

FORMATION OF SOCIAL STRUCTURE OF SOCIETY
IN THE COUNTRIES WITH DEVELOPED MARKET ECONOMY AND IN UKRAINE

Annotation

Institutional environment in the area of social protection is formed. Modern problems of social protection of population in Ukraine are defined. The formation of new institutions and institutional environment in the context of the major problems of social protection of population is grounded.

Keywords: state regulation, institutional level, mechanisms, living wage, reform, social protection of population.

Анотація

Сформовано інституціональне середовище у сфері соціального захисту. Визначено сучасні проблеми соціального захисту населення в Україні. Обґрунтовано формування нових інститутів та інституціонального середовища у контексті основних проблем соціального захисту населення.

Ключові слова: державне регулювання, інституціональний рівень, механізми, прожитковий мінімум, реформування, соціальний захист населення.

Аннотация

Сформирована институциональная среда в сфере социальной защиты. Определены современные проблемы социальной защиты населения в Украине. Обосновано формирование новых институтов и институциональной среды в контексте основных проблем социальной защиты населения.

Ключевые слова: государственное регулирование, институциональный уровень, механизмы, прожиточный минимум, реформирование, социальная защита населения.

Introduction

Nowadays the complex of problems of social protection of population in Ukraine is considered through the prism of society, the state of market relations, when the new realities of civil and economic life replace the old ones and the ones that are exhausted. The peculiarity of this period is lagging in the development of regulatory standards and legal regulation of the everyday needs of society. This lagging is the most vulnerable in comparison with social standards (norms) of the European countries. In particular, according to the standards of the European Social Charter, the minimum wage should be a minimum of 2.5 living wages. So far Ukraine is unable to achieve this ratio.

That is why the legal system does not always demonstrate readiness to rapid implementation and effective regulation of new processes, including in the field of social protection of population. Under conditions of absence of adequate legal regulation of the practice of reform, reforms even in the best case are carried out slowly, formally, and inconsistently. Hence, relevant social, economic,

and psychological consequences of reform arise; the complex of issues associated with providing legal and social protection of population in the conditions of transformations that are undertaken, about what it was dealt in previous sections. It is not surprising that tasks of effective development of economic sectors and social sphere are not always consistent with the problems of social harmony, adaptation of the population, especially its vulnerable strata, with rapid changes in life, with ensuring the guarantees of people incapable to work (pensioners, disabled, large families, etc.).

Analysis of recent research

Special attention to studying the mechanisms of activation of social policy at the state level provide such well-known scientists, as A. I. Amosha, N. P. Boretska, S. Y. Vovkanych, T. A. Zayets, A. S. Krupnik, V. O. Mandybura, V. M. Novykov, O. F. Novikova, U. Y. Sadova and L. K. Semiv, P. I. Shevchuk. Some aspects of the problem from the standpoint of public administration were examined by A. O. Degtyar, D. V. Karamyshev, V. V. Nikitin, H. S. Odintsov and others.

Statement of research objectives

- to form institutional environment in the sphere of social protection;
- to identify current problems of social protection of population in Ukraine;
- to justify the formation of new institutions and institutional environment in the context of the major problems of social protection of population.

Results

In the context of the main problems of social protection of population at various institutional levels, not enough attention is paid to the practical implementation of theoretical developments of «compensatory» protection mechanisms for society that would help its citizens to adapt to specific conditions of formation of new institutions and institutional environment.

The recognition of Ukraine as a country with market economy imposes certain obligations on it. First of all they relate to problems associated with the rethinking of the new state economic policy, which should provide the maximum mobilization of all resources of the country, promote economic initiative and independent action of the population especially in the form of small and medium business, strengthen the social orientation in the development of enterprises, regions and the economy as a whole. This long-term socially oriented policy should be aimed at reducing the real level of unemployment, strengthening economic activity and mobility of the population, increasing its income, living standards, that is improving social protection of population. The convergence of living standards of population to average European standards of its quality, indicators of human development is expected on the basis of socially oriented economy of the modern type [4, p. 38].

Economic support to effectively working national commodity producer on both domestic and foreign markets remains the actual problem. Its solution lies in optimizing the tax burden, expanding support of export activities within the international legal framework, using potential of international organization and economic integration.

In state regulation of market economy economic mechanisms and levers of influence and control with differentiated approach to state and non-state (private) sectors of the economy, spheres of distribution and redistribution, circulation and consumption acquire great importance

Along with the reform of the wage system, the concept of which is supported by the state, it

is necessary to achieve the reduction of economic inequality by introducing a flexible tax policy, rational social transfers, promotion of small and medium business, protection of minority shareholders' rights.

Optimization of tax rates, reduction of the types of taxes and collections while simultaneously expanding the tax base and ordering the established benefits of income tax on citizens for all groups of taxpayers contribute to the expansion of production, reduction of burden on the state financial system in the part of state payments to the population for social programs, which should be targeted. Therefore, it is important to strengthen the revenue base of budgets of all levels, which should lead to understanding, rethinking and as soon as possible adopting the Tax Code of Ukraine. It, according to experts, will allow to increase incomes of the population, stabilize the domestic tax law and adapt it to the European legal framework [3, p. 57].

The primary problem in the context of social protection of population is the enforcement of full-scale reform of pension system. It should be carried out on three levels: solidarity system of pension payments (first level), system of cumulative individual pension accounts within the mandatory state pension insurance (second pillar) and the system of private pension insurance, which will provide additional pension payments through voluntary pension contributions of citizens (third level).

Modus operandi of the first and second levels of the pension system and the mechanism of transition to mandatory funded system are defined in the Law «On Compulsory State Pension Insurance» [1].

To improve the system, solve problems and tasks of social protection of disabled it is important to adopt the new version of the Law of Ukraine «On the basis of social protection of invalids in Ukraine» that creates a regulatory framework for social protection of disabled persons, forms an effective organization and its financial mechanism of its provision [2].

An important problem in the context of social protection of population is the development of humanitarian sphere, including education, science, health, culture, physical culture and sport, recreation and tourism.

This development of areas of human capital helps to ensure social well-being of person at all stages of his/her life; it becomes a solid foundation of his/her self-defense. For instance, more

than 50 percent of new graduates «find a job themselves» in Russia. State employment system of young professionals no longer exists there. This situation contrasts sharply with the employment of young professionals in other countries, where there is a common practice of conclusion of contracts of students with some firms, which pick up for themselves the appropriate professionals. For example, in the U.S. more than 80 percent of graduates are employed throughout the year. In Japan this figure exceeds 90 percent. Thus, it is possible because the education system in these countries is focused on flexible diverse specialization [7, p. 79]. International experience shows that spending on education should not be less than 5 percent of the GDP; UNESCO experts identified the lowest possible share of expenditures of the state on education around 3.5 percent.

Collapse of the infrastructure of education will be inevitable in case of their noncompliance. Analyzing the obtained results, experts make the following conclusions:

- there is a «blurring» of professional field, professional culture, the destruction of educational and occupational structure of society as the basis of social structure;

- a question of supply and demand is not sufficiently closely studied by the educational institutions, the Ministry when forming personnel potential;

- there is a concern about the quality of professional education, level of specialization and socio-economic justification of the number of professionally trained personnel for certain sectors [9, p. 54].

It should be noted that in general the quantitative parameters of education in Ukraine look not bad among the countries in the world. However, in terms of financial support for this important sphere of socio-economic activity, Ukraine is not far ahead of the least developed countries.

Ensuring social cohesion in the country is directly related to solving by the state the most pressing problems of society – employment of the population and improvement of the level of its life. Employment should be a guarantee to ensure every worker his/her well-being according to the labor contribution of knowledge and skills.

Serious socio-economic problem, the resolution of which depends on the state of social protection of population, is the increase of unemployment level. It threatens the adverse social consequences. Analysis indicates that the popula-

tion, which has been without work for a long time, increases presently. Extension of terms of unemployment is a very dangerous socio-economic process, which shows the trend of its transition to congestive form. Of course, it has a negative impact on the potential professional and qualification level of unemployed persons, because the allowable period of job search, when the loss of qualification, skills and habits to work has not started yet, is 3 months.

It is unfortunate that a significant contribution to the formation of unemployment in Ukraine provides a hidden form that is the unwillingness or the inability of a significant part of really unemployed people of working age to register in the employment services. The most important factor at the present stage of economic reform is the increase of the management efficiency of the employment of the population by improving the administrative, legal and socio-economic mechanisms. This is primarily the development of new and additions to existing legislative acts on labor, determination of the competence of the public administration bodies at various levels in the implementation of employment policy.

This is the inclusion of new economic mechanisms aimed at creation of material conditions for the functioning of state guarantees in the sphere of employment such as targeted funding, preferential loans and provision of additional benefits to business entities, which ensure the expansion of production, creation of new jobs, the increase of employment of the population [6, p. 95].

Income of the population is one of the most important indicators featuring the level of economic and social status and security of society. Analysis of the legal framework on this issue confirms the fact that workers and their families are guaranteed the right to receive adequate minimum income as at present as well as in the future to satisfy the material needs, accessibility to quality education, health services and recreation, which ensures normal life opportunities and human development.

One of the major factors, which reduce income, is delayed wages. By the middle of 2011 debts on wages in the economy grew more than 10 %. This tendency, unfortunately, was observed in all kinds of economic activity [5, p. 178].

The latter, in its turn, prevents rapprochement of Ukraine to the European countries in terms of equalizing wages, and not only to the countries with economies that are obviously much stronger

than the Ukrainian one, but also to the new EU member states.

Presented facts give grounds for some people, especially socially and economically active, to seek a normal life for themselves and their children abroad. There are several million of such people for the period of independence of Ukraine. They reduce the share of officially registered unemployed people in the country and «beautify» the statistics of relevant government agencies. The silent neutrality is arrayed between them and the state: they do «not notice» each other. In this neutrality the disturbing phenomenon of weakening and negation of connection of a citizen with country up to the subjective rejection of such a connection is hidden.

Analysis of economic issues related to timely payment of wages suggests that wages, as before, are not earned, but are charged at face value. Thus, wages as a major component of labor incomes in Ukraine do not always perform their functions, because they remain very low; its inter-sectoral and inter-regional differentiation is too noticeable; differences between qualifications are excessive in sectors with high wages and are such that verge on leveling in the sectors with low wages [8, p. 41].

In turn, low levels of labor incomes and unjustified differentiation and controversial structure inevitably lead to a crisis of motivation of work, resulting in low labor activity, incomplete use of

labor potential, reducing the role of labor and its full or partial exclusion from the list of basic life values of economically active people.

The release of a significant number of workers and employees exacerbates two problems. Firstly, it is their financial security, and secondly, it is the timely implementation of professional retraining of unemployed people.

Conclusions

Existing problems give grounds to state a lack of attention from the ministries and agencies on personnel training at all levels in accordance with existing and future needs of the market economy. The specified above is in a high level of controllability of these processes. There is almost no mechanism for ahead of training and retraining of workers, who are at risk of dismissal. This important leverage can significantly mitigate the problems of employment, reduce the level of unemployment.

The transition to a market economy brings to the first place a problem of forming a «middle class». According to the definition, the middle class is the main part of the social structure in the countries with developed market economies. In these countries small and medium-sized owners, farmers, managers, state officials, scientists, doctors, lawyers, highly paid part of the engineering and technical personnel and workers, people of so-called liberal professions rank as the middle class.

References

1. Закон України «Про загальнообов'язкове державне пенсійне страхування» від 9 липня 2003 року № 1058 – IV // Відомості Верховної Ради України. – 2003. – №51. – Ст. 107.
2. Закон України «Про основи соціальної захищеності інвалідів в Україні» // Відомості Верховної Ради України. – 1996. – № 52. – Ст. 301.
3. Арістотель. Політика / Пер. з давньогр. та передм. О. Кислюка. – К. : Основи, 2000. – 239 с.
4. Болотіна Н. Право людини на соціальне забезпечення в Україні: проблеми термінів і понять // Право України. – 2010. – № 4. – С.35 – 39.
5. Бондаренко Ю. М. Теоретичні аспекти соціальної політики держави та її захисні функції. // Теорія та практика державного управління. – Вип. 3(18). – Х. : Вид-во ХарПІ НАДУ «Магістр», 2012 – С. 177-182.
6. Борецька Н. П. Соціальний захист населення на сучасному етапі: стан і проблеми. – Донецьк : Янтар, 2001. – 540 с.
7. Мармазов В. Є., Піляєв І. С. Рада Європи: політико-правовий механізм інтеграції. – К. : Юридична книга, 2000. – 470 с.
8. Соціальна безпека: теорія та українська практика: Монографія / І. Ф. Гнибіденко, А. М. Колот, О. Ф. Новикова та ін.; за ред. І. Ф. Гнибіденка, А. М. Колота, В. В. Рогового. – К. : КНЕУ, 2006. – 292 с.
9. Соціальна політика регіону: [Монографія] / В. В. Говоруха, В. Г. Бульба, С. О. Горбунова-Рубан та ін. – Х. : Вид-во ХарПІ НАДУ «Магістр», 2009. – 272 с.

