borrow books.</p> <p>The data from the past three years indicates that in 2024, a higher percentage of conscripts (94%) considered the time allocated for rest to be adequate and consistent. This is an increase from 77% in 2023 and 89.89% in 2022. Since military training and operations can be physically taxing, adequate rest is essential for maintaining conscripts' physical fitness and mental well-being. Overall, the 2024 statistics suggest that military authorities do not need to take immediate action in this area.</p> <p>The data indicates that feelings of work security among conscripts were high, with 91% reporting a sense of safety in their military service in 2022, while 89.89% shared the same sentiment in 2023. However, only 75.15% felt secure in 2022. This reflects that while military authorities are making efforts to promote safe conditions, there is still a need for greater initiatives to ensure the safety of all conscripts.</p>

❖ **Right to decent and sufficient nutrition**

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<sup>10</sup> Ibid.

Question	Percentage of responses by value										n/a
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Was the amount of food provided in your location of placement sufficient for you?	1	0	1,5	1,5	0,5	1	5	6	11	72,5	0
Was the quality of food provided in your location of placement acceptable?	0,5	2	2,5	0,5	2	2	7	8	10,5	64	1
Did the military authorities take into account your individual dietary needs?	11,5	0	2	3	5	2	4	8	4,5	52,5	7,5
Was clean drinking water available to you at all times?	1,5	1,5	0,5	0,5	2,5	0,5	3,5	2,5	7,5	78,5	1

Analysis:	
Key observations:	An overwhelming 95.5% of respondents (scores between 6 and 10) felt that the amount of food supplied was sufficient. Moreover, 91.5% of conscripts found the quality of the food to be satisfactory. On the downside, 21.5% mentioned that their individual dietary requirements, like allergies or religious beliefs, were ignored. Additionally, 93.5% reported that accessing clean drinking water was not an issue.
Relationship with demographic data:	The majority of those who said that military authorities did not consider their dietary needs were from rural areas, and a smaller percentage were from urban areas. There were no further associations found.
Discussion:	<p>The findings from the 2024 survey show that a notable majority of conscripts (95.5%) expressed satisfaction with both the quantity and quality of food provided to them. As previously mentioned, the government under Sadyr Japarov has increased funding allocations for the defense sector, also benefiting food supplies for conscripts. In February 2021, the government issued a decree to raise the food supply and nutrition standards for soldiers to a minimum of 5,325 calories per day, an increase from the earlier standard of 4,008 calories that had been in effect for nine years, from 2002 to 2021. This change has resulted in an improved food supply, as evidenced not only by the 2024 survey results but also by those from 2022 and 2023. Specifically, in 2022, 88.69% of conscripts rated the quantity of food they received positively, while in 2023, that figure was 86.33%. This trend suggests that an increasing number of conscripts are satisfied with the amount of food provided, as reflected in the growing statistics from 2022 to 2024.</p> <p>The trend regarding the quality of food has shown improvement over the past three years. In 2022, 90.47% of soldiers reported that the food quality was satisfactory, which climbed to 93.5% in 2024. This trend suggests a growing satisfaction among conscripts regarding the food provisions, as reflected in the rising statistics from 2022 to 2024. Furthermore, 93.5% of conscripts indicated that they had</p>

	<p>access to clean drinking water.</p> <p>The only issue was that 21.5% of conscripts mentioned that their dietary requirements were not addressed. This aligns with the survey findings from 2022 (27.97%) and 2023 (32.3%), indicating that roughly a quarter of soldiers are dissatisfied with this aspect., who stated that their dietary requirements were not taken into consideration. This mirrors the survey findings in 2022 (27.97%) and 2023 (32.3%) and signals that around quarter of soldiers have have raised concerns about this matter.</p>
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## FINAL ANALYSIS:

<p><b>Key observations for the 2024 survey:</b>  <i>(Describe key observations and trends from the results of the entire survey, e.g., which rights did conscripts report to be violated the most)</i></p>	<p>The report presents the survey results for 2024.</p> <p>One of the key observations for 2024 was that the majority of conscripts enjoyed their political, social, and economic rights, with socio-economic rights being better protected. Specifically, a larger percentage of conscripts had access to adequate housing, food, medical services, and work security. However, civil and political rights—such as the right to respect private and family life, and freedoms of expression, assembly, and association, along with protection against torture and discriminations — were safeguarded to a lesser degree.</p> <p>The significant majority of conscripts were content with their housing and accommodation services. Additionally, most respondents were pleased with the amount of time provided for rest, quantity and quality of food, and healthcare services. In contrast, some civil and political rights were safeguarded less. For instance, nearly half of the conscripts reported that their freedoms of expression, assembly, and association were restricted beyond what they deemed reasonable.</p> <p>Moreover, slightly less than half of the conscripts admitted they found it difficult to maintain regular and adequate in-person contact with their family members and close friends during their service. More than half indicated they were unable to keep up consistent virtual communication with their family. Besides, one-third of conscripts do not trust that investigations of complaints will be conducted promptly and impartially. In addition, they worried that both they and any witnesses would not receive sufficient safeguards against negative consequences arising from making a complaint.</p> <p>At the same time, some political rights were upheld. For example, around eighty percent of conscripts reported that they had not experienced torture or inhumane or degrading treatment or punishment.</p>
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	<p>Besides, nearly all conscripts indicated they faced no discrimination based on religion, language, age, urban or rural origin, or level of education.</p>
<p><b>Relationship with demographic data:</b>  <i>(Describe key relationships identified based on all responses – i.e., what are key demographic data which affect the way conscripts perceive their rights)</i></p>	<p>The minimal presence of minority groups (ethnic, religious, and language) excluded these factors to be the key elements affecting the way conscripts perceived their rights. Instead, age, status in the military unit's hierarchy, level of education, and urban/rural origin were viewed as the primary demographic characteristics affecting the way conscripts perceive their rights. For example, age and status in the military unit's hierarchy contributed to being the target of mistreatment. Status in the hierarchy of the military unit was also identified by a small group of conscripts as the key discrimination element that played a role in having their property seized.</p> <p>Speaking about the level of education, conscripts having bachelor degrees were more skeptical about their freedom of expression. They indicated it was restrained beyond what they believed to be reasonable during military service. There were stronger correlations between conscripts' perceptions of their rights and their urban vs. rural origin. For instance, more conscripts from urban areas viewed unreasonable restrictions on their freedom of assembly and association than their peers from rural areas. Besides, more than half of the conscripts who were dissatisfied with the medical treatment were also from metropolitan areas. Another example is that the majority of conscripts, who said that they were not instructed about appropriate reporting and complaint procedures were also from cities and towns. Besides, half of the respondents, who claimed that they were not informed about how to identify violations of mental integrity, were from urban areas. Meanwhile, the majority of conscripts, who said that they did not have regular and sufficient periods for rest, were from rural areas.</p>
<p><b>Discussion:</b>  <i>(Please explain how the key results of the survey can be understood with respect to the national context)</i></p>	<p>Similar to the previous two years (2022-2023), the composition of conscripts remains unchanged, characterized predominantly by ethnic Kyrgyz, Muslims, and Kyrgyz-speaking individuals from rural areas. Ethnic Kyrgyz dominated the conscript population, making up 94% of the total. Minority ethnic groups, such as Uzbeks, Uighurs, and Dungans, often choose alternative service to avoid conscription. The rise of ethnic nationalism in the post-Soviet era resulted in increased access to political resources and the justice system for ethnic Kyrgyz. This shift led ethnic minorities to feel that their rights, including those related to military service, would not be adequately protected. At the same time, issues like hazing, violence, and bullying were widespread in the military in the early post-Soviet period. This environment discouraged ethnic minorities from joining the army, as they often lacked support from both their peers and military leaders, who were mostly ethnic Kyrgyz. As a result, they are still reluctant to join the armed forces.</p> <p>Religious minorities, comprising 1% in the 2024 survey, including Christians, often choose alternative service for similar reasons. National legislation allows members of religious groups, who cannot serve</p>

	<p>in the military due to their beliefs, to select an alternative form of conscription service, aiming to safeguard the rights of these groups, including minorities.</p> <p>Furthermore, most recruits come from rural areas (62.5%), with Kyrgyz as the native language for most conscripts (93%).</p> <p>Regarding the observance of rights, conscripts experienced limitations on some of their civil and political rights, such as freedom of expression, assembly, and association, due to national legislation. Specifically, the Law on the Status of Military Servicemen prohibits conscripts from establishing, joining, or supporting any political party. It also forbids military personnel from participating in strikes, protests, demonstrations, or rallies, and prevents them from being members of trade unions. In addition, the law prohibits the creation or support of religious associations within military units. Meanwhile, approximately half of the respondents felt that their freedom of assembly and association was restricted beyond what they considered normal and reasonable. The number of conscripts, who believed that their freedom of assembly and association was restrained beyond what they would consider appropriate increased to 47% in 2024, compared to 30.5% in 2023 and 31.54% in 2022. It indicates that conscripts strive for more liberal approach while serving in the army.</p> <p>Freedom of expression is further restricted by the national legislation, which prohibits conscripts from using mobile phones during their 12-month service. Consequently, conscripts have limited access to media to share their opinions, face restricted access to public information, and experience constraints on communication with their relatives and friends. To contact their relatives or close ones, conscripts use the personal mobile phones of commanders, but only at their discretion. Typically, commanders bear the expenses associated with these mobile calls. At the same time, around half of conscripts claimed their freedom of expression was constrained beyond what they deemed reasonable. It indicates a strong desire among many conscripts for greater freedom of expression through media, as well as mobile phone use for public information and personal communication.</p> <p>Nonetheless, some political rights were better protected. For instance, forced labor was absent. Moreover, 87% of conscripts had not face torture or inhumane treatment, which is a notable achievement of military authorities given the brutal hazing and bullying environment that existed in the army during the Soviet Union. Additionally, between 97% and 98.5% indicated they did not face discrimination based on religion, language, age, urban or rural origins, or education level. On the other side, the low rate of discrimination could be explained by a totally different factor which is the dominance of ethnic, religious, and language majority groups among respondents. Such domination prevents discrimination based on these three criteria.</p>
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	<p>Meanwhile, some conscripts would not file a complaint if violence occurs. First, conscripts lack confidence that they would be shielded from negative consequences as a result of reporting. The national legislation provides only one instrument to protect complainant from retaliation or any negative consequences (e.g., mistreatment or physical harm) resulting from making a complaint. When considering a complaint, a commander or any individual involved in the process must not disclose any personal information concerning a complainant without his consent. There are no other mechanisms stipulated in the national legislation to minimize or avoid conflicts of interest. This indicates that legislation needs to be improved.</p> <p>Second, conscripts do not trust that the investigation will be promptly and impartially. Third, conscripts lack easy access to file complaints with external bodies such as Military Prosecution Office, Ombudsman, or the National Center for Prevention of Torture. As earlier mentioned, conscripts are prohibited from using their mobile phones during their 12-month military service to be able to report their complaints to these external institutions by phone or via the Internet.</p> <p>In contrast to political rights, socio-economic rights were more safeguarded. A significant majority of conscripts were content with their housing and accommodation services, as well as with the quantity and quality of food provided to them. These could be explained by the increase in funding allocated by the government to the defence sector. The government prioritized defence spending to address regional security challenges, including border conflicts with Tajikistan, the Russian-Ukrainian war, instability in Afghanistan, and threats from extremism and terrorism. This allocation is a part of a broader national strategy aimed at enhancing national security, improving the military's operational capabilities, and modernizing military equipment.</p> <p>Moreover, access to medical services was consistently available to the majority of conscripts, who were generally satisfied with the quality of healthcare. However, despite high level of satisfaction and accessibility, several challenges have persisted regarding the healthcare services. These challenges include outdated and insufficient medical equipment. Medical centers within military units are only able to provide pre-hospital and primary care due to insufficient medical resources. Furthermore, there is a shortage of medical supplies and medications, as well as a lack of specialized doctors, such as dentists. Additionally, the absence of ambulances to transport conscripts from military units to hospitals poses an issue, especially for those stationed in remote areas.</p> <p>Lastly, most conscripts reported feeling safe during their service and having sufficient time for rest.</p>
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	<p>Overall, the majority of conscripts perceived that their political and socio-economic rights were respected, with socio-economic rights being better observed than political rights. Conscripts expressed a desire for a more liberal approach to their military service to enhance their freedom of expression, assembly, and association. Violence and inhuman treatment are not prevalent and widespread during military service of conscripts.</p>
<p><b>Comparative analysis for 2022-2024 survey findings</b></p>	<p>The report also analyzes and compares the survey findings on conscripts' perceptions of their rights over three years.</p> <p>While comparing data for 2022, 2023 and 2024, a generally positive trend in several areas is observed. First, there has been a notable improvement in conscripts' perceptions regarding accountability for misconduct among officers and servicemen. In 2024, a greater number of conscripts felt that those who committed misconduct would face punishment, an increase from 2022. Second, there was an increase in awareness and desire of conscripts for more freedom of expression, assembly, and association. Third, more conscripts expressed satisfaction with both the quantity and quality of food provided, as well as the amount of time allocated for rest. Fourth, most conscripts reported not experiencing torture or inhuman treatment during their service, indicating a stable perception over the three years. However, the percentage of those who have encountered or witnessed mistreatment has slightly increased from 10.72% in 2022 to 13% in 2024, suggesting ongoing issues with hazing and bullying within military units. This signals that military authorities should address them. Lastly, confidence in receiving medical support in cases of injuries has increased, reflecting accessibility of medical services.</p> <p>Regarding the declining trend, conscripts have been increasingly less able to maintain regular contact with their families. This suggests increasing dissatisfaction with communication restrictions during service. Moreover, a significant number of conscripts feel their freedom of expression, assembly and association are excessively restricted. This is an increase from 2022 and 2023, indicating a growing desire among conscripts for more liberal policies regarding communication, assembly, and association. Additionally, trust in complaint and reporting mechanisms remains low, continuing a trend observed in previous years. This indicates a need for military authorities to improve the system.</p> <p>Overall, continuous monitoring and improvement in these areas will be essential for fostering a more supportive and humane environment for conscripts.</p>
<p><b>Surveying process</b></p>	<p>The survey was conducted among conscripts serving in the Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Interior, and Border Service. Data collection was handled by the National Center for the Prevention of Torture,</p>

	as external researchers do not have access to military units. Data analysis and report writing were conducted by the Center for Social Innovation and Development, an NGO registered in Kyrgyzstan.
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