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An extended abstract of the paper on the subject of:

IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE SOCIAL POLICY OF UKRAINE
IN TERMS OF REFORMING PUBLIC AUTHORITIES

Problem statement. Like any social state, Ukraine pays a large attention to social policy implementation, the subjects of which are in the first place public authorities that currently undergo reformation based on decentralization principles.

Recent research and publications analysis. The issues of social policy development and realization in Ukraine have been researched by many famous scholars. Summation of their published results coupled with the author’s own achievements make it possible to state that the problems of Ukraine’s state social policy implementation can be subdivided into two big groups: those, which have not been solved throughout the entire modern Ukrainian history, and factors that since February 2014 have aggravated drastically the country’s socio-economic state.

Unfortunately, the chronic problems of state social policy implementation include lack of funds for supporting the country’s social development, its regions, districts and basic territorial units, and flaws of specific mechanisms of social policy implementation at the state and local levels.

The problems of state social policy implementation, characteristic of the recent period of the country’s development, are connected with the following factors: military occupation of a large portion of the country’s territory and continuous war efforts at the borderline; reforms of the entire public administration system, transformation of the customary division of powers between public
authorities; welfare payments to multiple categories of citizens; as well as many other factors affecting state social policy implementation with different efficiency.

The paper objective is determining the specific features of public authority system reform in Ukraine as an important factor that affects directly the mechanism of state social policy implementation through redistribution of powers between public authorities and introduction of changes into the social sphere financing from budgets of different levels.

The paper main body. The Ukrainian reforms relevancy and profoundness can be evidenced by the practical outcomes of the public administration decentralization reform, which initiated a consolidation process in 6,000 territorial communities.

The results of fiscal decentralization are proved by a current growth of local budget incomes by 40.7%, as compared to 2014. In the future, such changes will produce a synergetic effect of local budget incomes increase two- to three-fold. Thus, local governments will have resources for solving their community development problems.

Obviously, the results of the reform implementation will affect state social policy implementation by public authorities, for according to the Concept distribution of powers between public authorities and local governments will change.

The distribution of powers presented in the Concept does not seem to be unobjectionable, however the analysis of implementation of the public administration decentralization reform shows that in the future some of its declared provisions might be corrected in such a way that the mechanisms of public authorities functioning will be unable to comply with the requirements to delegate more powers to the local level.

Thus, inspection of draft alterations of the Constitution of Ukraine among other things causes concern about Article 144, which authorizes President of Ukraine to temporarily suspend exercising of authority by community heads, community, district, regional councils, and to appoint authorized state
representatives, the term ‘temporarily’ being unspecified. In fact, the suspension situation in a local government body or several bodies can last for years which in no case promotes the declared decentralization of power in Ukraine.

Conclusions of the research. It is necessary to speed up implementation of the reforms in various spheres of social life in order to transfer to a stable functioning of the renewed structures and mechanisms, which are supposed to favor an effective implementation of all areas of the Ukrainian social policy at a new qualitative level.