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## THE ASPECTS OF SOCIAL IDEAL COMPREHENSION IN UKRAINE NOWADAYS

*The article is devoted to the research of Social Ideal comprehension and its exceptional role in Social Development of modern Ukraine. There is outlined the significance of Social Ideal for society and state through understanding the phenomenon of the Social Ideal and Civil Idea as its quintessence. The article highlights the criteria of ideals misuse and the reasons given for leveling its role. There is explicated the necessity of harmonious spiritual and the material filling the content of the ideal. The author justifies the understanding the Social Ideal as the basis for progressive social and state development. There is emphasized that only spiritual unity of people, focus on the human values can help to overcome the crisis and to become the main foundation on which updated society and state could be based.*

**Keywords:** *idea, iedal, social ideal, civil idea, spiritual values, social development.*

**Problem formulation.** Now, Ukraine is experiencing a difficult period in its development which is accompanied by an absence of people's understanding the general unifying idea, Social Ideal, which would help to see horizons of society development, thoughtful above the role both in geopolitical, and civilization context. It is rather important for every country to realize its own way. We must analyze the possible ways for increasing the level of political consciousness and legal awareness of the Ukrainian people. And what is more, the spiritual unity; focus on eternal human values can become the necessary background of society updating. Famous Austrian scientist Wolfgang Kraus said that the ideals contain a hope for the future, and they are also instruments that can rule out nihilism, cynicism and self-destruction [2]. As well as each person is constantly striving for a better life, implying some individually defined benefits, any society at every stage of its development is trying to build more perfect future, to create the most favorable political and social system. So, Karl Popper was right: "Everything which is alive try to find better outworld" [5].

That is why this article deals with a question of Social Ideal comprehension and the main points of its creation in Ukraine nowadays.

**The analysis of recent publications** on designated problem. Great number of scientists devoted some part of their works to investigating the concept of Social Ideal. Among them are S.Bulgakov, E.Iliyenkov, V.Kraus, I.Kant, P.Novgorodtsev, E.Trubetskoy, S.Frank; modern Ukrainian philosophers and political scientists:

V.Barkov, V. Zablockiy, V.Kornienko, T. Rozova, Z.Samchuk, M.Stepyko; modern foreign researchers: A.Velichko, G.Vodolazov, J.Habermas, V.Lektorskiy, S.Myasnikova, I.Shatilo and many others.

But in spite of such broad theoretical scientific research, this issue attracts attention for practical application in our country, especially at present difficult times. That is why the **object** of this article is to show the importance of correct approach to Social Ideal understanding for Social Development of Ukraine. For this object achieving there are used such scientific **methods** as principles of system, unity of logical and historical levels of cognition, methods of comparative and contextual analysis

**Research exposition and results grounds.** Today, the Ukrainians are fully displeased at almost all public agents and state servants. Political nihilism predominates in mass consciousness. "The only effective way to overcome the mass skepticism and deep spiritual crisis both for a single person and for a humanity, is thought, directed at profundity and eternity. When man doesn't know what to start and where to go, he should forget for a while about today with its requirements, and think about what he actually aims and what its true nature and predestination" [7, p.17]. But nowadays people of Ukraine doesn't have an integrated outlook for the future and the answer for a question, what ways it will be possible to renew the destroyed state. In critical moments of history ideological inspirations are only certain became the mortgage of the state survival and unification of society. The absence of consolidating idea as a quintessence of the Social Ideal is one of the reasons of spiritual and political crisis and basic tragedy of our people.

Taking into account our history, not succeeding to contradictory conceptions of historical development of Ukraine, it is desirable to underline the following circumstances. During the long time a main task of our nation was to create the independent state. At the same time, Ukrainians constantly were looking for "allies" from the West or East, getting both under Polish, Austria-Hungary and Russian protectorate. The consequences of such protectorate are well known, and the main of them was absence of Ukrainian self-definition. Until nowadays we are facing up to vestiges of those times: one part of Ukrainian population is oriented westward and wants to provide the euro integration, and another one is looking to the East, gravitates to the similar by mentality "elder brother". During all our "independent history" the political processes in Ukraine only warmed up this native dissidence. Political manipulations with the people's consciousness used very sharp problems, such as a language, historical heritage and others like that, and sent to taking of human attention from more important themes and simultaneously strengthen breaking up of our state. The results of such a hasty public policy are sad. Now we are in the stage of not only ideological but also real war, in spite of the fact that it is named the "terrorist actions". It is possible to continue grates on human interests, earning the "support" of electorate. However these methods "slowly but invariably" will drive us to the deadlock.

It is desirable to ask everybody to be thoughtful, to remember what we are living for, what values we have, what useful deeds we are performing and not only for ourselves but also for the people around. Such a question is certainly

philosophical, but it will never lose its actuality. It should be remembered that satisfaction only of material necessities could be the main purpose neither for a man nor for the state. In this context it is expediently to remember the well-known research of spiritual nature of human, conducted by a psycho-analyst and philosopher Erich Fromm in his work “To Have or to Be”, where is underlined that a man and society of XXth century render a preference to the material values before spiritual [8]. It is clear that a material base is a necessary constituent for existence, but it should be derivative from realization of strategic aims. Any reforms in, judicial, educational, economic and other spheres must be derivative from basic strategic directions of development of the state, from its Mission. “The idea of the nation is not what it thinks of itself, but what God thinks about this nation in eternity” [6].

The basic problem of our society is covered at the level of mass consciousness of the Ukrainians and in particular sense of justice. The modern stage of democratic transformations in Ukraine is characterized by intensifying of political and socio-economic contradictions, strengthening of fight for imperious plenary powers between the different branches of power and its separate institutes, critical falling of level of trust of citizens to public and democratic institutes authorities, growth of social apathy, considerable increase of pressure from the side of foreign-policy factors of influence.

Radical changes are extremely needed in the system of values, in character of relations between the state and citizen. It is the complete profanation – to depend upon the personal connections as a defense of the personal interests and the taciturn perception of abuses during the elections and referendums. This is testifying that the political culture of Ukrainians is not well developed.

So, it is necessary, first of all, to show out for Ukraine a strategic aim that will be based on values exactly of our people, taking into account our cultural heritage, our mentality, our history, our system of education, our legal system, our level of sense of justice and others like that. In any case it is impossible to carry foreign experience desperately and try to incarnate it completely in our state without the account of our historical, social, cultural, political and economic features. A rapid input in Ukraine the standards of other states (European in particular) that is not engrained in social existence and consciousness of the Ukrainian people, is an imprudent step. If we are constantly looking at the Western or Eastern neighbors, electing whom to join to, we will lose the national identity, not understanding setting of Ukraine.

Civil society that we so actively try to build can exist on condition of understanding the basic idea of state development and state strategy. Only then the process of organization of citizens will take place not with the purpose of certain profit receipt, but it will have an own goal being base on realization of social ideas.

So, there should be formulated not National, but the Civil Idea as a quintessential Social Ideal, because the coexistence in our state of different ethnic groups, that constantly fall under provocations of different politicians, and they are constantly reminded about different historical and cultural belonging, will not give possibility to unite people only by national authentications. At the same time, we should beware of violent imposing of such Idea, because we already have the

deplorable experience in our history. It would be desirable to accent attention that people can sincerely accept ideas, which are corresponded with eternal truths. Thus, realization of reforms must not take place exceptionally "from above". It needs active support of all layers and task forces of the Ukrainian people, wide development and effective use of civil initiative all spheres of public life. All the attempts of creation of utopian societies were completed extremely abortively as a result of the use of force methods inputs of ideologies, which were based on the distorted ideas about unity of humanity. We should remember that every people is the result of historical process and only respect to the cultural, social, religious, historical features can unite people.

So before proceeding evaluation of Social Ideals, it is necessary to take into account the causes and preconditions of their possible misrepresentation and misuse. The main criteria for Ideals misuse are:

- Substitution of stable desired model of society for the Social Ideal as unattainable and dynamic reference-point of social development; metamorphosis from ideal to utopia;

- Unhistoricalness, which manifests itself in two ways: 1) a gradual replacement of the historical maturation of evolutionary changes by human will to replace the future for present; 2) in taking out of context some fragments of historical experience and copying certain aspects of the historical model of the past in modern leaving out of account all necessary conditions both past and present;

- Taking violent measures: the attempts to create a non-violent moral world with the help of violence in terms of inequality, hatred and lack of freedom;

- Imperfect mechanism of 'translation' the highest values and abstract truths in the language of concrete definition for its implementation; too generalized understanding of freedom ideas, equality and justice, which are assigned to the base of the Social Ideal;

- Substitution of false ideals for true ones and imposition them on person; the manipulations on the collective unconscious through the use of mass participation for the realization of reformatory dreams.

Thus, the presence of at least one of these indications, the ideals distortion begins. And this can be a sign of terrible times, when the promised paradise turns to hell. In order to avoid the danger of social ideal misuse and complete rejection of them, which in both cases leads to mass nihilism, there is proposed to consider mentioned algorithm. It is necessary to underline that today the state of our society is predefined first of all by a spiritual crisis. Thus, by the first steps on development of state strategy there must be vision of her structure that will be folded, in particular, from such elements: 1) aims and tasks on the base of civil idea; 2) the system of values; 3) directions of realization of the put aim; 4) resources that must be used (intellectual, spiritual and material). The brought elements over of strategy need the detailed work. At the same time, it would be desirable to mark the certain moments of development each of them. The Civil Idea must be based first of all on the role of Ukraine in geopolitical space and its mission. The spiritual unity of people should be based on forming of common culture. For the Ukrainian people it is necessary to feel common cultural space that will unite them, in spite of all language, religious,

regional features. Our state needs the civilized strategy that will provide progressive development of human and society. The level of civilization is determined not only by development of public, economic and political relations but also by development of moral and education. So the general purpose must unite the citizens of Ukraine, regardless of language, features of culture, mentality, western or eastern orientation, residence on left-bank or right-bank Ukraine. Besides, in the period of nihilistic type of thinking it is extremely necessary to go back to native human values. Only, realization of such values, as love, fairness, self-sacrifice, mutual help and respect can bring people to unity for realization of strategic aims. And only after the goal setting, it is possible to begin developing the basic stages of reformation to embody the economic, social, educational, and law reforms that will be concerted inter se, inferior to the basic idea and sent to its realization. Development and realization of strategy needs resources both intellectual and material. It is necessary to create the expert environment, professionals in the different spheres of public and state life, which are interested in real evolutionary development of Ukraine, not having for an object only their own enriching, but, first of all, valuable enriching of our state.

Summarizing foregoing, it should be noted that embodiment of the social strategy and acceptance process of basic idea of state development should not be carried out by violence with imperative character for Ukrainian. We had a bad experience of "utopian communism" introduction in certain terms. And the consequence was the conversion to totalitarianism, which had entailed the full destruction of the political system and even of the state. So, we have to understand that, presumably, we shouldn't hurry. Only gradual development and correct embodiment of Civil Idea, its adaptation to the nowadays, can find the sincere review of society and wake up the intention to the positive, deep changes, both in human consciousness and in state life of Ukraine. In certain historical periods just thanks to people's approaching to ideals there was a growth of political morality, economic, social and other areas.

But even firm realizing impossibility of complete embodiment of ideals, in any case it is impossible to refuse from them at the reason of their from unattainability and illusoriness. On the contrary, none of the human values such as Love, Goodness, Justice can not be realized in our earth life in its absolute degree. However, each person at heart always focused on them and desperately wants to implement them in his own life. So are Social Ideals, with unfortunate historical experience of partial and distorted implementation (meaning in particular utopian experiments). They should not become a subject of archaism and cynical denial. In this case is expedient to appeal to Immanuel Kant, who said: "Although we can not permit the objective reality (existence) of ideals, it is however impossible on that ground to consider them a chimeras: they give a necessity criterion of mind, that needs the concept of "what is perfect" to estimate and measure a degree and defects of imperfect. But attempts to implement the ideal in reality on example are useless" [3, p.502-503]. So, Ideals need the permanent bringing of changes and adjustment during our way to them. New problems are always appeared after solving of previous ones, and in the future, as well as in the past, the same searches and efforts are expected again. There are not such means in politics, which once for all would

provide unchanging perfection of life to the people. Russian philosopher P. Novgorodtsev said that initial basis of the Social Ideal construction must be the freedom of endless development, but not a harmony of finished perfection [4, p.52].

Life is always amending people`s plans to follow ideals. As famous philosopher E. Ilyenkov emphasized, the Ideal during its expression in natural material is always deformed according with the material`s requirements. And the product of creative work of spirit is always a compromise between a certain ideal and a matter [1, p. 110]. Since ideal as idea of absolute perfection is spiritual principle, and it has to interact with the material, physical sphere, the result of its implementation is always incomplete and partial. S. Frank aptly argued about this issue, emphasizing that it can be embodied not an absolute Good, but only a highest possible [7, p.106].

**Conclusions.** History of philosophy is evidence that humanity usually rushed about between the elusive nature of ideal and constant desire to follow it. To solve this dilemma we can compare way to Ideal with a human way to the God, to the Absolute. Everybody realizes that in this life it is impossible to become a God. But if you don`t follow Him and don`t grasp Him as a highest moral model, it is difficult to live with dignity and to grow spiritually. The Social Ideal should be perceived not as a result or goal achieved, but as endless way of free development. However, any Social Ideal cannot be justified if the idea of a “good future” is embodied at the cost of heavy sacrifice of present human. The Social Ideal is a horizon line that people can never achieve, but after loosing it, will not be aware of perspectives for their own development.

Concerning the current events in Ukraine, it should be noticed that the spiritual unity of people in the current period has risen to extremely high levels. Thus, the military threats mostly often unite people, instantly increase fortitude and puts a premium on such categories as mutual help, caring, selflessness, love. The only purpose of most Ukrainians is now the onset of peace. But in any case we should not forget that the same human values and spiritual unity must be cultivated firstly in peacetime. It is difficult to motivate society to conscious adherence of moral norms. Undoubtedly, there are some very important areas of public life, such as international relations, economic and social policy, pensions, legal system, etc. However, we it is necessary to remember that at the head of social and state life should be the highest spiritual and moral purpose, the idea of social development, for which and to align which should be done all transformations in society. Otherwise reforms in all these areas will be scattered and not coordinated, with insignificant results. The basic idea of social development should serve as a quintessence of Social Ideal, but not existing as isolated today`s need like independence, unity, struggle with the enemy and other slogans that were relevant at different times. It should not be the motto, which is put forward to solve the pressing problems that have already arisen. The Social Ideal is a guideline, horizon, and Civil Idea should be a "lighthouse" towards it. Ideal will be always elusive, while the idea can play a role of relevant method for a particular historical period of approaching to it. Otherwise, we're always going to catch up with the pressing problems of the Ukrainian society, instead of seeing the horizons of “evolution” and move them through “choppy waters” of today's global socio-political

processes.

The main threat to the independence of Ukraine is currently not external enemies but internal. The main challenge for society is not terrible social and economic situation but psychological condition of the Ukrainian people, characterized by a lack of faith in individual political personalities, as well as the possibility of immediate exit from the vicious circle of state failure. And unfortunately, this problem cannot be solved on the material or economical level. Its solution is associated with the possibility of finding Social Ideal in the capacity of those philosophical values, which will be able to unite people on a spiritual level and will be conducive to create a firm belief in not only better future but in the acceptable present.

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### **АСПЕКТЫ ОСМЫСЛЕНИЯ ОБЩЕСТВЕННОГО ИДЕАЛА В СОВРЕМЕННОЙ УКРАИНЕ**

*Статья посвящена осмыслению общественного идеала и его исключительной роли для общественного развития современной Украины. Подчеркивается значимость общественного идеала сквозь призму понимания его как феномена и рассмотрения гражданской идеи как его квинтэссенции. В статье освещаются критерии искривления идеалов и предпосылки уменьшения их значения. Показана необходимость гармоничного наполнения содержания идеала как духовными, так и материальными ценностями. Автор рассматривает общественный идеал как залог прогрессивного общественного и государственного развития. Подчеркивается, что только духовное единение людей и сосредоточенность на исконных человеческих ценностях может служить основой для обновления общества и государства.*

**Ключевые слова:** идея, идеал, общественный идеал, гражданская идея, духовные ценности, общественное развитие.

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### **АСПЕКТИ ОСЯГНЕННЯ СУСПІЛЬНОГО ІДЕАЛУ В СУЧАСНІЙ УКРАЇНІ**

*Стаття присвячена дослідженню питання осягнення суспільного ідеалу та його виключної ролі в суспільному розвитку сучасної України. Підкреслюється значущість суспільного ідеалу через призму розуміння його як феномену та розгляду громадянської ідеї як його квінтесенції. В статті висвітлюються критерії викривлення ідеалів та передумови заниження їх значення. Показана необхідність гармонійного наповнення змісту ідеалу як духовними, так і матеріальними цінностями. Автор розглядає суспільний ідеал як запоруку прогресивного суспільного та державного розвитку. Наголошується на тому, що лише духовне єднання людей та зосередженість на споконвічних людських цінностях може слугувати основою для оновлення суспільства й держави.*

**Ключові слова:** ідея, ідеал, суспільний ідеал, громадянська ідея, духовні цінності, суспільний розвиток.

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