

PECULIARITIES OF IMPLEMENTING STATE AND REGIONAL POLICY AS THE BASIS OF PUBLIC GOVERNANCE OF TERRITORIES IN THE CONTEXT OF ESG-TRANSFORMATIONS IN UKRAINE

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The current stage of development of the public administration system in Ukraine is characterized by a complex interaction of transformation processes related to the European integration course of the state, the implementation of the principles of sustainable development and the need to function under martial law. In these circumstances, state and regional policy acquire special importance as basic tools for forming an effective territorial management model capable of ensuring stability, security and restoration of socio-economic potential. The integration of ESG principles into public administration mechanisms is a key direction for the modernization of state policy, focused on combining economic efficiency, environmental responsibility and social justice. All this justifies the relevance of the chosen research topic.

The significance of taking into account the ESG concept in the process of implementing state and regional policy is associated with the possibility of using an integrated approach that is applied to the management of territorial development, and which combines three critically important dimensions of sustainability – environmental (E), social (S) and governance (G) [1 – 2].

Under martial law, Ukraine's state policy is transformed from an instrument of long-term strategic development into a comprehensive system of anti-crisis management aimed at ensuring the functioning of basic institutions, supporting economic activity and preserving human potential. At the same time, a feature of the current stage is the need to combine short-term solutions with long-term goals of reconstruction and integration into the European economic and legal space. In this context, the ESG principles acquire a system-forming significance, as they allow structuring state policy in accordance with international standards and at the same time taking into account the specifics of national challenges.

The environmental dimension of state and regional policy under martial law becomes particularly relevant due to significant environmental losses caused by military operations. The destruction of industrial facilities, pollution of water resources, soil degradation, forest fires and other consequences of military operations create new challenges for the public administration system. In these conditions, the state must ensure the formation of an effective environmental policy aimed at monitoring and assessing damage, restoring natural ecosystems, and introducing modern environmental standards and technologies. At the same time, the regional level of governance plays a key role in the implementation of environmental measures, since it is at this level that direct interaction with territorial communities, local enterprises, and public organizations takes place. The integration of the environmental component of ESG into the state policy of Ukraine is closely related to the fulfillment of obligations within the framework of cooperation with the European Union, which involves the harmonization of environmental legislation, the implementation of the principles of the «green» economy, and the transition to low-carbon development. In the context of post-war recovery, this creates the prerequisites for the modernization of infrastructure, the development of renewable energy, and increasing energy efficiency, which, in turn, contributes to the formation of a new quality of economic growth.

The social dimension of state and regional policy in martial law is determined by the need to ensure social stability, support the population, and preserve human capital. Large-scale population movements, rising unemployment, and deteriorating access to social services and infrastructure are

putting significant pressure on the public administration system. In these conditions, the state must ensure the implementation of effective social policies aimed at supporting internally displaced persons, veterans, and vulnerable categories of the population, as well as restoring the education, healthcare, and social protection systems. At the same time, the regional level of government plays a decisive role in the implementation of social policies, since it is local governments that provide basic services to the population and directly interact with communities. Decentralization, which has become one of the key areas of reforming the public administration system in Ukraine, has created the prerequisites for increasing the effectiveness of regional policy and strengthening the financial capacity of territorial communities. At the same time, martial law requires additional coordination between central and local authorities, which necessitates the improvement of mechanisms for inter-level interaction and the distribution of powers.

The governance dimension of ESG in the system of state and regional policy under martial law is characterized by increased requirements for transparency, accountability and efficiency of public administration. Ensuring citizens' trust in state institutions is a critically important factor in the stability and resilience of society. In this context, anti-corruption measures, digitalization of public services, openness of the budget process and public involvement in decision-making are of particular importance.

A feature of the implementation of state policy in the context of ESG transformations is also the integration of sustainable development principles into strategic documents and territorial development programs. The formation of state strategies, regional development programs, and recovery plans should be carried out taking into account environmental, social, and management criteria. This involves the use of comprehensive indicators of policy effectiveness that reflect not only economic results, but also the level of quality of life of the population, the state of the environment, and the effectiveness of institutions.

It should be noted that under martial law in Ukraine, the issue of financial support for the implementation of state and regional policies is of particular importance. This is due to the fact that limited budget resources, increased spending on defense and social support for the population necessitate the attraction of additional sources of financing, in particular international aid, investments, and grant resources. In this context, compliance with ESG principles is an important criterion for obtaining financing from international financial institutions, since such organizations are increasingly focused on supporting projects that meet sustainable development standards.

Regional policy in the context of ESG transformations also involves the development of partnerships between the state, business and civil society. This approach corresponds to modern concepts of public administration, which are based on the principles of network interaction and shared responsibility. The participation of business in the implementation of social and environmental projects, the development of public-private partnerships, and the involvement of public organizations in the decision-making process contribute to increasing the effectiveness of policy and ensuring its compliance with the needs of society.

It should be noted that an additional aspect is the need to form the institutional capacity of public administration bodies to implement ESG principles. This includes the development of professional competencies of public servants, the introduction of modern management methods, the improvement of the regulatory framework and the creation of effective coordination mechanisms between different levels of government. Increasing institutional capacity is a key condition for the successful implementation of state and regional policy in the context of martial law and post-war recovery.

Thus, the features of the implementation of state and regional policy as the basis of public management of territories in the conditions of ESG-transformations in Ukraine during the period of martial law are determined by the need to combine anti-crisis measures with long-term strategic goals of sustainable development. The integration of environmental, social and management principles into the public management system ensures increased stability of territories, efficient use of resources and the formation of prerequisites for the restoration and modernization of the national economy. ESG in this context acts not only as a conceptual basis for reforming state policy, but also as a practical tool

for ensuring balanced development of territories, strengthening institutional capacity and integration of Ukraine into the European space.

References:

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