

POLISH SOCIETIES ROLE IN THE “THIRD SECTOR” DEVELOPMENT IN VOLYN

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ABSTRACT

The article analyzes the activities of Polish societies with the status of civic organizations in their professional, cultural and educational activities. Public associations (associations, unions) operating in the Volyn region provide an opportunity to determine the level of development of the “third sector” in the region. Each society has its own structure and governing bodies, in its activity the statute of the partnership is used, carrying out its activities in accordance with the Constitution of Ukraine, the Law of Ukraine “On Public Associations”. Societies do not carry out commercial and political activities. The article highlights several Polish societies that operate in Volyn, among them: the Society of Polish Culture in Volyn named after Eva Felinskaya. Society of Polish Culture named after T. Kosciuszko. Society of Polish Culture of Gorohovshchyna named after Y. Slovatsky, Volyn Society of Polish Doctors, Volyn Branch of the Association of Polish Teachers, Society of Polish Artists “Barwy Kresowe”, Polish Society of Polish Culture named after Michal Oginsky in Novovolynsk and the Society of Polish Teachers named after G. Zapolskaya. All these societies engage in scientific, educational and cultural activities aimed at the revival and development of the Polish language, literature and culture. It is concluded that the main goal of one or another organization is the national-cultural revival of the polonium, the popularization of the Polish language, and the satisfaction of the common interests of persons of Polish origin living in the Volyn region. Particularly important is the role of societies in establishing close personal contacts between Polish and Ukrainian communities. After all, the Polish minority in independent Ukraine, on the one hand, gradually revives its

ethical and national traits, in particular, the native language of communication, visits to the church, develops popular culture and mentality, and on the other hand, it is increasingly integrated into Ukrainian society, joins the public-political life of the state, acts as an effective factor in the Ukrainian-Polish partnership.

Key words: *Polonia; Polonia centers; public organizations; Republic of Poland; the “third sector”; Ukraine; Volyn region .*

STATEMENT OF A SCIENTIFIC PROBLEM AND ITS SIGNIFICANCE

The emergence of Polish societies in the twentieth century in Ukraine, including Volyn, was a natural result of the process of a long-term development of the Ukrainian-Polish relations. The collapse of totalitarianism in Poland and the revival of Ukraine’s independence launched a new page of cooperation and partnership, as well as a new status of the Poles in Ukraine and of the Ukrainians in Poland. In Volyn region, the Poles occupy a dominant place among the national communities, since this territory was the region of the traditional settlement of the Poles (Polonia). National and cultural societies are a common form of uniting the representatives of national communities, in particular, Polonia centers, which importance in organizing the Ukrainian-Polish humanitarian dialogue is invaluable.

THE ANALYSIS OF RECENT RESEARCH ON THE TOPIC

The questions of the national renaissance of the Poles in Ukraine, their cooperation in the field of public organizations, national societies on a professional basis were highlighted in the writings of Y. Yarosh, K. Zakharchenko, L. Strilchuk, A. Garbaruk, O. Kalakura, B. Yarosh, O. Yarosh.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE MAIN MATERIAL

Only under the condition of the existence of an independent state it is possible to realize fully the desire of every citizen to establish an intercultural dialogue with representatives of other ethnic groups. All this can most often be realized due to the dynamic and efficient activities of certain public organizations. Socio-political realities have become a condition for active cooperation and self-organization of the two neighboring peoples, the organizations of the “Third Sector”. The “Third Sector” includes non-state organizations (NSOs) or non-governmental organizations (NGOs) which are legal organizations established separately from the state and business. Public organizations are the engine of the establishment of civil society and the formation of social policy (Directory of institutions of socio-psychological orientation, 2012, p. 3).

Public associations, which are formed and function in a certain atmosphere, reflect certain levels of internal organization are called social organizations.

According to the types of activities, V. Bobyk divided public organizations into: professional; economic (unions of entrepreneurs, cooperators, peasants,

etc.); confessional (Orthodox, Catholic, Jewish, Muslim, etc.); cultural and educational (societies, of the Ukrainian, Russian, Polish, German, Czech and other national communities); educational (the “Prosvita” society); sport, touristic; scientific, scientific and technical (unions of teachers, scientists, engineers, specialized academies of sciences); environmental; defensive and others (Yarosh, 2005, p. 85–86).

In the foreign literature, when it comes to the public sector, non-profit organizations, non-governmental, charitable, volunteer, associations, and the like are meant. The “Third Sector” arises in the most problematic areas of the social sphere in which neither the state nor the business have much interest. However, the “Third Sector” is under no circumstances able to replace state protection (Zakharenko, & Yarosh, 2013, p. 21).

10 official Polish societies are registered and operate in the territory of Volyn, spreading “polszczyzna” in our country.

The Polish-Ukrainian relationships have a historical past, a geographical proximity, ethnic kinship and, finally, family ties (Kalakura, 2007).

Today, several Polish societies operate in Volyn. Among them it is worth noting the following ones: Eva Felinska Society of Polish Culture in Volyn, T. Kosciuszko Society of Polish Culture, Yu. Slovatskyi Society of Polish Culture of Gorohivshchyna, Volyn Society of Doctors of the Polish Origin, Volyn Branch of the Polish Teachers’ Association, “Barwy Kresowe” Society of Artists of the Polish origin, Michal Oginsky Society of Polish Culture in Novovolynsk and G. Zapolska Society of the Polish Language Teachers. All these societies are engaged in scientific, educational and cultural activities aimed at the revival and development of the Polish language, literature and culture.

Taking into consideration the location of Volyn region on the border and a special status of Ukrainian-Polish contacts related to this, it is important to study the situation in this particular region. The form of the ethnic mobilization of the Poles, the national-cultural societies in the delineated area are referred to as societies of the Polish culture.

The multifaceted and professional is the activity of the Volyn society of doctors of the Polish origin, operating in the city of Lutsk. The members of this public organization are doctors of the Polish origin, doctors of other ethnic origin who know or study Polish, favor and respect the Polish culture and language and are foreign citizens, recognize the Charter of the society and participate in its activities.

The Society strongly supports doctors to show in their work professional qualifications and impeccable ethics. Continuing education of doctors is the main task of the Volyn Doctors’ Society through the establishment of professional and friendly contacts with Polish colleagues and various international medical organizations in Poland and in the world. The members of the society have the opportunity to take an active part in national and international conferences in Poland, to have post-graduate training in universities and clinics in Poland, raising the level of medical care both in Volyn and in the northwestern region of Ukraine. The above-mentioned society is inextricably linked with the Society of Polish Culture (TPK) in Volyn, founded in 1991. At the initiative of doctors there was the idea of creating a Polish medical organization. And in 2009 the Circle of Doctors of the Polish

origin was established, affiliated with Eva Felinska Society of Polish Culture. The work was focused on medical, educational and Polonia activities. An important area of activity and an integral task of the society is the charitable medical assistance to the elderly and lonely people of the Polish origin in Volyn and to the other, especially poor people, as well as the support and promotion of the Polish culture and language in the territory of the historical Volyn region.

Doctors, who were not members of any of Volyn's Polish associations, as well as T. Kostyushko Society of Polish Culture, subsequently began to participate in the work of the Circle. During the year 2011, the initiative group of doctors decided to create the Volyn Society of Doctors of Polish origin, which received the support of the Consul General of the Republic of Poland in Lutsk. On January 26, 2012 the Volyn Society of Doctors of Polish origin was registered at the Main Department of Justice in the Volyn region (Certificate No. 755). The legal name of the organization is as follows: Volyn Regional Public Organization “The Society of Doctors of the Polish Origin” (Certificate of the Volyn Regional Office of Justice on registration of citizens' associations “Volyn Society of Doctors of the Polish Origin” dated January 26, 2012). In Polish: Organizacja pozarządowa “Stowarzyszenie lekarzy polskiego pochodzenia na Wołyniu”.

The Integration Center “Zamlynnya” of Lyubomlsky District was established in June 2015. The goal of the center was to integrate children, young people and artists from Ukraine, Poland and Belarus (the location of the village of Zamlynnya of Lyubomlsky district near the state border of the neighboring states).

The founder of the Center is the Caritas-Spes Religious Mission of the Lutsk Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church. At the center there is the Summer School of Foreign Languages, where gifted children, community activists study languages profoundly.

The host of the boarding house is the Roman Catholic priest Ian Buras, who came to Volyn at the invitation of the parish priest of Peter and Paul Cathedral, was leading the development of the International Integration Center for 5 years. The Polish priest found a common language with Orthodox priests. If a cultural event is organized on the territory of the center, then ministers of different faiths join it.

Thus, the International Integration Center Zamlynnya is the center of Polish culture in Volyn, which activates young people, encouraging them to cooperate at the international level. The funding of such organizations and their projects is supported by the Consul General of Rzecz Pospolita in Lutsk, volunteers, patrons of art and parishioners (Zamlynnya Integration Center opened in Volyn [Electronic resource]).

The idea of creating societies of Polish culture on Volyn lands was logical, since in the mid-1990s this process took place on the wave of the intensification of the Polish movement in Ukraine. At the origins of the Polish Renaissance in Volyn region in the early 1990s was Eva Felinska Society of Polish Culture which gathered around itself a large galaxy of activists of the Polish origin. Its establishment and activities are a vivid example of the functioning of a non-governmental structure that cares about Ukraine-Poland rapprochement at the regional level. On the example of its activity it is possible to trace the peculiarities of the activity of such regional associations. Centers (branches) of

Eva Felinska society operate in many cities of the modern Volyn region: Kovel, Manevychi, Lyubeshiv, Gorokhiv, Berestechko, Rozhyshe.

The aim of the Community is to satisfy common interests, cultural and educational needs, rights and freedoms of the union members of the Polish origin, ethnic Poles with a special focus on educating young people in accordance with historical, spiritual and cultural values, education and support of the Polish language. The activity of the Society is based on the principles of the Christian worldview, national consciousness, and tolerance. The Society achieves its goals through cooperation with government bodies, other public organizations, the media (Strilchuk, 2013, p. 146–147).

The Community promotes international cooperation. Through its mediation, there were established links between the Polish and Ukrainian self-government structures: Lutsk-Kalisz, Kivertsi-Pshygozitse, Berestechko-Rashkiv, etc. In 2009, the Society held an international scientific conference “Pilsudskiy – Petlyura”. The organization members take care of military and parish cemeteries, conduct festivals of the Ukrainian and Polish Christmas carols. In 2009, “Volyn Monitor” was founded by Volyn Polish Society, which serves as the coordinator and observer of Polonia life in the region (Garbaruk, 2011, 31–33). Tadeush Kostyushko Polish cultural Society founded in Volyn on December 23, 1998, maintains the national identity of the Poles and those interested in the Polish culture, and establishes Ukrainian-Polish understanding. The basic principles of the work are to design a sustainable dialogue between the Poles and the Ukrainians.

The fundamental principles of the activity determine the nature of the Society's internal policy. They directly concern the issues of its effectiveness in fostering the Ukrainian-Polish cultural dialogue. The interrelation of the Polish and Ukrainian national and cultural elements in the territory of Volyn region through the prism of activity of the Polonia's association is particularly effective, as evidenced by many factors. Thus, members of the Society are not only people of the Polish origin. Those who got acquainted with the history and culture of Poland came to this place, became interested in it. The Ukrainian people by origin also study the Polish language at Saturday and Sunday school. Every summer, children from Polish and Ukrainian families go to summer camps in Poland, which noticeably affects the motivation to learn a language and rallies young people from neighboring countries. A special aspect of the cooperation between the Volyn Poles and the Ukrainian is the joint holding of cultural events at various levels, which is a good example of the creation of intercultural relations. A peculiar business card of Volyn Musical is the annual International Christmas Concert Festival “Hej, Koledo-Kolyada!” in which, besides participants from the Polish national communities and Ukrainian teams other national minorities of Ukraine – Czechs, Germans, Russians and Armenians – are represented. Despite the differences in traditions and customs, this action unites representatives of different cultures and peoples under one roof contribute to the formation of high-quality interpersonal connections and are a solid basis for stable inter-ethnic dialogue (Garbaruk, 2013, p. 80–85).

G. Zapolska Polish Language Teachers Society plays an important role in the cultural and educational life of the society in the structure of the “third sector” of the Volyn region. The Polish Language Teachers Society refers to the association of citizens, because this society was created for the dissemination

and study of the Polish language, literature and culture. The society is actively engaged in the revival of Polish culture and helps young Polonist scholars to develop and improve their professional skills. Thanks to the support of the Consulate General of the Republic of Poland in Lutsk and the diligent work of the Polish language teachers, anyone can join the study of the Polish language, culture and literature and take part in various events.

G. Zapolska Polish Language Teachers Society is an organization of Ukrainian teachers of Polish in Volyn with its center in Lutsk, which began its activities on September 18, 2007 and continues to this day. A teacher of the Polish language or literature can become a member of the society. Everyone can visit and familiarize himself or herself with the work of The Polish Language Teachers Society named after G. Zapolska. The purpose of the Society's activity is: help and support of young Polish teachers; organization and work of the Saturday-Sunday school; Polish language courses for children and adults; organization of events for teachers in order to increase professional level; identification, dissemination and introduction of modern techniques and teaching methods into the educational process.

G. Zapolska Polish Language Teachers Society organizes various cultural and educational events. The section of polonist students of Volyn Society of G. Zapolska Polish Language Teachers with the help of the General Consulate of the Republic of Poland in Lutsk and Lesya Ukrainsky Eastern European National University organizes free courses of the Polish language for everyone. Also in the premises of the Lutsk Gymnasium No. 4 named after Modest Levytskyi, there are permanent exhibitions dedicated to the Polish writer and actress. The organizers are members of the Union of Polonist teachers named after G. Zapolska in Volyn (Certificate of Volyn Regional Office of Justice on registration of citizens' associations "Gabriela Zapolska Volyn Society of the Polish Language Teachers in the Volyn region" dated September 18, 2007).

The Polish societies of Volyn fully manage to embody the most important task of public organizations, namely, to create a favorable environment for self-realization and spiritual enrichment of each of its members in the interests of the whole society. After all, society unites people of different ages, attitudes and preferences. However, education and culture are the priority areas of work for the Polish societies. They started and successfully introduce the Polish language studies at schools, churches at the Polish language courses, organize olympiads and reader contests. Polish societies often open Saturday-Sunday schools for free learning of the Polish language, and they are very popular because they help everyone to learn the language. Every year there is an increasing interest in such a project as the Days of the Polish Culture, which helps to maintain close ties with their homeland. The Days of the Polish culture are accompanied by numerous events: scientific conferences, concerts of classical music, symposia and round tables with the participation of local and regional authorities.

The main goal of this or that organization is the national-cultural revival of Polonia, the popularization of the Polish language, the satisfaction of the common interests of people of the Polish origin living in Volyn region. Particularly important is the role of societies in establishing close personal contacts between the Polish and Ukrainian communities. After all, the Polish minority in independent Ukraine, on the one hand, is gradually reviving its ethnonational characteristics, in particular, the native language of

communication, visiting the church, developing traditional folk culture and mentality, and on the other hand, it is becoming more fully integrated into the Ukrainian society, joining the socio-political life of the state, is an effective factor of the Ukrainian-Polish partnership, which in the context of globalization processes goes beyond the limits of bilateral cooperation. For Ukraine, strategic partnership with Poland is an important condition for its European integration.

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РОЛЬ ПОЛЬСЬКИХ ТОВАРИСТВ ВОЛИНИ У СТАНОВЛЕННІ „ТРЕТЬОГО СЕКТОРУ”

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В статті аналізується діяльність польських товариств, що мають статус громадських організацій за професійною та культурно-просвітницькою діяльністю. Громадські об'єднання (товариства, спілки, об'єднання), що діють на території Волинської області дають можливість визначити рівень розвитку „третього сектору” у регіоні. Кожне товариство має свою структуру та керівні органи, у своїй діяльності послуговується статутом товариства, здійснюючи свою діяльність відповідно до Конституції України, Закону України „Про громадські об'єднання”. Товариства не здійснюють комерційну та політичну діяльність. У статті відзначено декілька польських товариств, які функціонують на Волині, серед яких: Товариство Польської Культури на Волині ім. Єви Фелінської, Товариство Польської Культури ім. Т. Костюшка, Товариство Польської культури Горохівщини ім. Ю. Словацького, Волинське товариство лікарів польського походження, Волинське відділення Об'єднання Вчителів Польської мови, Товариство артистів польського походження „Barwy Kresowe”, Товариство Польської культури ім. Міхала Огінського у Нововолинську та Товариство вчителів польської мови імені Г. Запольської. Всі ці товариства займаються науковою, просвітницькою та культурною діяльністю спрямовану на відродження і розвиток польської мови, літератури та культури.

Зроблено висновок, що головною метою тієї чи іншої організації є національно-культурне відродження полонії, популяризація польської мови, задоволення спільних інтересів осіб польського походження, що проживають у Волинській області. Особливо важлива роль товариств у налагодженні тісних особистісних контактів між польською та українською спільнотами. Адже польська меншина в незалежній Україні, з одного боку, поступово відроджує свої етнонаціональні ознаки, зокрема рідну мову спілкування, відвідування костьолу, розвиває народну культуру і ментальність, а з другого боку, дедалі інтегрується в українське суспільство, долучається до громадсько-політичного життя держави, виступає дієвим чинником українсько-польського партнерства.

Ключові слова: Волинська область; громадські організації; полонія; полонійні осередки; Республіка Польща; „третій сектор”; Україна.

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