
THE MAIN DETERMINANTS OF PUBLIC POLICY ON SOCIAL SECURITY OF UKRAINE

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Annotation. The state policy in terms of ensuring the social security of Ukrainian society was researched. Theoretical and methodological analysis of social security was carried out, in particular, modern approaches to defining the category of "social security" were analyzed, and the main characteristics of social security, causal links and interactions between society and public authorities in the process of social security were revealed. The main determinants and factors of its provision were determined. Innovative approaches to improving the public policy of social security of Ukraine were substantiated.

Keywords: social security, social relations, threats to social security, public policy, public administration.

INTRODUCTION

In Ukraine, social tensions are growing; the welfare and living standards of the population are declining. Negative trends and accumulated problems in the social sphere pose threats to national security in general, social security in particular, as well as the further development of Ukrainian society. They can become factors of imbalance and stability in the state. In the system of factors that determine the process of ensuring social security, a significant place belongs to social relations. Lack of theoretical researches concerning problems of social security of the Ukrainian state reduce the efficiency and quality of public administration in terms of such important components of social relations, as social-class, social-labor relations, social protection, pensions, etc.

In Ukraine, there is no comprehensive mechanism for managing social security, imperfect regulatory framework for public policy in the context of the problem under research. The sphere of social security as a component of the national system, has not received the necessary development, the ways of its optimization are insufficiently substantiated. Therefore, in today's conditions, the scientific and practical problem of developing new approaches to ensuring social security, preserving the livelihood of society becomes especially relevant.

The purpose of the article is to research the main determinants of social security in order to develop preventive measures and to prevent threats that could destabilize Ukraine, as well as to substantiate innovative approaches to improving public policy of social security.

Objectives:

1. To carry out a theoretical and methodological analysis of social security. 2. To identify the main determinants and factors for ensuring social security. 3. To substantiate innovative approaches for improving the state policy of social security of Ukraine.

The **object** of the research is public policy of social security.

Research methods: The research used a structural-functional method (to reveal the main characteristics of social security, causal links and interactions between society, state authorities in the process of social security), generalization and semantic analysis (to study the theoretical foundations and clarify conceptual and terminological apparatus), institutional (while clarifying the features of public policy to ensure social security), prognostic and recommendatory analysis (while formulating recommendations).

Research methodology

The logic of the research is aimed at studying the least researched and most controversial aspects of social security, which is the subject of scientific research. Developing theoretical and methodological concepts of research of determinants of public policy on social security and defining its logical architecture and problem field of analysis, we proceed from the following: each element in the researched system has the specific purpose and at the same time realizes system-forming function, it is important to generalize the received knowledge by clarifying the concept of "social security", the patterns of its provision in today's conditions, to analyze the state of scientific elaboration of the issue.

The application of the functional-activity approach is based on the analysis and characterization of public policy on social security through the process of preserving and maintaining its stable state as a holistic entity, which protects individuals and society from

various social threats, and allows: to research social security, as a dynamic social phenomenon, which is evolving and constantly changing; to identify and assess the real and potential threats and opportunities of society for the proper protection of citizens and society; to determine the ability of the social system to adequately respond to dangers, threats and challenges to social security and to propose preventive measures.

MAIN CONTENT

Social security is one of its leading components in the national security system, determining the state of protection of the individuals', society and the state social interests from the system of threats to national security that affect its state.

Important theoretical-methodological and practical principles of the researched problem were revealed in the works of well-known domestic scientists O. Vlasyuk, V. Goshovska, I. Hnybidenko, O. Koval, A. Kolot, V. Kutsenko, E. Libanova, O. Novikova, A. Pryatelchuk. , G. Sytnyk, V. Skuratovsky and others.

O. Vlasyuk rightly points out that security is the main condition of public life and the first function of statehood. Failure to implement and guarantee this basic social value leads to the decline of societies and states (Vlasyuk, 2016). The essence of the category "security" in a broad sense is considered as "the presence of favorable conditions for the functioning of a complex system, when the influence of external and internal factors does not lead to its destabilization" (Shemshuchenko, 1998).

In Ukraine, there is no clear legal definition of "social security". Modern domestic and foreign scientific approaches to its interpretation do not fundamentally contradict each other, but only complement and develop, specifying and deepening the idea of the essence of social security as a social phenomenon. The Declaration of State Sovereignty of Ukraine considers social security as "a state of guaranteed legal and institutional protection of vital social interests of the individual and society from internal and external threats". The Law of Ukraine "On Fundamentals of National Security of Ukraine" defines security as "protection of vital interests of man and citizen, society and the state, which ensures sustainable development of society, timely detection, prevention and neutralization of real and potential threats to national interests".

Domestic scientists interpret the concept of "social security" in different ways: as a state of guaranteed legal and institutional protection of vital social interests of man, society and the

state from external and internal threats (Gnybidenko, Kolot, Novikova, 2006). the state of human life and society, characterized by the formed, sustainable social system for ensuring social conditions of the individual, his social security, resilience to the influence of factors that increase social risk (2010); component of national security, which determines the state of protection of vital interests of society and the state from internal and external threats, as well as from threats to social interests (Skurativskyi, 2002); the state of protection from threats to social interests, as well as the result of the implementation of social policy (Libanova, Palii, 2004). Koval O. (2016) proposes to consider social security in the traditional (absence of threats to society) and alternative (absence of threats from society) sense.

In world practice, the definition of social security has mainly practical, instrumental significance associated with the establishment and operation of state systems of social support for people with socially inadequate low incomes (Bach, 2003).

The concept of "social security", in our opinion, is complex, multistructural, includes economic, political, social and spiritual aspects, reflects all that affects the human environment, the quality of life, makes society sustainable, capable of development . Social security should be considered as a special type of activity to ensure it, which includes a system of measures and mechanisms aimed at preventing dangers and threats of various kinds to man and society. In this case, such dangers and threats should be understood as a set of adverse factors (existing or latent) that directly or indirectly affect the state of social security.

Social security is a certain state of the object, system, relationship, interaction and correlation of the whole set of conditions and factors that ensure the preservation, security, functioning, development and improvement of the system.

Structural and functional system of social security consists of the following elements: subjects of social security (public administration bodies, civil society institutions); objects of social security (material and spiritual interests and values of human, society, and state); principles of formation and provision of social security; mechanisms and instruments of state policy to ensure social security. Social security is ensured through the implementation of public policy using mechanisms and tools of public administration. An important tool for the formation of social security is compliance with social standards of quality and living. The state must prioritize not the minimum, but the optimal social standards, which should provide equal categories of the population with equal social opportunities, prospects for horizontal and vertical mobility and conditions for self-development (Kutsenko, (2011).

Researchers distinguish three macro structural components of social security: the social security of the state, society and the individual, which are closely linked and significantly affect each other. The system of ensuring the social security of society, the state, and the individual provides for the timely detection, prevention, and neutralization of real and potential threats to national interests.

In today's conditions, the main social risks have significantly exacerbated and reached a scale that poses a real threat to national and social security. Threats to social security are formed independently and move from other areas of national security. In determining the causes of threats to Ukraine's social security, there is a close link between the quality of public administration and the economic situation. (Novikova, Sydoruk, Pankova, 2018).

Social security is also related to the resilience of the socio-political system to adverse effects, its ability to social integration and adaptation to changing conditions. Therefore, the prerequisite for ensuring social security is the presence of so-called "fuses", their main task is to prevent the basic elements of the socio-political system from reaching critical limits (Pryyatelchuk, Ischenko, 2010).

However, destructive processes in the social sphere of Ukrainian society still are in place. As for today long-term unresolved social problems are one of the main factors in the emergence and development of a number of threats in various segments of national security. These include destabilization of socio-political processes, disbelief in the capacity of the government, the outflow of skilled labor from the country, etc. These threats reached scales that may threaten the social and national security of the state. Ukraine continues to be on red lines of all the important social indicators of world civilization (Pyroghkov, 2003).

Social distortions (rapid social stratification, low living standards, poverty of the general population, destruction of labor potential of society, increasing threats to life and health, unjustifiably high social inequality, unequal access to educational and medical services, etc.) pose a threat to social security of Ukraine. One of the main factors threatening the social security of the state is "social contradictions that arise within the social system, not all, but only those that lead to social conflict". (Gnybidenko, Kolot, Novikova, 2006). Such approach makes it possible to consider social security as the existing in society level of counteraction to threats to the normal state of life of the latter, that have various nature as well as the degree of protection of man and society. At the same time, it is important that the state and society take an offensive position to properly ensure the protection of vital interests and preventively counteract existing

(potential) threats.

Existing threats to social security are caused by low efficiency and quality of public management of social processes. To our opinion, these factors are only derived from the imperfection of decisions made by the authorities, whose activities are characterized by contradictions, focusing on achieving individual goals and insufficient consideration of the practical adaptation of implemented measures to the real conditions in society.

Social security is simultaneously influenced by both external and internal factors. We share the point of view of Sydoruk O. (2018), who, among the external factors that largely determine the security environment of man (citizens) in our country, included the levers and tools which the state and society are used to influence and provide social protection and security to their citizens (stability of political and socio-economic situation in the country, ensuring a decent standard of living, decent wages, minimization of threats to human life and health, safe social environment, access to educational and medical services, availability of housing, guaranteed food security, etc.); and as internal factors of the security environment, which are formed by the individual for his own social security due to what he influences, she singled out individual's awareness of the value of life, self-preservation, self-defense and self-development, his own responsibility for his (and his family's) life, health, well-being, its contribution to public safety, etc.

Some components of the social security system are relatively static (subjects and objects), others are more dynamic (challenges and threats). In the structural and functional analysis of the system, in particular, the search for directions for the transformation of its structure, clarifying the priorities of the subjects of social security, attention should be paid primarily to the dynamic elements. Depending on the priorities that necessity to be addressed in the process of social security, we can distinguish the formal part (public authorities, means of ensuring security etc.) and the informal part (civil society institutions, citizens, media, etc.).

Ensuring social security is a priority of public policy, its effectiveness is largely determined by the state of development of social security theory and the level of implementation and application of appropriate methods, techniques, models, mechanisms, principles etc. The implementation of public policy on social security should take into account the geopolitical situation and trends, globalization, challenges, risks, dangers and threats to national interests, real and projected capabilities of the state and other factors that affect and will affect the sustainable development of Ukraine in perspective.

For organizational, value and conceptual support of the social security system it is expedient to mobilize the intellectual potential of society, theoretical structures, practical methods of strategic analysis, forecasting and planning; to ensure support for theoretical and practical research in the field of social security; to unite and coordinate the efforts of government and non-government institutions specializing in social security issues; to promote the development of basic structures and infrastructure network of the social security system.

Social security is ensured in the process of transformation of social relations. The main components of social relations are welfare, income level of population, wages, health status, employment, demographic situation, socio-class differentiation, social protection, pensions, etc. It depends on socio-economic development, the availability of human, material and natural resources.

In the system of effective public administration, social security of society should be an important priority and ensured by appropriate implementation mechanisms (legal, institutional, economic, financial, organizational, managerial, informational, personnel, etc.).

Having analyzed the legislative principles of social security, it should be noted that the main directions of social security of the Ukrainian state in terms of such important components of social relations as social-class, social-labor relations, social protection, etc. are not outlined in the current legislation. Therefore, it is necessary to make amendments and additions to the Law of Ukraine "On Fundamentals of National Security", to strengthen and specify the provisions on social security, taking into account the abovementioned aspects. It is also advisable to amend the current legislation on national security, foreign and domestic policy with issues concerning the implementation of international obligations with regard to sustainable development and social responsibility. It is important to create conditions for institutional support for the practical implementation of social security; constructive and coordinated actions of institutions of all branches of government to eliminate (minimize) social threats in the formation and implementation of state and regional social policy.

It is necessary to promote the formation of constructive solidarity and mutually responsible relations between the main social actors - citizens, society, state, government, and business. Joint responsibility should become the main basis of public relations in Ukraine to ensure social security.

Financial and economic provision of social security requires, first of all, social balance and social orientation of the State Budget, taking into account the importance of threats to social

security, as well as strengthening the social orientation of the state tax policy. It is necessary to implement structural changes in the economy in the context of the implementation of social priorities of society. It is necessary to further develop the social insurance system, to create extra-budgetary social funds, to finance necessary research concerning social security issues.

Scientific support of social security requires the use of results of research on social security in public administration practice, the development of strategies (concepts) and social security programs on competitive basis, as well as the development of methods for assessing social security (Novikova, Sydorchuk, Pankova, 2018).

Information support of social security requires the creation of a system of social monitoring and the formation of recommendations for the prevention (minimization) of social threats. It is necessary to improve the socially orientated statistical reporting taking into account the requirements of international standards and social security criteria.

CONCLUSIONS

The research of determinants, threats, challenges, trends and actors made it possible to identify the main problems of social security (discredited value compared to other resources, lack of scientifically sound methodological basis for social security, conceptual and strategic uncertainty of future development, variety of criteria for evaluation effectiveness of public policy to address the research problem), and to propose innovative approaches to improve the public policy to ensure social security.

Analysis of the state of social security demonstrates the relationship and interdependence of all factors, components, directions and mechanisms of formation and implementation of social security.

Social dangers, which are presented at the personal and social levels, exist largely due to inefficient and poor public administration, corruption, and ignoring the protection of national interests by the political ruling elite. Therefore, ensuring the social security of Ukrainian society (as a component of national security) should be made as a central concept with activities of all branches of government at all levels structured around it, because guaranteeing at least a basic level of social security components is a necessary prerequisite for public perception and successful implementation of all domestic reforms.

The provided analysis allows to identify the main determinants of public policy to ensure social security, such as:

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- ensuring a decent standard and quality of life, eradicating poverty among workers, lowering poverty;
 - support of high rates of economic development and introduction of innovative models of development; high and balanced socio-economic development of the country and its regions;
 - creating favorable conditions to prevent the outflow of human and intellectual capital outside the country;
 - increasing the value of labor and the employee, creating conditions for decent work;
 - providing opportunities for quality lifelong learning;
 - creation of conditions and opportunities for providing quality medical services;
 - achieving and maintaining the necessary level of protection of human and civil rights and freedoms;
 - preservation of civil peace and social harmony, promotion of ethno-confessional dialogue, maintenance of political, social and economic stability;
 - proper functioning of the system of effective counteraction to threats to man and society;
 - improvement of public policy on preservation and development of human potential;
 - achieving a balance of interests between government and society;
 - improving the efficiency of the public administration system, balance and harmonization of national security and social policy;
 - increasing the level of social responsibility in society;
 - implementation of the principles of social justice and social responsibility;
 - effective public control over the activities of the state;
 - harmonization of social relations, humanization of relations between people, growth of public trust, mutual assistance, cooperation, social partnership, solidarity, cohesion.

The introduction of European approaches to social security in Ukraine will require a radical change in the very essence of public policy in the research area. The cornerstone of the Ukrainian government's activity should be to ensure proper protection of citizens and society as a whole from threats to their well-being and prosperity, and to create proper conditions for normal life and confidence in the future. Measures to ensure social security should, first of all, be of a preventive nature in order to prevent illegal actions and social disturbances.

Developed human potential, decent work, high quality of working life, social responsibility, social justice, public control, etc. are the main conditions and opportunities for

social security. Achieving abovementioned will create benefits for the social development of human, society and the state, the foundation of state independence, achieving a decent standard and quality of life and overcoming poverty, protecting the social interests of the individual, society, state from internal and external threats.

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