

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF UKRAINIAN SOCIETY IN THE PERIOD OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL TRANSFORMATIONS

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Sustainable development has been one of the policy prerogatives at the global level for several decades now. Designing specific policy actions, measuring performance and outcomes continue to present challenging issues for many developed countries. The sociopolitical situation plays a very important role in the structure of sustainable development, especially in the case of Ukraine. The goal of this paper is to enlarge concept of 'sustainable human development' with more specific sociopolitical aspects and to identify their role of sustainable development for Ukrainian society in a transformational period.
Keywords: sustainable development, global problems, socio-political tension.

The Concept of Sustainable Development. The problem of sustainable development is one of the most actual in the modern world. It is being handled by world leaders, it is targeted by a number of governmental and intergovernmental programs and it has been for a number of years on agenda of most influential international organizations.

A belief in the central importance of improving lives and freedoms of ordinary human beings started to be a foundational concern even before Adam Smith's works in Sir William Petty's classic monograph *Political Arithmetic*, published in 1691. It was clearly motivated by an interest in the lives of people in a way that is not all that removed from the contemporary interest in what is called today sustainable human development.

The initiation of the approach and the beginning of the annual series of Human Development Reports published by the United Nations Development Programme occurred under the leadership of Mahbub ul Haq, Pakistani Economist. Even though his primary focus was on the evaluative aspect of the human development approach, he also had deep interest in the agency aspect [1]. Mahbub analyzed how with the help of commitment and determination it is possible to enhance poor "life chances" that people enjoy today in different parts of the world.

If we look into the history of the development of sustainable development concept we will see that our compatriot Volodymyr Vernadsky has foreseen environmental problems at more than 50 years before these problems become a common place of our life and our understanding. Beside of being a great geochemist, V. Vernadsky has brilliantly shaped ideas establishing common sense as a goal and the future of humanity. Exactly due to this he is considered to be the pioneer in this sphere, the one who created the doctrine of noosphere (study about the unity of mankind and nature and their tight bond and mutual influence). Unfortunately, his ideas were not accepted by the society at that time. Only in the second half of the twentieth century the humanity accepted the idea of connection between people and nature. But, unfortunately, for the mankind it was too late. By that moment of time, the development of the world was built on the industrial model. It is characterized by violent and aggressive attitude toward the nature. Mankind was driven by the illusion of inexhaustible natural sources. In the world where humanity's demand was unavoidably growing, no one cared about the ecosystem and limited amount of resources. As a result all this lead to the fact that nowadays, not only people are dependent on nature but vice versa as well.

Another historical fact that negatively contributed to the development of society worldwide is the

existence in the past of two powerful military blocks: the USA and Soviet Union. Both of the blocks were so preoccupied with gaining and holding the power that totally neglected environmental problems. And unfortunately, even after the fall of one of the blocks the situation didn't change gradually. Yes, the distribution of power has changed, the borders of democracy have broadened but still, power and not justice ruled international relations.

Globalization is considered to be another contributing factor to the emergence of idea of sustainable development. But this definitely doesn't mean that globalization brings only destruction in the world. It has human-centered aspects as well, for example, with globalization people got an access to high-quality and accessible services [2]. But at the same time this exact process supports material inequality inside countries and worldwide. There is no possible way for a society to be stable and develop being under such kind of pressure. At the same time the international community has already identified long time ago acute problems in the world that should be mitigated. Among them are: starvation, occupation, military conflicts, corruption, natural disasters, terrorism, illnesses, etc.

Also there are a number of ecological threats that evolved as a result of the mankind activity. They are: greenhouse effect, ozone depletion, acid rains, amount of drinking water available, icing, etc.

All of the above mentioned issues in the modern world can't be ignored anymore as they testify imbalance in international relations, unwillingness of some states to collaborate on matters of humans' right on life, health, freedom and a high level of existence.

In the past couple of decades people started realizing the danger of all of the above mentioned global problems. The humanity now is in front of the choice: continue living according to current scenario that unavoidably leads to a catastrophe or to try to find other ways of life in the world. Sustainable development in the case of second choice can become an answer, a solution of the problem as it is designed to become an alternative to current lifestyle.

The term "sustainable development" was adopted in 1992 at the World Conference of United Nations in Rio de Janeiro. The official definition of the concept agreed at that time is that this is a type of development of the society with the help of which, satisfaction of needs of the current generation will not endanger opportunities of future generations; for this, harmonization of development in social, economic and ecological spheres is required [3]. To put it in simpler terms, sustainable development of society is the one in which the person doesn't do any harm to natural system, which in their turn have time to renew themselves.

Later a number of discussions have been held regarding the meaning of the term as well as its proper interpretation. As a result there are around 60 definitions of “sustainable development” throughout the world. The main reason for all these discussions to exist is that modern understanding of the concept takes into account not only economic or eco-economic, but also a social aspect with its political, ideological, moral and cultural components. After years of debates, observations, concepts’ development it became obvious that the fate of the humanity is not only dependent on the nature (although it is crucial for the future existence of the mankind), but on the ability of people to preserve material and spiritual values, pass them from one generation to another. But as the concept in modern world covers as many aspects and bonds among those aspects as the concept of “sustainable development”, it is not a surprise that all that definitions and interpretations that evolve are only fractional; none of them (except for the official one) can cover the whole spectrum of ideas and aims inserted into the concept.

On the contrary, the official definition is recognized to be the most suitable one mainly due to its abstractness. It gives a chance to cover with this definition aspects of planetary development, both ones that already exist and those that will evolve in future. In addition, it centers the attention on inside, personal, moral principles and stresses the idea of responsibility of each separate person and humanity in general to future generations. Another benefit that the official definition possesses is that it considers “development” – process of changes in general not its particular components. There is no surprise that exactly this feature brought the official definition on the top of the list among the rest. In modern world where everything develops so rapidly, where people fail to follow each new invention or break through in the technological world, it is not enough time anymore for strategic planning of ways and concepts of future development of the human race that would preserve natural resources and personal nature of the mankind.

The globality of the modern problems brings the attention to the fact that it can’t be solely solved by government of special organizations. Involvement of authority and society, different social classes in different countries is needed for implementation of sustainable development, as this concept covers almost all levels of human life as well as governance – from global and international to local and personal life of each person [4].

Following prerequisites of implementation of sustainable development have been defined:

1. Comprehension by human race of principles of sustainable development of systems;
2. Determination of the essence of systems’ formation on the basis of harmony among its material, informational and synergetic principles;
3. Determination of course of change of the human being in three main manifestations: biological person, social and labor. This has an intention to transform a person from the object to the subject of the global development.
4. Creation of the legal base for sustainable development.
5. Formation of global, national and local strategies of sustainable development in case of economic growth and satisfaction of basic human needs.
6. Search of resources for economic, social, political and ecological changes in states, especially in developing ones.

7. Establishment of monitoring systems both on global and local level to assure the effectiveness of undertaken measures and in case of need their adjustment.

8. Assurance of coordinated collaboration of scientific research of the problem worldwide, with further feedback between theoretical concepts and practical implementation for future improvement of strategies of implementation of sustainable development in the modern world.

Ukraine and Sustainable Development

The problem of sustainable development is highly important for Ukraine which is right now on the stage of the transitional society and goes through an eco-economic crisis. The topicality of problems that evolved in nowadays is caused by a number of reasons. The main ones are ecological misbalance caused by anthropogenic influence on biosphere; increasing number of catastrophes and accidents caused by interaction of human with technological systems; socio-political tension in the society.

Nowadays in Ukraine economy is still developed in an ineffective and dangerous to the environment way. This leads to irrational use of natural resources and degradation of social environment. In our country that in general possesses beneficial living conditions, negative processes such as radioactive, chemical, thermal and other types of pollution managed to develop. Over the past couple of decades fertility of soil gradually decreased, probability of flooding increased. The problem of supplying of industry and people with drinking water gets more acute, although at the same time water resources are still being used irrationally. One of the most negative influences on the conservational methods of environment is the absence of economic instruments that should motivate organizations to use modern purification equipment [6]. Another indicator of threat to Ukrainian nation is the level of mortality that increases with each year.

All this leads to a conclusion that unless our nation decides to change the path of its evolution we are all under the threat of extinction. But hopefully, Ukraine being the motherland of a great nation will manage to build inside the country all the needed prerequisites for implementation of the concept of sustainable development of society, economy, ecology and the state.

In order to improve the situation in the country a number of reforms are required in administrative sphere, sphere of social services, citizens’ participation in the process of the society change and evolution. But the country can’t shift to sustainable development not being in a tight bond with the industry that gradually influences the ecological situation in the country.

With the aim of structured movement toward the aim of sustained development the concept of sustainable development of Ukraine has been created. The document is aimed at creation of harmonization means of ecological, economic and social components with the future systematization of plans and terms of implementation of particular stages aimed at the final product – sustainable development of the Ukrainian society.

According to the concept there are a number of reasons for Ukraine to shift to sustainable development. In terms of international reasons it is the fact that Ukraine officially joined United Nations’ document “Agenda on XXI century”. Among domestic reasons there are: ecological factor (human impact on nature), socio-demographic, social (decrease in the life age of people, poverty, migration, etc), economic

(undeveloped domestic market, flaws in export potential, etc.) and resources (exhaustive exploitation of natural resources).

According to the concept of transition to sustainable development there is a row of main aims for Ukraine: economic development, protection of environment, welfare, justice, effective use of resources, education, international cooperation.

All these aims have been developed on the basis of cultural and ideological values of Ukrainian nation, in history and traditions of which always was present careful attitude to soil, water and nature.

As it has been mentioned before, in order to achieve some valuable results it is important to monitor the progress of the changes. Ukraine is not an exception in this, and as a result in the concept of transition to sustainable development targets have been defined [7]. There are three main targets that have been set: quality of level of life of people, quality of environment and eco-economic effectiveness of production.

It is important to understand that Ukraine is different from the rest of countries as there is no way that the model of transition to sustainable development of another state can be used by us. As a result it was crucial to develop our own model that has been fitted to Ukraine in particular. Before the process of transition starts it has been define that Ukraine should correspond to following prerequisites: pivotal change in use of resources, shift to intensive type of production with the help of modern equipment that is safe for the environment instead of the obsolete current technical base, formation of new demographic politics that should ensure growth in population and the last but not the least, extension of international relations aimed at joined attempts to find solution to resource and ecological issues as well as develop a stable model of transition to sustainable development of societies nationwide.

But we all understand that it is much easier to put on the paper aims and intentions than later to actually implement them in reality. The probability of plans coming true depends on the number of factors. The first group of them is linked to financial abilities of the country. Unfortunately, nowadays in Ukraine even if there are conscious organizations that care about the nature, they face lack of money not only on purchasing of new high-tech equipment but even on maintenance of already existing purifying constructions.

The second group is characterized by lack of high quality equipment produced on the territory of our motherland. This kind of situation is caused mainly due to low investment into the scientific sphere.

And the last but not the least group is based on the philosophy of organizations that are ready to invest money in the environment only if it proves to be profitable. Unfortunately, none of the companies nowadays takes into account that in their annual financial report the level of mortality of frequency of illnesses won't be shown.

It took a long time to define the most beneficial model of transition to sustainable development for Ukraine. And the unanimous decision has been made that the only way for Ukraine to adopt sustainable development is through intensive economics. In this Ukraine should be supported by its beneficial geo-political location, climate, quality of soil and the most important by the number of highly educated human potential.

In "Concept of transition of Ukraine to sustainable development" it has been laid down that transition to sustainable development should be done in 4 stages [8]. The first stage is called stabilization one. As a

result it foresees creation of preconditions for sustainable development (the ones that have been mentioned before). The second one is called a preparatory stage. From its name it is easy to understand that this phase of transition will bring a number of changes but not striking ones. According to this stage it is highly important to shift from economics of growth to an economics of development. Another aspect of this phase is in creation of new politics in the sphere of education, science and technology. The name of the third stage is transitional one. Systematic changes in economics, ecology, technology are foreseen. Poverty should be overcome in full and the level of life of people should be brought to the level of developed European countries. And the last stage – formed – is the favored state of Ukrainian society in which the country's economy should be stable, natural resources should be preserved for future generation and Ukraine becomes a member of community of developed countries.

The Concept has been laid down in 2004. Unfortunately, as it always goes not everything that has been planned was put in practice. We should face the truth that our country has a number of flaws in economic, educational, ecological spheres and even more in social one. The nation was struggling with the order of things in the country: low salaries, low quality of social services, corruption, barrier between Ukraine and Europe, financial crises, etc. But as this way of life has been set for decades people were used to it, authorities tried to follow or at least let on that follow the Concept of transition of Ukraine to sustainable development in order to meet deadlines (the Concept set the time frame of 2004-2015 for all 4 stages to be carried out).

But recent event in Ukraine have put everything upside down. The country right now is in pre-alert phase. Everyone is getting ready for a war. And as you can remember there is no way to implement the idea of the sustainable development in the country that is in a misbalanced state.

But the most important fact that should be highlighted is that not only Ukraine can't follow the path to sustainable development anymore but a number of other countries as well [9]. The main reason for this is that in order to achieve sustainable development all countries have been linked together. It is impossible for any of the countries to proceed with its politics aimed at harmonization of its economic, ecological and social spheres inside the country if in the modern civilized world norms of international law, such as: sovereignty, immunity and territorial integrity are openly violated.

This state of things in the world can't guarantee that there will be no new "cold war" with the duplication of past severe issues. It's not only the war that the international community should be afraid. It is also the process of preparation for it. From the moment the question of war is raised, the normal flow of thing gets interrupted. We can't talk anymore about the development in the sphere of education of finding ways to pass our cultural heritage to future generations. From the moment the question of war is raised socio-economic process of development is deformed and will be restored only long after the conflict is settled down.

From all that has been mentioned above it is obvious that the transition to sustainable development of the society is possible only in case of debarment of international and domestic military conflicts. Unfortunately, what has happened to our country abruptly crossed all, even tiny attempts, to get closer to the

sustainable development [10]. Right now being in the state when everyone is ready to face the war, it's not the best time to put all efforts into the modernization of education sphere or purchasing of new purifying equipment. Everyone understands that for our country the transition has stopped.

On the other hand everything that is currently happening in our country gives a hope to Ukrainian nation that Ukraine will finally decide upon the strategy of its development and will identify itself on the world stage. Because otherwise all the changes and transformation that occurred and would occur in our country would be in vain, as the country was clueless regarding its political path of development.

No one can foresee how the current political situation in Ukraine will be solved. The only thing that we can do is hope for the best. And once the country's government comes back to the question of sustainable development of the Ukrainian society it is important to remember that it is crucial to choose your own model of development and not to become a victim of successful economic stereotypes.

Conclusion. Much has been written in academic terms about the meaning of sustainable development

and the need to integrate ecological and economic principles into personal and public decision-making. However, there is no agreed definition of the concept and perhaps there is no need for one. This is because sustainable development concerns a process of change and is heavily reliant upon local contexts, needs and interests. Thus, sustainable development is an 'emerging concept' in two ways, first, because it is relatively new and evolves as we learn to grasp its wide implications for all aspects of our lives, and, second, because its meanings emerge and evolve according to local contexts.

In our case, unfortunately, all the attempts and the gains of past couple years, when Ukraine was finally in the initial stage of the approximation to the sustainable development of the society were destroyed by the crisis in the country. As it has been mentioned throughout the paper it is paramount to have a stability in the country in all spheres in order to start building a sustainable society. And what is the worst is that the state will definitely need a long period of time to overcome the consequences of the crisis, as a result there is no way that our country gets at least to previous indicators in a short future.

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СТАЛИЙ РОЗВИТОК УКРАЇНСЬКОГО СУСПІЛЬСТВА У ПЕРІОД СОЦІАЛЬНО-ПОЛІТИЧНИХ ТРАНСФОРМАЦІЙ

Анотація

Сталий розвиток є однією зі стратегічних прерогатив на глобальному рівні протягом декількох останніх десятиліть. Проектування конкретних політичних дій, вимірювання їх ефективності та результатів, як і раніше, є складними питаннями для багатьох розвинених країн. Соціально-політична ситуація грає дуже важливу роль в структурі сталого розвитку, особливо у випадку України. Метою даної статті є розширення концепції «сталого людського розвитку» за допомогою більш конкретних соціально-політичних аспектів та визначення їх ролі для сталого розвитку українського суспільства в трансформаційній період.

Ключові слова: сталий розвиток, глобальні проблеми, соціально-політична напруга.

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УСТОЙЧИВОЕ РАЗВИТИЕ УКРАИНСКОГО ОБЩЕСТВА В ПЕРИОД СОЦИАЛЬНО-ПОЛИТИЧЕСКИХ ТРАНСФОРМАЦИЙ

Аннотация

Устойчивое развитие является одной из стратегических прерогатив на глобальном уровне в течение нескольких последних десятилетий. Проектирование конкретных политических действий, измерения их эффективности и результатов, по-прежнему, являются сложными вопросами для многих развитых странах. Социально-политическая ситуация играет очень важную роль в структуре устойчивого развития, особенно в случае Украины. Целью данной статьи является расширение концепции «устойчивого человеческого развития» с помощью более конкретных социально-политических аспектов и определение их роли для устойчивого развития украинского общества в трансформационной период.

Ключевые слова: устойчивое развитие, глобальные проблемы, социально-политическая напряженность.

УДК 323.15

УЧАСТЬ НАЦИОНАЛЬНЫХ МЕНШИН У СУСПІЛЬНО-ПОЛІТИЧНОМУ ЖИТТІ: ЛУНДСЬКІ РЕКОМЕНДАЦІЇ ТА УКРАЇНСЬКА ПРАКТИКА

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Досліджено перспективи ефективної участі національних меншин у суспільно-політичному житті України, на основні аналізу положення Лундські рекомендації. Проаналізовано напрямки оптимізації державної політики у сфері міжетнічних відносин у відповідності до сучасних міжнародних стандартів. Визначено конкретні механізми участі у процесі прийняття рішень представників національних меншин та етнічних груп України.

Ключові слова: етнічна меншина, етнічна група, національна меншина, національне законодавство у сфері етнополітики, міжнародно-правові акти, механізми участі національних меншин.

Участь національних меншин та етнічних груп у суспільно-політичному житті є однією з найважливіших складових розвитку мирного і демократичного суспільства. Як свідчить досвід, накопичений в Європі та поза її межами, для регулювання такої участі державам нерідко доводиться створювати спеціальні механізми для національних меншин. Протягом всіх років незалежності в Україні неодноразово здійснювалися ініціативи щодо розробки концепції державної етнополітики та уніфікації законодавства у сфері міжетнічних відносин у відповідності до світових стандартів. Проте, не зважаючи на велику кількість розроблених, різними робочими групами та депутатами, версій законопроектів, більшість з них були відкладені на невизначений термін. Саме тому, нам необхідно звернутися до напрацьованого міжнародного досвіду у даній галузі, особливо до європейських стандартів дотримання прав національних меншин та етнічних груп у суспільно-політичному житті, як на загальнонаціональному, регіональному так і на місцевому рівнях.

Аналіз наукових праць із проблеми участі національних меншин у політичному житті свідчить про те, що вона розроблялася у контексті різних наукових галузей, зокрема, у дослідженнях О. Антонок, В. Євтух, О. Картунов, Г., В. Городяненко, В. Котигоренко, О. Макуховська-Картунової, К. Оніщенко, Ю. Тищенко та іншими. Водночас дослідження міжнародного досвіду організації, удосконалення та розвитку процесу задоволення потреб етнічних меншин, як передумови розширення їх участі у суспільно-політичному житті, здійснюються епізодично і є фрагментарним. Саме тому, актуальним є вивчення цього досвіду у контексті українських реалій.

Метою статті є аналіз перспектив участі національних меншин у суспільно-політичному житті України з урахуванням Лундських рекомендацій. Для досягнення поставленої мети авторами передбачено вирішення таких завдань: по-перше, проаналізувати механізми участі у процесі прийняття рішень представників національних меншин України в контексті міжнародних документів; по-друге, розкрити особливості механізмів нетериторіального або територіального самоврядування; по-третє, з'ясувати, які конституційні і правові засоби можуть гарантувати національним меншинам ефективні форми участі у суспільно-політичному житті країни.

У рамках реалізації Плану дій з лібералізації візового режиму та інтеграції, низка європейських організацій таких як: ОБСЄ та Рада Європи, очікує від України здійснення заходів за допомогою, яких в правове поле української держави будуть імplementовані положення Лундських рекомендацій (1999 р.), стосовно участі національних меншин у суспільно-політичному житті. У концептуальному аспекті даний міжнародний документ побудований за трьома основними напрямками: 1) участь у прийнятті рішень; 2) самоврядування у деяких питаннях місцевого або внутрішнього характеру; 3) засоби, що дозволяють гарантувати ефективні форми участі.

У процесі аналізу кожного із напрямків, зокрема, *участі у прийнятті рішень*, можна виокремити наступні механізми: а) механізми на рівні центрального уряду; б) вибори; в) дорадчі та консультативні органи [4].

Механізми на рівні центрального уряду реалізуються державою і повинні забезпечувати меншинам можливість реального права голосу. Представ-