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## **SOCIAL POLICY OF UKRAINE AS PART OF THE USSR AND MODERN, INDEPENDENT UKRAINE**

**Formulation of the problem.** This article is devoted to the problem of formation and development of the social security system in Ukraine, which was part of the USSR and during the period of independence. It compares the system of social benefits, the system of social policy that could be created by the Soviet government in the administrative-command system of government, and the changed and improved system of social protection after the collapse of the USSR, in modern realities.

**Analysis of recent research.** V. Zvonar, G. Osovyi, and L. Shevchenko studied the problem of analyzing the system of remuneration and the influence of the shadow economy on the size of wages. The impact of globalization processes on the economy (which affects social policy) was studied by V. Sidenko. Models of social policy to improve living standards in the country studied OD Vasylyk, L. Klividenko, O. Snihova. Innovative technologies in production and efficiency of their introduction were investigated by A. Arsenko, N. Tolstykh, O. Skomarokhova.

The subject of the research was S. Korolyov's analysis of the success of the state's social policy towards servicemen. The problem of social security of pensioners was studied by O. Romanyuk, M. Ripp, Y. Salyuta. Among the monographic studies, the authors of which analyzed various aspects of social policy in Ukraine and its impact on economic processes, deepening the social stratification of society and the implementation of demographic policy, it is worth noting the work of MA Pavlovsky and B. Panasyuk, who often evaluated the successes and failures of social policy quite differently.

**Presenting main material.** The formation of the system of social policy and social security at the beginning of the USSR was contradictory. All this is due to the fact that the Soviet government had a great desire to quickly and effectively solve complex social problems, while not having the necessary financial resources and economic resources. The policy in the field of social security and social policy was carried out by the People's Commissariat of State Welfare (later – the People's Commissariat of State Security). The main types of social security were pension benefits and benefits. This organization and its field institutions also dealt with the provision of asylum for disabled servicemen and the provision of pensions; creation of medical and preventive institutions for children; Unemployment insurance was introduced, according to which employers had to contribute to the general unemployment fund at least 3% of the funds that went to wages; Free canteens and dormitories for the unemployed were set up in the cities, and in the event of illness, financial assistance was set at the patient's full earnings. The same amount was provided for childbirth assistance, which was issued for eight weeks before and eight weeks after delivery. The policy of social security and social policy to some extent strengthened the Soviet power in the country. With the adoption of the Constitution of the USSR began a new stage in the formation of social policy and social security. As

for the peasants, the state social security was used only by war veterans, invalids and victims of wartime terror. Production cooperatives for people with disabilities were established in the city. In the 1930s, the social atmosphere in society was tense due to violent measures by the authorities. The population that resisted the government was deprived of social benefits. One of the most important measures was the fight against child homelessness (new orphanages with production workshops and agricultural colonies were opened); the army was also used (special regimental shelters were created).

Social policy during the Second World War was aimed at supporting the families of veterans, the sick, the wounded, the employment of the disabled, the care of orphans and other wartime problems.

During the Khrushchev thaw in the social sphere, pension reform and other social reforms were carried out. Extensive construction was launched (factories, plants that provided new jobs; houses). New industries emerged in production, which helped reduce unemployment and improve living standards.

In the period of "stagnation", social security focused on serving servicemen, members of creative unions; workers and employees, collective farmers. In particular, collective farmers regularly received wages and pensions. There was an increase in the minimum wage. But these improvements occurred only at the beginning of the period. After a few years, the minimum wage was declining, there was a shortage of goods, and housing shortages were also present. Medical care was free, but "extra help" for doctors took place in life.

Social security in the period 1980–1990 came from public consumption funds. The total amount of all benefits and payments in the period from 1980 to 1990 was 11–12% of gross domestic product. The main types of benefits that existed on the eve of the collapse of the USSR: maternity leave (paid) – 112 calendar days; partially paid when the child reaches one year; childbirth allowance; assistance for a child from a low-income family; assistance to large families (children of such families had the primary right to be placed in educational institutions; the family had the right to receive housing faster); assistance for temporary incapacity for work, from occupational diseases, from injuries at work (in the amount of 100% of earnings). The maintenance of children in preschool institutions was almost 80% financed by the state. The free housing system, which almost ceased to exist with the beginning of the reforms in the late 1980s, also worked quite well.

After the collapse of the USSR and the restoration of independence, our country was in a state of great and prolonged crisis, which affected the implementation of social policy. During this period, the state, seeking to protect the population from poverty and devastation, enacts a number of laws that in no way take into account economic realities. At that time, the country had low production volumes, a large budget deficit (and, as a result, low wages), a devaluation of money, and a high level of the shadow economy.

The Declaration of State Sovereignty of Ukraine proclaimed our country a welfare state in which man, his life and health, honor and dignity, inviolability and security are recognized as the highest social value. In order to improve the living standards of the population, the Law "On Economic Independence of the Ukrainian SSR" was adopted on August 3, 1990, which declared that the development of social sectors will be carried out simultaneously with the development and growth of funding

in this area. That is, first the economy develops, then the social sphere. Due to the deepening economic crisis, the state's social policy was carried out on a residual basis, had no value and no control over its implementation, and was "carried out" until 1993. The concept of social security of the population of Ukraine stated that social security applies to citizens who work for hire, their families and the disabled. There was a large delay in wages, sometimes reaching one year, which led to a poor standard of living, an increase in the number of offenses, bribery. As the crisis intensified, so did the level of migration, which became most prevalent in rural areas. Mostly people of working age left.

In 1999, the Law on the Subsistence Minimum was adopted, which should facilitate the implementation of state social programs, the establishment of minimum wages and minimum pensions, the definition of social assistance, unemployment benefits and other social benefits. Amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On the Status of War Veterans, Guarantees of Their Social Protection", adopted in 1999, provided for out-of-competition admission to state and municipal higher education institutions in specialties, training of which was carried out at the expense of state and local budgets. actions on the territory of other states that perished (disappeared) as a result of injury, contusion or mutilation received during hostilities and conflicts on the territory of other states. The standard of living was positively affected by the Law on Humanitarian Aid, which was also intended to ensure the transparency and transparency of its provision.

Significant developments in the process of forming a new system of social protection were: the adoption of the housing subsidy program (1995), assistance to low-income families (2000), the adoption of the Law on Subsistence (1999), and the formation of state insurance.

At the beginning of the twentieth century (2004–2005) the main task in the social sphere was to reduce poverty, reduce the income gap between different segments of the population (increase the minimum pension and minimum wage), help orphans. On April 1, 2005, the Law "On Amendments to the Law" On the State Budget of Ukraine for 2005 "and some other legislative acts" was adopted, which stated the objectives described above. Already in July of the same year there was a positive trend. The average salary was 37.5% higher than in September last year (July 1, 2005 – UAH 310, September 1, 2004 – UAH 237).

The ratification of the European Social Charter on September 14, 2006 by Ukraine was an important step towards the adaptation of social policy. By acceding to the 27 articles and 74 points of the Charter, Ukraine was obliged to promote the realization of the rights and freedoms of citizens in a secure environment. Among the priority tasks of the state was the protection of the economically active population, as it is the basis for social security of the country. Ukraine also had to ensure its citizens the right to work and fair and safe working conditions; for a fair reward; the right of children and adolescents to protection; on social security; for health care and medical care; the right of men and women at the level of opportunity; to protect migrant workers and their families. An indicator of the effectiveness of standards of social rights of citizens are social standards of living standards. According to the Human Development Report 2011, Ukraine is one of the countries with the highest degree of lagging behind this criterion. If in 1991 Ukraine was ranked 32nd among 175 countries by this criterion, in 2005 it was ranked 76th. Also, the level of socio-economic development

characterizes the standard of living of the population, which is calculated by the structure of income. The main source of income – wages. According to official data for the 1st quarter of 2012, the share of wages in the structure of household income was only 42.8%, the share of social assistance payments – 40.4%, mixed income – 11.5%, property income – 5.3 %.

In 2012, despite the slowdown in economic growth, none of the social indicators deteriorated and, moreover, all social standards and guarantees were raised (the data are given in Table [1], [2]. In August 2012, the State Target Program was approved. National Action Plan for the Implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities "for the period up to 2020 (provides a set of measures and tasks aimed at creating favorable living conditions for persons with disabilities in the areas of amenities, transport infrastructure, information and communication and other spheres of society) In 2012, a new budget program “Measures for Rehabilitation of Children with Cerebral Palsy” and funds for its implementation in the amount of UAH 44.8 million were envisaged and the mechanism for their use was determined.

Social policy in 2013 was a continuation of the tasks set in 2012. From 01.03.2013, the amount of monthly insurance payments to 305 thousand victims of industrial accidents and their family members has been increased by 14.9%. During 2012–2013, social insurance in the form of vouchers to sanatoriums was active. Funds in the amount of UAH 39.8 billion were provided for social assistance to families with children, low-income families with children, children with disabilities from childhood, children with disabilities, temporary state assistance to children, which is almost 20% more than in 2012 ( UAH 33.4 billion).

In 2014, social policy had new development priorities. In addition to the tasks that took place in previous years, the Ministry of Social Policy was tasked with social protection of the population in a difficult financial and economic situation (citizens of Donetsk and Luhansk regions, Crimea).

Since 2015, in addition to the usual types of assistance, the development of social policy has been shaped by many negative factors (unstable economic and political situation, military conflict in the East, mass displacement of citizens from the conflict zone). A radical reform of the subsidy system has been carried out (simplification of the procedure for their provision and strengthening of targeting). This year, for the first time, the principles of state policy to protect the social rights of migrant workers and their families were defined.

In 2016, a gradual increase in the subsistence level was provided (data in table [1]). The system of remuneration of civil servants and other employees of state bodies has been improved. The network of the state employment service was optimized and the availability of services was increased. Reforms on housing subsidies continued. Conditions were created for the provision of benefits in cash.

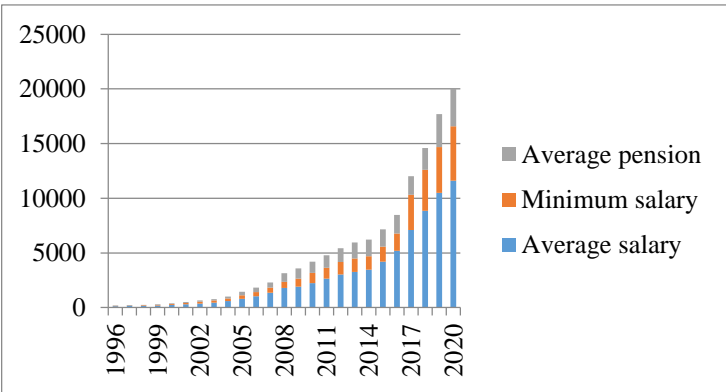
In 2017, the main focus was on productive employment and labor market reform; creating a fair pension insurance system; development of social and rehabilitation services in territorial communities; ensuring the protection of children's rights. As part of the decentralization of rights, each united territorial community has the right to establish a service for children. The number of family-type orphanages also increased by 46. In 2017, for the first time, persons with disabilities were fully provided with technical rehabilitation facilities. During 2017, 71,240 families of ATO participants received social services.

The same tasks as in 2017 were key in 2018. Social support for families with children was provided at the community level through the coverage of their social services. As of January 1, 2019, 2.1 million recipients received state assistance to families with children. Measures to improve the social protection of anti-terrorist operation participants and their families continued.

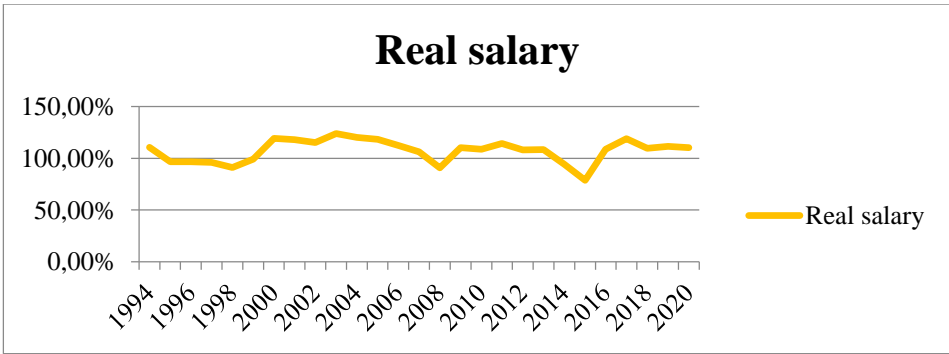
In 2019, the social policy program was aimed at supporting families in difficult life circumstances (UAH 63.0 billion is provided, which is 8.8% more than in 2018 - UAH 57.9 billion) and other categories of the population ; the creation of conditions for ensuring a dignified old age of the elderly continued, the social insurance system developed; As in previous years, it is mandatory to ensure the protection of the rights of children and the social protection of persons with disabilities. This year, all types of income grew due to higher state social standards and guarantees. The work of the Pension Fund on the provision of electronic services was intensified (mobile application "Pension Fund"). In 2019, funds (UAH 125.8 million) were provided for the purchase of housing for orphans and children deprived of parental care. This year, all 100% are provided with technical means of rehabilitation of people who need them.

The strategic goals of social policy in 2019 were continued in 2020. A new priority of social policy was the provision of financial assistance in connection with the spread of COVID-19 in the amount of UAH 2.1 billion (including health care workers).

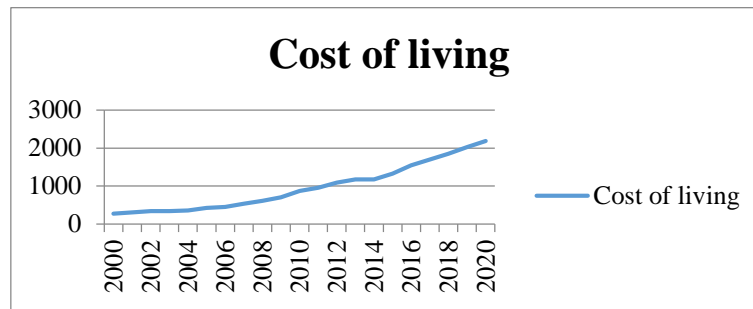
From the first years of independence until today, there is social assistance to citizens affected by the Chernobyl disaster; In 2015, anti-terrorist operation participants and victims of the Revolution of Dignity, internally displaced persons, began to receive assistance.



Graphic table [1]



Graphic table [2]



Graphic table [3]

**Conclusion.** At each stage of its development, the authorities in the country developed social policy and conducted social activities differently. Even during the Soviet rule in the country, social policy has already developed according to the needs of the population (providing shelters for disabled servicemen, providing them with pensions; providing assistance to the unemployed; insurance against injuries at work since 1986 – assistance to victims of the Chernobyl accident; rehabilitation of children in treatment and prevention facilities, etc.). At the beginning of the formation of Soviet power, communist ideology set itself the task of social policy, even if in practice they were difficult to implement due to lack of necessary resources. In the 1920's and 1950's, social policy focused on the needs of the state economy and rapid industrial growth. Since the 1960s, social policy has been on an equal footing with the economy; The government's goal was to attract public funds to increase the production of consumer goods, everyday consumption and the provision of free or almost free social services. Analyzing the Soviet period in power in general, we can conclude that social security and social policy were closely linked to stimulating labor activity, improving labor discipline, stimulating productivity growth. Since 1991, the government has been trying to overcome the crisis and improve social life. A program of housing subsidies (1995), assistance to low-income families (2000), the adoption of the Law on the Subsistence Minimum (1999), and the formation of a state insurance system were adopted; signed the Declaration of State Sovereignty, the European Charter of Solidarity, which protected the rights of the economically active population and the population as a whole. During hostilities in the country, regardless of the period of development of Ukraine, the budget was aimed at providing and supporting those segments of the population who need it most (families of combatants; the military themselves affected by the military conflict; civilians, who found themselves in a difficult financial situation or without housing, etc.), but stable indicators of living standards could suffer (these are the minimum wage, pensions, subsistence level, etc.).

However, despite any conditions of political and economic development or decline, the country's budget is formed in such a way that the implementation of social policy and the payment of social benefits take place.

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