



# LIFE BEGINS

Short fiction film

Running time: 30 minutes

Genre: psychological drama

Film director: Oleksii Taranenko

Writer: Pavlo Belianskyi

Producer: Andrii Korniienko

Good Morning Films (Kyiv, Ukraine)

\*All materials shown in this presentation are real footage from the upcoming FILM

## PLOT

The Protagonist is a war veteran who struggles to readjust to civilian life after participating in fierce battles. He finds it difficult to find his place, even at home. After a fight in a pub, he is imprisoned in a military facility and then sent back home, where memories, physical and emotional trauma, and the sounds of war haunt him.

A peaceful home seems alien to him, and people who have not experienced war cause misunderstanding and alienation. The Protagonist attempts to adapt by working on a military video script, but even this work provides no solace. His friends and acquaintances only exacerbate his internal conflict by portraying the war as remote.

A phone conversation with a combat friend, memories of the fallen, constant body pain and anxiety all serve to reveal how difficult it is for a veteran to exist in a peaceful life. In the finale, the Protagonist meets his family at the railway station, but even this meeting leaves a bitter aftertaste. All his emotions are cut short by a scream on the phone as he talks to his wounded friend.

The film ends abruptly, emphasising the incompleteness and difficulty of veterans' return to normal life, which is full of shadows of war.

## LIFE BEGINS

## PROJECT TOPIC SUMMARY

The film, made in the genre of psychological drama, will allow us to visualise the perception of the Ukrainian Armed Forces military personnel of peaceful life, to realise the existence of the problem of PTSD, and to think about what Ukrainian society will face shortly when a large number of soldiers return home.

Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) is a chronic mental health condition that can develop after a traumatic event. About 8% of men and 20% of women who have experienced traumatic events have PTSD. If left untreated, it can destroy relationships, work, health, or even life. PTSD can be overcome or managed.

# LIFE BEGINS

## THE PROJECT CONTRIBUTES TO THE OVERALL PRIORITIES

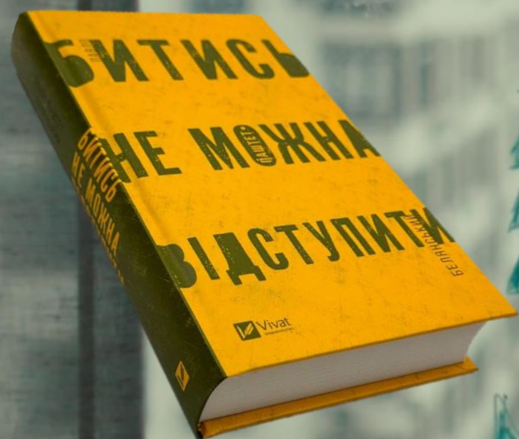
1) Promoting the formation of common values of civil society in Ukraine and Europe. The scenario raises several important topics that will facilitate public dialogue on support for war veterans and universal values.

2) We do not want to be left alone near the country of terrorists, neither during the war nor after peace is achieved. That is why we are making a film about Ukraine's present and future, speaking to the audience through our pain and cultural tools.

# LIFE BEGINS

## STORY

The story for the screenplay is based on the book, one of the short stories by Pavlo Belianskyi, a famous Ukrainian writer and currently a soldier of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, 'Fight Not Retreat', which is a finalist for the BBC Book of the Year 2024



## LIFE BEGINS



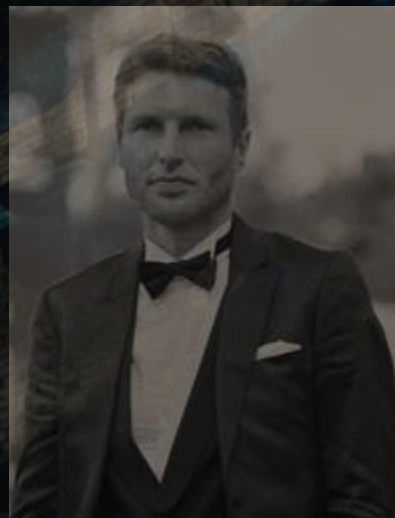
## SOUND CONCEPTION

We have used complex sound recording and editing throughout the film, and the sounds of war are embedded in the soundtrack.

The sounds of a vacuum cleaner, a tank, a coffee machine, a motorcycle suddenly passing by, a door slamming loudly, a tank shot, a machine gun burst, a conversation with a fellow soldier who cannot hear because of his injury, silence—this is the soundtrack of our film.

As the central music theme, we have used a new track by DZ'OB (Dnipro, Ukraine), which plays experimental electronic jazz, the same track we used in the film's teaser in our presentation.

## LIFE BEGINS



We work with Serhiy Stepansky, one of the best sound engineers in Ukraine and a member of the European Film Academy.

## DISTRIBUTION & MARKETING STRATEGY

It is an essential topic for society, like PTSD and 'coming home' in the broadest sense of the word. We hope for a great potential of festival distribution of this film at such international A-class venues as Warsaw, Venice, TIFF, Karlovy Vary, and Molodist Kyiv.

Cinema/public screenings in Ukraine are also planned. These will be organised with partners from veterans' associations and psychological support centres.

In addition, we have confirmed the film's release in 2025-2026 on DIM TV and have signed a cooperation agreement with ARMYA TV.

# LIFE BEGINS

## PROJECT PARTNERS

1) The Ukrainian Cultural Foundation - the main part of the film was created with the foundation's grant support.

2) ARMY TV - the film stars actor and serviceman Volodymyr Kravchuk, an employee of this channel, and is scheduled for online release in 2025.

3) Good Morning Films - a Ukrainian production company.

4) Because Rental is a regular supplier of film equipment.

## LIFE BEGINS

supported by  
UKRAINIAN  
CULTURAL  
FOUNDATION



## OUR OBJECTIVE

This topic is not very widely represented in Ukrainian cinema. This is probably because it is still a somewhat taboo subject in our society, and it is not customary to discuss it out loud.

We aim to develop projects promoting the values of a democratic, civilised world. Based on the work on the short film, we will create a new feature-length film, LIFE BEGINS, which will contribute to the formation of shared values of civil society, respect for cultural rights, equal opportunities for personal development, and self-realisation of citizens and communities, regardless of cultural, linguistic, ethnic, regional, social, gender, or other characteristics or differences.

# LIFE BEGINS

## FILM TEAM



Producer  
Andrii Korniienko



Director of photography  
Tatiana Dudnik

Director  
Oleksii Taranenko

## LIFE BEGINS



Screenplay by  
Pavlo Beliansky



Sound design  
Serhii Stepanskyi

# LIFE BEGINS

God bless!

Thank you for your attention!

producer

ANDRII KORNIENKO

+38 067 631 81 12

praktika.pro@gmail.com

[www.goodmorningfilms.com.ua](http://www.goodmorningfilms.com.ua)



**GOOD MORNING FILMS**

[www.goodmorningfilms.com.ua](http://www.goodmorningfilms.com.ua)