
NATIONAL AND PATRIOTIC EDUCATION OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH: QUESTIONS OF STANDARDS AND INDICATORS



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Abstract. *The problem of monitoring the process of national-patriotic education in Ukraine has been updated. The purpose of the article is to substantiate the expediency and content of the standards and indicators of national-patriotic education of children and young people, which underlie the monitoring of this process. The necessity and various aspects of the contents of the standards of national patriotic education have been revealed; a list of effective measures as a key factor of the effectiveness of national patriotic education and recommended indicators of public opinion monitoring on patriotism have been presented. Besides the list of indicators of effectiveness of carrying out activities on national-patriotic education of children and youth is presented and supplemented by: number of prepared activist leaders who are ready to identify and implement initiatives of national-patriotic education; the dynamics of the number of young people involved in the activities of national-patriotic education; the proportion of young people involved in the activities of national-patriotic education in the village; the correspondence of the purpose and content of the measures to the values benchmarks, the content of the Strategy of national-patriotic education of children of youth in 2016–2020; monitoring (regularity of questionnaires) of public opinion on patriotism issues; polls of participants on the quality of the activities of national-patriotic education; innovation of the event, social effect and demand; engagement of partner resources; publicity of the project / event; reviews on social networks; possibility of dissemination of positive experience of project / activity realization.*

Key words: *indicators; national-patriotic education; standards; a strategy of national patriotic education; patriotism; forms of work / activities.*

INTRODUCTION. PROBLEM STATEMENT

Ukrainians have been tested for strength, strength of spirit and faith for four and a half years. The people of Ukraine have passed and undergoes incredible trials with the war and the economic crisis that was caused by Russian aggression. Now Ukrainians have become stronger and more confident in themselves and in their own capabilities. The foundation for moving forward – with clear strategic European benchmarks. Such a move comes from the understanding of the need to rely on their own forces, to harden their national interests.

At the same time, this is not an occasion to “roll back”. Russification processes, the informational supremacy of the imperial-totalitarian rudiments of the Kremlin in the public consciousness, significant differences in the systems of values, ideological orientations of groups of society from different regions of our country make us worry. Often opposite views on the past and future of the nation, the ways of its further development, and national values are being produced. That is why the question of the formation of patriotism as a value in children and youth does not lose its relevance, but also acquires new relevance.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The problem of patriotism attracts the attention of modern scholars in various aspects. Publications and studies of recent years have revealed: the psychological context of social and state values, the formation of national consciousness and identity of the person (I. Bekh, I. Bulakh, V. Krysko, L. Snigur, L. Spivak); theoretical foundations of civic-patriotic upbringing of pupils (V. Kremen, Yu. Rudenko, A. Sukhomlynska, V. Ternopilskaya, P. Verbitskaya); national identity and its influence on the formation of a self-sufficient person (G. Filipchuk, G. Kovalev, T. Potapchuk, K. Zhurba), etc. However, the issue of monitoring national-patriotic education is still insufficiently studied.

The *purpose of the article* is to substantiate expediency and content of standards and indicators of national-patriotic education of children and young people, which underlie monitoring of this process.

METHODOLOGY

The main generalizations and conclusions of the article are based on the following results:

– An expert-analytical study on the formation of the standards for national-patriotic education and the definition of indicators for the effectiveness of measures for national-patriotic education, conducted by the NGO “Olexander Yaremenko Ukrainian Institute of Social Research”, at the request of the (Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, 2018, March 22). The author of the article is a member of the research team. Within the framework of expert-analytical research, from December 5 to December 7, 2017 a series of focused group discussions with experts on national-patriotic education in various regions of Ukraine (cities of Chernihiv, Odessa, Kiev, Slavyansk, Uzhhorod) were conducted;

– A sociological survey of the Social Monitoring Center, the NGO “Olexander Yaremenko Ukrainian Institute for Social Research”, the Institute for Analysis and Forecasting with the support of the Kiev Press Club (Ukrainian Institute of Social Studies named after Olexander Yaremenko, 2018, August 16). 600 respondents were interviewed in Odessa and Lviv, and 800 respondents in Kharkiv from the age of 18 years and older. The survey was conducted from August 8 to 13, 2018 by means of a personal interview, the sampling error is +/- 4,5%;

– Sociological Group Rating (2018, August 21) Survey by personalized formal interview was held on August 3-10, in which 2000 respondents from 18 years of age and older took part. The error in the representativeness of the study is no more than 2,2%;

– Discussions between the author and the participants in national-patriotic training (2015-2017, about 350 participants) (Bekh, I. D., Kyrychenko, V. I., Petrochko, Zh. V., 2016).

MAIN RESULTS

Despite socio-political and economic problems, some kind of frustration and dependency among the population, the level of respect for Ukrainian statehood is not decreasing from the Revolution of Ukraine. On the contrary, the number of those who speak Ukrainian, teaches it, wants to watch and listen to Ukrainian is constantly increasing. At the moment, the number of people who first of all consider themselves citizens of Ukraine, and then residents of those or other regions, peaked in the history of independence. In particular, according to a survey conducted in August 2018 by the Social Monitoring Center, the Ukrainian Institute for Social Research named after Alexander Yaremenko, the Institute for Analysis and Forecasting with the support of the Kiev Press Club, the vast majority of Ukrainian citizens with a population of more than 1 million people consider themselves to be patriots and they are proud to be Ukrainians.

Answering a question about whether you consider yourself a patriot of Ukraine, 86% of respondents of Lviv, 64% of Odessa residents and 62% of Kharkiv responded affirmatively. They are proud to be citizens of Ukraine, according to the survey, 85% of Lviv residents, 68% of respondents from Odessa and 65% of Kharkiv. Not at all proud of the fact that they are Ukrainians, only 2% of respondents of Lviv, 8% of respondents from Kharkiv and 10% of respondents in Odessa.

Similar data was revealed as a result of a survey by the sociological group “Rating”. Thus, 82% of Ukrainian citizens consider themselves patriots of their country. Only 13% stated that they did not consider themselves patriots; another 5% could not answer. In all macro regions of Ukraine, the total number of patriotic citizens exceeds 75%: in the West – such 85%, in the Center – 84%, in the South – 79%, in the East – 76%.

Now Ukraine directs its intellectual resource to cultivate a national-patriotic feeling based on the love to its country, people, nation, state, affirmation of Ukrainian civic identity.

Undoubtedly, Ukrainian civil identity is at the stage of formation. Unfortunately, a significant part of young people do not see opportunities for themselves in Ukraine. The weighty imperial-totalitarian rudiments that impede the formation of a civil identity are: inferiority, self-sufficiency and conformism. Under such circumstances, the growing popularity of patriotism must be accompanied by proper conceptual, normative, scientific, and methodological support of this process. The emergence of a number of public organizations that position themselves as participants in the system of national patriotic education requires the development of clear benchmarks or standards to determine the effectiveness of appropriate measures, projects, programs.

The question of standards in national-patriotic education is complicated, even delicate; it easily becomes a means of manipulation. It is important that such standards do not touch on religious issues, do not violate human rights, do not stand in the way of unity and consensus in Ukraine, and so on. It is not about standardizing the image of a patriot citizen or his behavior, but about the organization of national patriotic education and its outcomes.

The issue of standards is highlighted in the Strategy of National Patriotic Education of Children and Youth for 2016-2020 (approved by Decree of the President of Ukraine dated October 13, 2015, No. 580/2015) (Legislation of Ukraine, 13 October 2015, 13). In particular, Article 7 of the Strategy states: “In the sphere of national-patriotic education of children and youth should be developed by the authorized central executive body with the participation of scientists, independent experts, taking into account the best international experience of successful democratic states, and the introduction of common

standards, in particular regarding means and methods, forms and methods of national-patriotic education, assessment of achievements of the relevant actors in this area and their competence”.

The mentioned above was the subject of the study of the expert-analytical research on the formation of the standards of national-patriotic education and the definition of indicators of the effectiveness of the implementation of measures on national-patriotic upbringing.

The results of the survey of experts on national-patriotic education on the content of such standards showed that among the content lines of standards there should be (submitted by rating – from the highest): 1) increase the level of historical competence; 2) understanding of national-state values; 3) understanding the causes of the conflict in the East of Ukraine; 4) respect for the fighters for Ukraine’s independence; 5) awareness of the European vector of development; 6) interest in achievements of Ukraine at the world level, in the international arena.

A key component of standards should be the monitoring of public opinion on the issue of patriotism, national-patriotic upbringing, social and state values. Such monitoring at the all-Ukrainian level is advisable to conduct an independent, but authoritative sociological organization every 2-3 years. At the same time, the indicators of such monitoring should serve as a benchmark for assessing the content of each event, as it should constantly keep in mind that something in the young person has changed in her knowledge, motivation, attitude, skills, behavior after the organized, organized. Table 1 shows indicators recommended by experts to be taken into account when compiling questionnaires on patriotism or national-patriotic education in Ukraine.

Table 1

Expert answers on indicators of public opinion monitoring

Indicators	Not necessary	Necessary	Do not know
1. Identification themselves first of all as a citizen of Ukraine	1	30	2
2. Communication in Ukrainian	2	26	3
3. Readiness to protect the state’s independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine with arms	5	20	8
4. Readiness to protect the state independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine by non-violent means	3	23	6
5. Understanding the causes of the conflict in the East of Ukraine	5	22	6
6. Importance of living in a democratic country	2	29	2
7. Readiness for emigration	13	11	9
8. Pride for your country	0	33	0
9. Desire for children and grandchildren to live in Ukraine	1	29	3
10. A sense of responsibility for the situation in the country	-	27	6

National-patriotic education is mostly carried out through various activities (forms of work), programs and projects. The variety, expediency, the present, the content of such activities create a common canvas for the success of national patriotic education.

Issues of measures that have proven its effectiveness and can be recommended as guidelines for national-patriotic education were also raised during focus groups with experts. In particular, the participants were asked to answer the question “*What your carried activities were the most successful and effective, why?*”.

It was clarified that the Chernigov group of interviewed experts first sets out measures on military-patriotic education (“*The first is the popularization of military service, cooperation with military units ... organization of military-sports camp*”). However, it is stressed that the excessive amount of shallow monotonous measures only harm the system (“*The number of patriotic measures is already evolving in the leveling of general patriotic education*”).

The Odessa group of respondents called the most effective forms of work “Youth guard of Ukraine”, summer camps; Kyiv – contests of Ukrainian studies, which influence the whole family through a child, take part in the Ukrainian Horting Federation, play “Jura”, meetings of senior pupils with ATO veterans, etc.

The Slavic group noted the effectiveness of the Slavic Sich Train, which had to carry children from one region to another for the sake of the unity of the country. The Uzhgorod group told about their military colleges, lectures, military and military training, the camp “Young people change Ukraine”, debates, tallying games, the program “Carpathians. We guard and study” (“Over the past year, we have made eight hiking trips to almost all the peaks, to show children and adults where we live, what’s the edge, it’s very attractive”), etc.

According to the results of the generalization of the opinions of participants in national-patriotic upbringing, popular and effective measures on national patriotic education (forms of work) are: creative projects, master classes on patriotic subjects, interactive exercises for patriotic music, collective games on creating a panel “Ukraine – my country”, photo projects, game reports “Outstanding names of modern Ukraine”, patriotic flash mobs, production and presentation of videos on patriotic subjects, etc. (Bekh, I. D., Kyrychenko, V. I., Petrochko, Zh. V., 2016). Consequently, the palette of possible measures for national-patriotic education is broad, there is a vision of their variability, which, however, does not always guarantee efficiency.

When it comes to public organizations, such measures are carried out both at the expense of the organization itself and for the funds raised, in particular, allocated from the state budget. Therefore, the compliance of such measures with certain standards, indicators is a state, regulatory requirement, in order to avoid inappropriate use of funds.

The Strategy of national-patriotic education states that indicators of the effectiveness of the implementation of measures for national-patriotic education of children and young people should become, in particular:

- increasing in the attendance of children and youth by institutions that promote the cultural and national-artistic traditions of the Ukrainian people, as well as exhibitions of museums devoted to the national liberation struggle for Ukraine’s independence and territorial integrity;

- raising the level of knowledge among children and young people about prominent personalities of the Ukrainian statehood, outstanding domestic scientists, educators, athletes, leading figures of culture and art, as well as spiritual leaders of the Ukrainian people;

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- increasing in the number of viewers on screenings of cinematic works revealing the heroic past and present of the Ukrainian people;
 - increasing in the number of children and youth who are proud of their Ukrainian descent, citizenship;
 - increasing in the number of children and young people traveling to other regions of Ukraine and the countries of the European Union;
 - increasing in the number of members of public associations, whose activities are aimed at national-patriotic education of children and young people;
 - increasing in the number of meetings held by children and young people with war veterans, fighters for Ukraine's independence in the 20th century, participants in the antiterrorist operation in Donetsk and Luhansk regions;
 - increasing in the number of young people ready to fulfill their duty to protect the homeland, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine;
 - increasing in the number of measures to honor the heroes of the struggle of the Ukrainian people for the independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine and others.

At the same time, such indicators are generalized and relate more to the results of the functioning of the system of national-patriotic education in general or the above-mentioned Strategy. In our opinion, the indicators of the event, project or program should be both quantitative and qualitative.

Based on the results of the above-mentioned expert-analytical research, recommendations were given on the list of indicators of effectiveness of measures / implementation of programs of national-patriotic upbringing. Taking into account the proposed recommendations (Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, 2018, March 22, p. 68), we consider to expand this list.

Thus, the general indicators of the effectiveness of carrying out activities on national patriotic education should be considered:

- number of prepared activist leaders who are ready to identify and implement initiatives of national-patriotic upbringing;
- dynamics of the number of young people involved in the activities of national-patriotic upbringing;
- proportion of young people involved in the activities of national patriotic upbringing in the village;
- monitoring (regularity of questionnaires) of public opinion on patriotism issues; the results of the survey of participants in national-patriotic education activities regarding their quality.

When it comes to the effectiveness of a particular project / measure, it is necessary to evaluate:

- correspondence of the purpose and content of the event to the value benchmarks, the content of the Strategy of National-Patriotic Education of Children of Youth in 2016-2020;
 - innovation of the event (availability of modern approaches, innovative methods, novelty and use of technologies that have proved their effectiveness);
 - social effect and demand (conformity of the expected results of the implementation of the idea to the final results, the degree of coverage and involvement of participants in publicly useful (socially significant) activities in the process of implementation of the project or action);
 - involvement of partner resources (accumulation of resources and professional capabilities of partners, expediency of joint actions);
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- publicity of the project / event (availability of information about the event in the Internet, all-Ukrainian, regional and local mass media, presentation at all-Ukrainian and regional events);
 - feedback on the event in social networks (positive reviews about the event, expressing the desire for further cooperation, participation in similar events in the future);
 - possibility of dissemination of positive experience in implementing a project / measure (including other target groups).

CONCLUSIONS

Thus, patriotism is a reliable and effective means of instilling Ukraine. In the process of forming a sense of patriotism, Ukrainian national identity, the complex system of national-patriotic education that penetrates educational institutions, children's and youth public organizations, and other self-governing associations must play a key role. The effectiveness of the system as a whole, the activities of state and non-governmental organizations in particular depends on a clear system of monitoring this process, which is built on certain standards, indicators. This problem is mobile, sensitive, it needs constant review to refine the indicators. Its solution is actual, complex, cross-sectoral and interdisciplinary.

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