

SOCIAL SPHERE OF SOCIETY AND SOCIAL POLICY OF THE STATE

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Abstract

Our article is devoted to the analysis of the social sphere of society and the role of the state in the formation and implementation of social policy. We consider key aspects of social policy, including social protection, health care, education, labor relations, housing construction and pension provision. The emphasis is on the relationship between social processes and the economic situation, as well as on how state institutions influence the improvement of the quality of life of citizens. The article also analyzes current problems of social policy, including its effectiveness in the context of modern challenges and changes in society.

Keywords: social sphere, social policy, state policy, social protection, health care, education, labor relations, economic processes, social inequality.

Introduction

The social sphere of society is the most important component of the social structure, covering the sphere of health care, education, social protection, labor, housing and other aspects that ensure the well-being of citizens. It is directly related to the living conditions of people and determines the level of their social security, as well as the degree of equality and social mobility in society. In the conditions of the modern world, where rapid socio-economic transformations are taking place, the problems of the social sphere are becoming some of the most pressing.

State social policy plays an important role in the formation and regulation of the social sphere. It is aimed at creating conditions for improving the quality of life of the population, ensuring social protection, developing accessible education and health care, as well as solving the problem of social inequality. The social policy of the state reflects its strategy regarding the well-being of citizens and is designed to ensure a balance between the interests of different groups of the population.

The purpose of our article is to consider the main aspects of the social sphere of society, the role and directions of the state social policy, and also to analyze its impact on the standard of living



of citizens and the social development of society as a whole. Particular attention will be paid to the current challenges and problems that social policy faces in the context of modern changes.

Main Part

The social sphere of society is a set of various elements that provide basic needs and conditions for the life of citizens. It includes such areas as health care, education, labor relations, social protection, housing construction and others. All these components are interconnected and affect the general well-being of citizens, their standard of living and social mobility. There is a close relationship between the state of the social sphere and the development of the economy, since the successful functioning of the social sphere contributes to the improvement of the life of the population, and therefore increases labor productivity and economic development in general.

The social policy of the state is a system of measures aimed at solving social problems and ensuring the well-being of citizens. It is focused on achieving social justice, reducing inequality and improving the quality of life. The most important areas of social policy are:

- Social protection of the population. This is a set of measures aimed at ensuring a minimum standard of living for all citizens, especially those who are in a vulnerable situation (pensioners, disabled people, large families, the unemployed and others). Social protection includes pension systems, benefits, subsidies, as well as assistance in case of illness or disability.
- Healthcare. An effective healthcare system is one of the most important aspects of social policy, since it directly affects the health of the population and the quality of life. Ensuring the availability and quality of medical services, disease prevention, creating conditions for a healthy lifestyle are the key tasks of the social state in the field of healthcare.
- Education. Education is the basis for personal and professional growth, as well as for ensuring social mobility. The most important task of social policy is to create conditions for obtaining a quality education at all levels - from preschool to higher education. Equal access to education is the basis for the formation of social justice and the prevention of social inequality.
- Labor relations. The social policy of the state is also aimed at regulating labor relations, creating conditions for decent work and social protection of workers. This includes the development of labor legislation, minimum wage guarantees, working conditions, protection of workers' rights and the development of the employment system.
- Housing. Housing policy is one of the most important components of social policy aimed at providing citizens with affordable and high-quality housing. In the context of economic instability and rising housing prices, special attention is paid to the development of state programs for subsidizing mortgages, building affordable housing and helping to improve housing conditions for low-income categories of the population.
- Social inequality. One of the central tasks of social policy is to reduce social inequality. In the context of globalization and economic changes, social stratification can increase, which leads to social instability. State social policy should be aimed at reducing the gap between rich and poor, improving conditions for those who find themselves in a difficult life situation.

In addition, the state's social policy is closely linked to the economic situation in the country. In conditions of economic crises and instability, many states face difficulties in providing social programs and fulfilling social obligations. A decrease in financial resources leads to a reduction



in social benefits, which has a negative impact on the most vulnerable segments of the population.

In recent decades, social policy has faced a number of new challenges. One of them is the ageing population, which leads to an increase in the number of pensioners and an increased need for social benefits and health services. In addition, the problems of globalization, migration, climate change and technological revolutions also require a revision of approaches to social policy. It is important not only to ensure the basic needs of citizens, but also to adapt social policy to new conditions.

An important task is to improve coordination between different levels of government (federal, regional and local), as well as to ensure the efficient use of public resources. Improving the quality of social services, their availability and fair distribution between different segments of society are becoming important criteria for assessing the success of social policy.

The social sphere of society and the social policy of the state play a key role in ensuring the stability and sustainable development of society. In the context of constant changes and new challenges, it is important that state social policy remains flexible, adequate and oriented towards the needs of citizens. To do this, it is necessary to improve the systems of social protection, health care, education and labor relations, as well as combat social inequality and ensure a decent quality of life for all citizens. During the research, we identified the following problems and put forward our scientific proposals for their solution, including:

1. Uneven living standards and social inequality

Problem situation: In most countries, including developing and even some developed countries, significant social inequality remains. This is expressed in differences in income, access to education and health care, as well as in inequality in labor relations. One of the reasons for this situation is the ineffective redistribution policy of the state, which leads to social polarization.

The solution we propose:

- **Innovative models of social protection:** Development and implementation of progressive tax systems that provide for higher taxes for the rich strata of the population, which will redistribute income in favor of socially vulnerable groups.
- **Targeted programs and subsidies:** Creation of state programs aimed at helping the poor, including housing, education and health care, with an emphasis on supporting large families and pensioners.
- **Increasing social mobility:** Developing programs to improve access to quality education and ensure equal opportunities for all citizens, which will reduce social gaps between different segments of the population.

2. Low quality and accessibility of healthcare

Problem situation: In the context of global economic crises and rapid population growth in the world, healthcare systems are overloaded and underfunded. This leads to a decrease in the quality of medical services, as well as an increase in the number of inaccessible medical institutions for the population, especially in rural areas and for low-income groups.



The solution we propose:

- Modernization of the healthcare system: Implementation of new healthcare models focused on the effective use of technologies, such as telemedicine and electronic prescriptions. This will increase the availability of services and improve the quality of medical care.
- Flexible financing systems: Developing public co-financing programs for healthcare, using public-private partnerships to improve the infrastructure and equipment of medical institutions.
- Disease prevention: Developing and implementing national programs for disease prevention and healthy lifestyle promotion. Scientific research in the fields of medicine and psychology can help to identify and combat the main factors affecting the health of the population.

3. Affordable Housing Shortage

Problem: The lack of affordable housing, especially in large cities, remains one of the key social problems in many countries. Rising housing prices, a limited number of government subsidy programs and high mortgage costs make housing unaffordable for a large part of the population, especially young people and families with children.

The solution we propose:

- Government housing programs: Developing and implementing long-term government programs aimed at building affordable housing and helping to improve the housing conditions of low-income groups.
- Building low-cost housing complexes: Using innovative technologies and new building materials that will significantly reduce housing construction costs and make it more affordable for the population.
- Sustainable urban planning: Applying the principles of sustainable development and green urban planning will allow for the construction of environmentally friendly and affordable housing for a wide range of people.

4. Pension System Problems

Problem: In many countries, pension systems are under threat due to the aging population and the inefficiency of existing pension payment mechanisms. Insufficient number of working citizens and high costs for pensioners leads to a deficit of pension funds.

The solution we propose:

- Modernization of the pension system: Development and implementation of more flexible pension schemes, such as individual pension accounts based on the funded principle. Modernization of pension legislation will reduce the burden on the budget and improve payments.
- Raising the retirement age and increasing the period of work: Taking into account demographic changes, a gradual increase in the retirement age can be considered, which will reduce the burden on the pension system.
- Use of funded schemes: Stimulation of the creation of private pension funds and tax breaks for citizens who participate in funded programs. This will increase the financial sustainability of the system.



5. Migration and social integration

Problem situation: Migration of the population, especially in the context of globalization and conflicts, causes problems of social integration of migrants in new countries. They often find it difficult to find a job, adapt to new living conditions, which leads to social isolation and deterioration in the quality of life.

The solution we offer:

- Integration programs: Development and implementation of social adaptation programs for migrants aimed at teaching language, cultural adaptation and rights and responsibilities in a new country.
- Development of international cooperation: Improving cooperation between states in the field of migration policy, creating common standards for the protection of migrants' rights and their social protection.

The social sphere of society and the social policy of the state face numerous challenges that require a scientific and practical approach to solving. Modern problems such as social inequality, ineffectiveness of the healthcare system, shortage of affordable housing and pension problems require comprehensive and innovative solutions based on scientific research and the experience of successful countries. Systemic reforms, the introduction of new technologies and approaches in the social sphere can significantly improve the quality of life of citizens and make social policy more effective and fairer.

Conclusions and suggestions

The social sphere is a key element in the functioning of society, as it covers areas that directly affect the well-being of citizens - health care, education, social protection, labor relations and housing. Effective management of these areas is crucial for the sustainable development of society and improving the quality of life of citizens.

The state's social policy should be aimed at creating equal conditions for all citizens, regardless of their social status, income level or place of residence. However, in modern conditions, social policy faces a number of problems, such as growing social inequality, a shortage of resources to finance social programs, and an aging population.

Modern challenges, such as the technological revolution, globalization, an aging population and migration processes, require social policy to be flexible and respond quickly to new realities. Social protection and social security systems need to be modernized to use resources more efficiently and make them more accessible to citizens. In the context of economic crises and insufficient funding, many social programs suffer from a decline in the quality of services provided, which affects the lives of citizens, especially the most vulnerable categories - pensioners, disabled people, large families and people in difficult life situations.

Suggestions:

1. It is necessary to reform the existing social protection systems aimed at a more equitable redistribution of resources, improving social assistance programs and increasing their effectiveness. It is important to develop targeted programs aimed at supporting those categories of citizens who really need help.

2. It is important to invest in improving the quality of healthcare and education. This can be achieved through the introduction of innovative technologies, such as telemedicine and distance education, as well as expanding government funding, which will increase the availability of these services for all citizens.

3. In the context of rising housing prices and a shortage of affordable square meters, it is necessary to develop programs of state support for the construction of housing for young people, large families and other low-income categories. It is also important to stimulate the use of environmentally friendly and cost-effective technologies in construction.

4. To reduce social inequality, public policy should focus on increasing social mobility. In particular, it is important to ensure equal access to quality education and employment opportunities, as well as support retraining and advanced training programs. The social sphere of society and the state's social policy play a decisive role in ensuring sustainable development and the well-being of citizens. Solving existing problems requires a comprehensive approach, including not only the modernization of social systems, but also the adoption of innovative solutions aimed at truly improving the lives of citizens. Scientific research and practical experience can serve as a basis for creating effective and fair social programs capable of responding to the challenges of the time.

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