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# C O N T E N T S

## ECONOMY

**Apanasyuk L.A., Hao Jirong**

A Brief Talk on the Social Responsibility  
of Chinese Enterprises in 2019: September  
9<sup>th</sup> Public Benefit Day..... 4

**Krasyuk P.P., Fedyakov D.V.**

AR/VR Technologies and Their  
Applications in Procurement .....13

## PEDAGOGY

**Anchutina N.V.**

Problems of Formation of Cultural  
and Educational Competences Among  
Performers on Folk Instruments .....22

**Katz M.L.**

Social and Psicho-Pedagogical Conditions  
for the Acquisition of Professional Skills  
of a Modern Vocalist in Open Educational  
Stipulations.....29

**Mikhailov S.N.**

Personal-Oriented Approach and  
Its Role in Formation of Professional-Applied  
Competences of the Musician-Performer.....38

## SOCIOLOGY

**Afonin M.V., Sadlovskaya E.S.**

Changes in the Constitution of the  
Russian Federation and Their Impact  
on Interfaith Relations in the Country .....46

**Avtsinova G.I., Zhaleiko K.A.**

The Social Context of the Amendments  
to the Constitution of the Russian Federation  
in 2020 Year and the Problems  
of the Orenburg Region .....54

**Avtsinova G.I., Ilina D.A.**

Election Institute in Modern Russia .....62

**Ibragimova A.R.**

Patriotism in the Framework  
of Intercultural Communication As an  
Aspect of Intercultural Unity of Civil Society .....69

**Loshkarev I.O.**

Powers of the President of the Russian  
Federation: Russian Legislation Analysis.....77

**Seregin A.A.**

Culture of Dialogue of Cultures:  
New Challenges of Modern Time .....84

## PSYCHOLOGY

**Levkovskaya N.A., Petrova E.A.**

Basic Approaches to Career Counseling  
for Young Parents Abroad . . . . .92

**Petrova E.A., Mayia Ali**

Psychological Factors of Trust Syrian Youth  
in Russian Mass Media . . . . .99


**Saranin M.O.**


Civic Duty Notions of the Russian Youth . . . . .108


## LABOUR PROTECTION


**Makakhaniuk Zh.S., Zubkova V.M.**

Granulometric Composition of Bottom Sediments  
of the Small River Hodza, Moscow Region . . . . .116

 **Dusenko S.V.** (doctor of sociological sciences, associate professor, Russian State University of Physical Education, Sport, Youth and Tourism (SCOLIPE), Russia)

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## A Brief Talk on the Social Responsibility of Chinese Enterprises in 2019: September 9<sup>th</sup> Public Benefit Day

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**Annotation:** *the statement of this article is about what Chinese enterprises did for social responsibility in 2019. The author utilizes "September 9<sup>th</sup> Public Benefit Day", a national period for Chinese together doing public benefit as an example. Analyzing digital data, the writer discusses about the problems and challenges of "Public Benefit Day". As an annual public welfare activity, the Public Benefit Day further promotes Chinese enterprises to fulfill their social responsibilities and expand their influence.*

**Key words:** *social responsibility, September 9<sup>th</sup>, Public Benefit Day.*

**JEL classification:** *A100, A110, A130.*

### Introduction

Corporate social responsibility refers to the nomenclature that besides the responsibility it takes when making profits for shareholders and employees, it has to take on responsibilities for the consumers, comities and even for the environment during the process of the production and contribute to the society.

The construction and development of social responsibility of Chinese enterprises can be roughly divided into the following three phases [7].

1. From 1990 to 2000, under the promotion of international sellers and brand owners, the guidelines for the implementation of social responsibility in international procurement were established.

2. From 2000 to 2006, corporate social responsibility received extensive attention. Chinese academic institutions and non-governmental organizations began to extensively studied and discussed social responsibility, along with government departments investigated the construction of corporate social responsibility in China.

3. From 2006 to 2019, the enterprise has implemented social responsibility to achieve a dynamic balance between economic responsibility, social responsibility and environmental responsibility, so as to enhance the company's brand image, enhance investor confidence, and attract or retain more talents.

Although China's economy has made great progress, however, as a big country with 1.4 billion people, it still faces many difficulties. Especially in rural areas, the difficulties are more arduous, and some poor people have a need for help [9; 3]. These responsibilities, of course, require the efforts of the government, but they also require enterprises to share the country's concerns. Not only for the development of the society, but also for the development of the enterprises themselves, the enterprises should pay more attention to poverty alleviation, better assume the responsibility of poverty alleviation. Major public welfare and foundation are direct solutions to poverty relief.

"September 9<sup>th</sup> Public Benefit Day" is an Internet public welfare day led by Tencent Public Welfare. Since its first launch in 2015, Tencent has continued to develop its own platform and technical capabilities to attract attention from more and more groups, to Participate and support. At present, "September 9 Public Benefit Day" has become China's public welfare day with the largest number of participants, the most influential and the most diverse scenes.

The "Technology For Good" concept pioneered by Tencent Group is not just out of corporate social responsibility and public welfare, it goes far beyond them. Corporate social responsibility helps alleviate the gap between the rich and the poor and eliminate the hidden danger of social unrest.

The essential part details the current situation of social responsibility of Chinese enterprises, the purpose of September 9<sup>th</sup> public benefit day, its development process and the challenges it faces.

### Methodology

First, take a look at the release of China's social responsibility report in the first half of 2019 [10].

From January 1, 2019 to June 30, China released 1,348 social responsibility reports (including social responsibility reports, sustainable development reports, environmental, social and governance reports, environmental special reports, etc.), among which, 1290 reports were issued by enterprises, accounting for 95.70%, 58 reports by non-enterprise organizations, accounting for 4.30%. Based on the total number of 1993 reports for 2018, 67.64% of enterprises and organizations have released reports (Table 1).

Table 1

Quantity and rate of each type of CSR reports in first half of 2019

Type of report	Quantity	Rate, %
Social responsibility report	933	76.10
Sustainability report	21	1.71
Environmental, social and governance reports	272	22.19
Else	16	1.31
Note that some reports are both social responsibility reports and environmental, social and governance reports		

From the perspective of enterprise industry, the manufacturing industry had the largest number of releases, with a total of 547, accounting for 44.62%. The financial industry, information technology, power, heat, gas and water production and supply industries accounted for 7.67%, 7.10% and 6.77% respectively.

As the main body of promoting social responsibility management, enterprises have accumulated rich practical experience in social responsibility management in the process of business operation, and based on this, they constantly improve their abilities to take on social responsibility, contributing to the development of social responsibility.

State-owned enterprises are the main body of the release of social responsibility reports, accounting for 55.13% in 2019. The proportion of reports issued by private enterprises has increased for three consecutive years, from 27.91% in 2017 to 32.42% in 2019 (Table 2) [17].

Table 2

**Proportion of corporate nature issued in 2017 and 2019**

Type of enterprises	Rate in 2017 %	Rate in 2019 %
State-owned	58.48	55.13
Private	27.91	32.42
Foreign-invested	9.91	8.65
Else	3.7	3.82

The report of China's central enterprises pays more attention to refer to international report preparation standards and guidelines. In 2019, reports prepared with reference to GRI standards increased by 11.51% year-on-year, and reports prepared with reference to ISO 26000, and the United Nations Global Compact increased by 8.47% and 2.91% year-on-year (Table 3) [12].

Table 3

**Proportion of central enterprises report in 2017–2019 reference to International Standards**

	2017	2018	2019
GRI Standard	58.33	58.33	69.84
ISO 26000	48.33	40.74	49.21
UN Global Compact	16.67	12.96	15.87
Note that some reports meet both GRI and ISO 26000 standards			

In recent years, more and more enterprises have attached importance to social responsibility, not only considering sustainable development and the concept of green and environmentally friendly production, but also increasingly attached importance to treating public welfare undertakings.

As a stakeholder, all interactions with the social system need to consider its social responsibility, and the services or products provided by the company must also have the attributes of social public goods. Of course, believing that the advancement of science and technology does not rule out *the possibility* that there will still be many companies who are profit-seeking and ignore corporate social responsibility. This requires the government and society to strengthen supervision and monitor of enterprises, and to restrict them through industry organizations and associations. This is also the reason why more and more enterprises have released social responsibility reports in recent years, and it is one of the feedbacks from enterprises on society.

The sustainable development of modern enterprises also needs to take advantage of technological tools and take the initiative to assume social responsibilities, thus, technology can benefit the society and the people, rather than becoming a destructive force for the common values of society.

## Results

The corporate social responsibility report cannot fully reflect the corporate social responsibility feedback. Charity alone is not enough. In recent years, there has been a wide-ranging annual event in China [17; 5].

So what does Chinese companies do to promote social responsibility?

“Public welfare day” is an annual public welfare activity initiated by Tencent public welfare together with hundreds of public welfare organizations, well-known enterprises, celebrities and creative communication organizations.

September 9, 2015 was China’s first public welfare day. The purpose of the public welfare day is to motivate millions of Internet users in China to participate in public welfare activities through small cash donations, “steps” and “voice” donations through innovative means such as mobile Internet and social networking.

How to do public welfare more openly and effectively is a topic that the entire industry and the public continue to pay attention to.

The impact of charity day cannot be underestimated. It can be said that this is the most important fundraising day for the public welfare in China.

In terms of fundraising amount, Tencent donates 390 million yuan in total [18], of which 290 million yuan is used as matching donation and 100 million is used as non-restricted matching donation, encouraging those projects and public welfare organizations with large amount and number of people to raise funds. In previous years, 390 million yuan was able to leverage 3 to 4 times of money, while this year, 390 million yuan was able to leverage 6 times of money, with a leverage ratio of 6.23 times, the highest in history. The main reason is that donations from the public doubled to 1.783 billion yuan from 830 million yuan last year, corporate endowments also rose from \$185 million to \$307 million (Table 4) [10].

Table 4

**Comparison of public welfare projects and amounts over 5 years**

	2105	2016	2017	2018	2019
People donates (in thousand)	2053	6788	12 680	28 000	48 000
Numbers of projects	2178	3643	6466	5498	—
Public donations (in million)	127.9	306	829.9	830	1783
Tencent matching donation (in million)	99.99	199.99	299.99	299.99+100	299.99+100
Corporate matching donation (in million)	—	101	177	185	307
Total donation (in million)	227.89	606.99	1306.89	1414.99	2490

Table 5

**Distribution of donation of caring partners of enterprises**

The enterprise allocates the contribution(in RMB)	Numbers of enterprises
(0–10 000)	146
10 000	459
(10 000–100 000)	538
100 000	83
(100 000–1 000 000)	187
1 000 000	17
(1 000 000–2 000 000)	12
(2 000 000–+)	14

There are great differences in the amount of donations allocated by enterprises, with the highest amount being 5.5 million yuan (Anta group) and the lowest amount being 2 yuan (there are 5 enterprises). The distribution of matching donations is uneven: the average is 110 000 / enterprise, the median is 20 000, and the mode is 10 000 (459 enterprises matching donations of 10 000) (Table 5) [13].

According to industry analysis, consumption ranks the first, and finance the second. The commonality is that most of them are c-end enterprises. In fact, the motivation of participation is mainly to engage consumers or to the public, so as to improve the brand reputation.

On the September 9, 2018 public welfare day, Tencent CEO Pony wrote in an email to all employees: "Make the September 9 public welfare day an eternal public welfare day. If the Internet public good is a product, its KPI and value never lie in the amount of fundraising, but how to stimulate people's goodwill and connectivity. While bringing a transparent and fun product experience, we bring together every little good intention to make users themselves and the world a better place. This is the original intention of the "September 9th Benefit Day"" [8].

### Discussion

In the 2017 Corporate Social Responsibility Report released by Tencent, it fully demonstrated the practice of "Tech For Good", taking the case of "September 9th Charity Day" as the best, and gradually tried to solve problems with innovative technological capabilities.

The annual activities of the Public Benefit Day for five consecutive years, whether for Tencent, for overseas companies, or even for individuals, all of them have a share to participate in charity. With the increase in the number of companies participating in the Charity Day on September 9, The doubling of the amount of corporate donations and public donations, and the increase in the frequency and number of social responsibility reports issued by Chinese companies, can be seen in the enhanced sense of personal and corporate social responsibility, in which case, "good work" is no longer an empty slogan.

We strongly agree with the concept of "September 9<sup>th</sup> Charity Day", that everyone can contribute to the public good and even a dollar can participate (this year's slogan is "do a good deed together"). Up to now, "9.9" after five years, has become the phenomenon of the public welfare in China public welfare products. All the time, public welfare day is facing the problem where it born, trapped in the public welfare. Outside of this phase, the percentage of people who know about charity day falls off a cliff. Therefore, how to get out of the burden and how to form effective fundraising after getting through it is an urgent problem to be overcome on public welfare day. The core of the answer should be to step out of the public welfare circle and stimulate the public's willingness to donate money through various ways (such as "buying paintings for one yuan") and gradually cultivate the public's donation habit (such as raising money by selling flags on the streets of Hong Kong).

As for the breaking of the circle, there are many attempts of Tencent public welfare this year, especially through Tencent's products and caring enterprises to expand, and also there are many advertisements in public places such as bus stations and subway stations. We think Tencent department of products and love enterprise development is the key, more effective than advertising. According to the data, the expansion of caring enterprises still has great potential to be tapped. However, only by solving the five problems mentioned above can more caring enterprises, especially big enterprises, be attracted to participate.

"The sole purpose of the existence of an enterprise is to create customers". The famous saying of the management master Peter Drucker is to examine the ability of the enterprise to meet the needs of society. Social needs are different in different periods, and diverse companies have different professional advantages. Generally speaking, the professional advantages of a company includes: capital, technology, talent, management, products and services. The more an enterprise attaches importance to its social responsibility, the more customers will believe in the product. This is exactly the cycle from enterprise to customer then to society and



to enterprise, which is in line with and promotes the sustainable development of the company and even society.

For companies, sustainable capabilities represent, to a certain extent, their future leadership capabilities. To be a “model” for fulfilling social responsibilities, it is necessary to create thinking and paths, and Tencent’s charity event, “September 9<sup>th</sup> Charity Day” is undoubtedly the most successful one, allowing all types of enterprises and even individuals to participate in charities and donations. Now the development of the Internet Increasingly fast, and it is an era of information and technology. Every whereabouts of corporate donations can be traced. China is a big country with a population of 1.4 billion. The small actions of bringing everyone together will bring about a huge difference and even affect the world.

In our opinion, September 9<sup>th</sup> public Benefit day should focus on the public welfare scenario. The principle of scene commonweal is to arouse the public’s empathy. In general, when a potential donor is immersed in a particular situation, it is easier to inspire empathy and act as a donor. At the beginning of this year’s public Benefit Day, there are some attempts of public welfare scenes, such as quick hand netizens participating in “Note Challenge” to donate music classroom in mountainous area, and WeChat game “Animal Restaurant” players can make nutritious lunch to obtain “love value” and support children’s nutrition improvement project. We think this idea can be used more for online and offline fundraising for non-public welfare people.

China’s enterprises have never been absent in many actions to promote global sustainable development. On October 24, 2019, at the first sustainable development forum, 16 companies including Alibaba Group, China Three Gorges Group, and Yili Group jointly issued the “Sustainable Development Enterprise Action Initiative” [8]. The “Responsible Competitiveness” in the five key words “Common Vision, Responsible Competition, Precision Practice, Cross-border Cooperation, and Shared Value” proposed in the “CSR2030 Initiative” is a world view and methodology of sustainable development, released with the UN Global Compact The basic spirit and practice path of the SDGs Corporate Action Guide [14] are highly consistent, advocating companies to actively integrate strategies, business practices and sustainable development goals, using SDGs to manage long-term risks, and discover new growth points.

At the beginning of Tencent’s public welfare development, Tencent established a technical team for public welfare projects. From the first “September 9<sup>th</sup> Public Benefit Day”, it only needed to support data transmission of hundreds of bytes per second to the introduction of dual cluster support for transmission Growth, by 2018, the charity team will introduce risk management and control mechanisms ... With the deepening of the project, more and more technical indicators are involved in the technical development of all donation processes on “September 9 Charity Day”, and the technical security is also far away. The continuous development of technology also indirectly unveils that Tencent’s “September 9 Public Benefit Day” project has become more and more grand and has become a public welfare event in China.

At the Second “Technology For Good” Forum in January 2019, Qiu Zeqi, a professor at the Department of Sociology at Peking University, gave a speech entitled “Digital Society · Internet Applications and Chinese Society for Twenty Years”. He said that in the past 20 years, the Internet has brought tremendous changes to Chinese society. At the same time, based on laws and mutual trust, the ecological prosperity of China’s digital society should be realized, the digital dividends should be inclusive, and then society should be realized. Maximize the total level of benefits [16].

In June 2016, the “Sustainable Development Economic Herald” and the “Goldenbee Global CSR2030 Initiative” launched by the Global Compact China Network jointly, both the proponents and partners formulated the initiative access mechanism and withdrawal mechanism together, and updated and announced the progress of the initiatives, maintaining the vitality and sustainability of the initiative [14].

Nowadays during the promotion of corporate social responsibility, the government, public welfare organizations and enterprises attach great importance to targeted poverty alleviation, which involves the goals of no poverty, zero hunger, quality education, good health and well-being, and gender equality [12; 10]. The company pays attention to carrying out business activities closely related to people's livelihood in a wider range of fields such as medical treatment, education, housing, science and technology according to its own business and industry characteristics. It takes advantage of technology and business to carry out various social projects, including this year. Activities that once affected China's "September 9 Public Benefit Day" and other activities have contributed to the welfare of women, children, farmers, and poor households.

With the mission of "Better City", Beijing Enterprises Group, through the integration of planning and design with the environment, industry, capital, and data, takes the comprehensive planning of urban clean energy, water resources, ecological environment, integrated transportation, underground space, and smart cities as the starting point. It plans to scientifically build an environment-friendly and resource-cycling future city where citizens can enjoy safer and more economical public services.

In the Initiative, one of the goals for 2030 is to strengthen the integration of cross-border resources, and drive a wider range of stakeholders such as partners, governments and social organizations in the value chain to fulfill their social responsibilities and form sustainable Developing synergy through joint effort [15].

### **Conclusion**

The "Technology For Good" concept pioneered by Tencent Group is not just out of corporate social responsibility and public welfare, it goes far beyond them. Corporate social responsibility helps alleviate the gap between the rich and the poor and eliminate the hidden danger of social unrest.

On the one hand, large and medium-sized enterprises can focus on capital advantage, management and human resources advantages for the development of the resources of the poor areas, as well as expand its production and operation, get the new growth point; can compensate for the lack of funds in poverty-stricken areas, solve the problems of the local labor and idle resources, help the local poverty to get rich. On the other hand, the enterprise can also help the people in underdeveloped regions to improve education, social security, medical and health undertakings, address both the local government due to the problems of difficult to investment funds, to help step by step backward area development of social undertakings, and improve enterprise's image and consumer acceptance, improve market share through the act of charity through public welfare advertisement effect.

From the first day of launching the "September 9th Public Benefit Day" project in 2015, Tencent Public Benefit hopes to make public welfare into a universal activity that everyone can participate in through interactive methods such as mobile Internet and socialization.

In the event planning, the Internet + public welfare gameplay of "September 9 Public Benefit Day" is completely different from traditional fundraising, from theme positioning to star promotion and promotion to help public welfare. There is no doubt that this project is more interesting in marketing and interaction, leading to various enterprises and the public taking the initiative to participate.

According to incomplete statistics, there are more than 2,000 public events on "September 9 Public Benefit Day". The role of social fission has become apparent year by year. During the "September 9th Charity Day" in 2015, the total number of participants was 450,000. By 2018, this number has rapidly increased to 24.6 million, a 54-fold increase [14].

Tencent's "September 9 Public Benefit Day" project initiated a new direction for the Internet public welfare model and became China's first Internet public welfare day. It not only affects corporate feedback on social responsibility, but also allows more business partners to contribute

to China's public welfare. Helping is also a platform for the society to provide "public welfare for everyone". With the support of new technology, it is more in line with the contemporary "Tech For Good" concept. "One good deed" practices public welfare for everyone, so that goodwill always shines. From a business perspective, the core value of business is to provide solutions to life problems, but not just for profit or for the development of the enterprise itself. According to this logic, technology in business actually expands the space of people. Unlike previous business technologies, Internet technology permeates all lifestyles: because it combines instrumental functions, business model functions, and lifestyle functions into one.

Nowadays, the market is very competitive. An enterprise that can survive in this fiercely competitive market should be able to achieve the following four points.

1. Provide good products or services.
2. Provide employment.
3. Making profit.
4. Meeting the standard of social expectations.

And achieving these four points precisely enables the enterprise to achieve sustainable development, the ultimate goal is to realize the expected value of society. As for the products of Chinese companies, Tencent's "September 9th Charity Day" is a very typical successful example. Before the emergence of Internet public welfare platforms, public welfare actions were mainly practiced by rich people, while ordinary people were difficult to participate in public welfare. This public welfare platform can build a bridge between strangers, let people directly help people, and let companies directly donate to projects, openly and transparently [9].

As an annual public welfare activity, the Public Welfare Day further promotes Chinese enterprises to fulfill their social responsibilities and expand their influence. We believe that the problems and challenges faced by September 9<sup>th</sup> Public Benefit in the past years will be solved in the future.

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## AR / VR Technologies and Their Applications in Procurement

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**Annotation:** *the article covers the phenomenon of virtual reality VR, in broader sense. The main purpose of the paper is to cover recent developments and prospects in the virtual reality, augmented reality, and application of such to the procurement if present. The methodology of the work comprised research of literature, deduction, induction, analogy. The results proved that the phenomenon is developing rapidly and will become widespread in the nearest future, however there could not be found sui generis instruments in procurement, opposed to sales and marketing.*

**Key words:** *Virtual Reality, VR, Augmented Reality, AR, Mixed Reality, MR, procurement, sourcing.*

**JEL classification:** *A100, A110, A130.*

### Introduction

All in all, the possibilities offered by VR & AR are significant. From medical to industrial applications, virtual reality solutions affect businesses in many sectors. A wide range of enterprises uses these transformative technologies to manage warehouse logistics processes, remote management and cooperation, security training, etc. This provides effective communication in various industries, streamlining the workflow and improving the decision-making process. Virtual (VR) and augmented reality (AR) technologies in production conquer new markets, offering a wide range of possibilities for use in the corporate and production environment.

### Methods

Currently, virtual reality technologies are widely used in numerous areas of human activities: from engineering and design, military and construction, marketing and advertising, to entertainment and simulations, etc. The volume of the virtual reality technology market was estimated at 15 billion dollars a year. There are three types of extended reality (xR): Virtual Reality (VR), Augmented Reality (AR), Mixed Reality (MR).

**Virtual reality (VR)** it is a virtual world that can be accessed using immersive devices – helmets, gloves, headphones. The virtual environment completely replaces the real world,

without responding to its changes, while the user can act on it, immersed, for example, in a video game.

To control a virtual reality helmet, plug-in devices such as joysticks or motion controllers are used. For contactless control of objects, both virtual reality gloves and tracking of hand movements carried out using cameras are used. The concept of controlling physical objects by the power of thought has been proved experimentally. For instance, “Neurable” technology is based on machine learning and electroencephalography. Such brain-computer interfaces can be considered as some kind of ideal future for AR/VR technologies.

**Augmented reality (AR)** is a medium, which is supplementing the physical world, as we see it, with digital data in real time using any devices – tablets, smartphones or others, and the software part. For example, Google Glass. Aiming systems in modern combat aircraft are also augmented reality. In augmented reality, virtual objects are projected onto the real environment.

**Mixed reality (MR)** this is the result of combining real and virtual worlds to create new environments and visualizations where physical and digital objects coexist and interact in real time. It exists not only in real or virtual form, but as a mixture of real and virtual reality, it encompasses augmented reality and augmented virtuality. The easiest way to interact with the device in mixed reality is to use hand gestures. Camera devices can track the movements of hands and fingers, and also use these movements as a direct guide to certain actions.

History of virtual reality. Virtual reality, for the needs of the present research, will encompass specific techniques of visualization and interaction with computer-generated environments, as opposed to the broader sense, akin attributed to in some studies [2] [14], wherein “virtual reality” is regarded contradicting to “conventional” reality. Before the era of computer technology, virtuality was understood as an object or state that does not really exist, but which can occur under certain conditions.

Ideas, corresponding the present phenomenon can be found as early as in the Plato’s “republic” namely in the allegory of the cave. The concept of virtual reality was originally proposed by Miron Krueger in the late 1960s. Stanislav Lem describes the artificial world, identical for the observers to ordinary reality but consorting with other laws of nature, by the term “Phantomology”. The first virtual reality system appeared in 1962: “sensorama”. In 1967, Ivan Sutherland designed the first helmet. By the 1970s, computer graphics completely replaced videography. In the mid-1980s, the user could interact with 3D objects by hands. Finally, by the 1989, the more popular term “virtual reality” was introduced by Jaron Lagnier.

**Results**

MR screens and hardware

As for 2020, video and optical displays are used. In the first case, one looks at the video from the cameras, and in the second, sees reality with a hologram artfully overlaid on top. Both options have their pros and cons.

**Video See-Through Display**

Most often this is a VR helmet with multiple cameras. Cameras capture the world around and stream the processed video into eyes. Pros and cons are outlined in the table 1.

Table 1

Features of Video See-Through Display

Advantages	Disadvantages
No additional cameras needed for position tracking	Video quality is lower than reality
Better tracking and the illusion of reality	The lag or spontaneous error can have horrific consequences
There is almost no calibration problem	User may become “sick”
-	Only one focal plane
-	High throughput of the device is required

Popular enhancements of See-Through Displays.

#### Eye Tracking

An eye tracker is used to determine the orientation of the optical axis of the eyeball in space. Eye trackers are used in studies of the visual system, psychology, and cognitive linguistics. Eye tracking uses a frame analysis of eye video or contact methods such as electrooculography.

#### Leap Motion [22]

The essence of Leap Motion technology is to track the movement of hands in a given space. The received information is processed using specialized software, after which the result of the actions taken is displayed on the monitor screen. The Leap Motion software is capable of recognizing the wrists, palms and fingers of two hands separately.

Foveated Imaging [19] is a digital image processing technique in which the resolution or amount of detail in an image differs according to one or more "fixation points". The fixation point indicates the area of the image with the highest resolution.

#### Optical See-Through Display

One looks at reality as if through ordinary glasses, and an additional picture is being superimposed by translucent mirrors, prisms, reflecting films, waveguides. The most famous representatives are: HoloLens, Google Glass and Magic Leap. Pros and cons are outlined in the table 2.

Table 2

Features of Optical See-Through Display

Advantages	Disadvantages
The user does not leave reality	Small viewing angle (FOV). A picture takes on average 35° from the usual 200° eye
No sickness	Very sensitive (i.e. hair, water etc.)
Screens can turn off and wake up when necessary, without turning reality into a black square	Low brightness
-	Glare (dazzle)

#### Types of Optical Displays.

Option 1: Reflective Prisms. Examples: Google Glass

A conventional projector (Liquid crystal on silicon, LCoS) shines on a prism that reflects everything in eye. The problem is that a big prism can't be put in glasses, thus the image always turns out to be small.

Option 2: Birdbath. Examples: ODG, Rokid Glass, Nreal Light.

Realization of an idea with a big prism. Only instead of a prism a translucent mirror and huge reflective hemispheres are used. Their big advantage was that they worked with any OLED display, and not just projectors. The rest, unfortunately, was a minus. Now almost all such glasses have died out.

Option 3: Waveguides. Examples: Hololens, Magic Leap, Rokid Vision, Vuzix Blade.

Today, waveguides are considered the most advanced technology. The waveguide conducts one ray of light from the source along a cunning trajectory to the right place on the lens of your glasses. It works on the principle of optical fiber. Light enters from one end and exits from the other, since everything is reflected from the walls inside. If you look at the optical fiber from the side, it is translucent and you will not see the light inside. The same is the lens of AR-glasses with waveguides inside – many of channels for light and pouch for their reflection in the eye. The main problem of waveguides at the moment: they are very difficult to produce. The percentage of defects in factories is huge, and the repeatability is low, which is why helmets are very expensive.

Option 4: Laser Beam Scanning (LBS). Examples: North Focals, Bosch Sensortec, Intel Vaunt.



If waveguides are our present, then LBS is the future. Here, a thin ray of light is deflected by a miniature Microelectromechanical system (MEMS) mirror and shines into the right place of a special film on the glasses, from where it is then reflected in your eye. While such gadgets are just beginning to appear and they have big problems with the picture. Also, the problem is that they do not have AR. So far, these are just glasses with notifications.

### **Position tracking**

The first task that must be solved using a VR or AR helmet: determining the position of oneself in space by six degrees of freedom (three rotation axes and three movements). Briefly, this is called tracking. There is a problem in tracking. To calculate the exact position in space, you need to know the dimensions of this space, and to calculate them (dimensions), you need to know your position.

The problem is usually solved indirectly. Firstly, tracking by specially printed marker pictures. The old method, but at the same time still ahead of other options in terms of accuracy. Useful for making AR-tables or AR-installations in, say, a museum. Secondly, tracking on external sensors. When you need to arrange several passive infrared beacons around the room, like on HTC Vive, in order to calculate the user's position in the room. Thirdly, the real solution, Simultaneous Localization and Mapping (SLAM).

SLAM [20; 16; 11] works as follows. It finds the defining (control) points in a video, determines the position relative to them, and then applies them (defining points) to its internally computed world map, constantly correcting and updating it. *Key frames* are also used here and are used to quickly understand whether this is the familiar place or a new location. SLAM is not one algorithm, but a common name for any algorithms that calculate the map and position on it, as if "inside" the observer.

SLAM can result in both a *dense* card and a *sparse* map. By analogy with a city map: sparse – this is when you marked only key objects on the streets, and dense – when you sketched each house down up to the number of windows. The most famous direct algorithms are DSO and LSD.

### **VR Framework**

Most VR developers use game engines such as Unreal Engine 4 (UE4) and Unity. These engines have a flexible and wide range of features and tools: engines control of the 3D environment, import content such as models, images, sounds and videos. Each has its own characteristics: UE4 is generally thought to be better optimized for calculations and give a more reliable picture. Unity is more intuitive and effective for beginners.

In addition to game engines, you can turn to the development of interactive VR-web pages. This can be done using Mozilla's A-Frame markup language, using JavaScript, HTML5 and/or WebGL. Similar experiments are underway in Chrome and Mozilla. Web development allows you to display VR content directly on smartphones, so you don't need expensive additional equipment. Also, you do not have to compile or package the code. There is also a Vizor VR-scene editor that allows you to draw on your computer and view from mobile devices.

### **AR Framework**

The main feature that Apple ARKit [21] is praised for is the most stable tracking on the market. Jumping objects are found in ARKit by orders of magnitude less than in the rest. Even one-color planes such as tables or walls are recognized normally, which was previously considered the difficult task.

Over three years, ARKit has released three versions: 1.0. Basic functionality like tracking, basic Light Estimation and plugins for Unity; 2.0. Added cubic environment maps, loading and saving models, face tracking, object recognition, and several features to the reflection type render; 3.0 Normal multiplayer, People Occlusion, RealityKit. Old iPhones unsupported. Pros and cons are outlined in the table 3.



Table 3

**Features of ARKit**

<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
Very stable tracking	It predicts only shadows and brightness
Object Recognition and People Occlusion	Cannot overlap objects. Only people
Peer-to-peer multiplayer. It works without the Internet	Only one platform

**Google ARCore**

Unlike ARKit, which tries to do everything on the device, Google works through its clouds. That's why ARCore can do the best in "real" dense mapping, object recognition, relocalization, and even multiplayer, because it does it on servers. Pros and cons are outlined in the table 4.

Table 4

**Features of ARCore**

<b>Advantages</b>	<b>Disadvantages</b>
Has everything that has ARKit	The "right" smartphone is needed for ARCore to work really well.
Works much better with object lighting	-
Relocalizes faster when lost	-
Occlusion of objects	-

Mixed Reality ToolKit (MRTK) overtakes its peers by features, integrates with everything (ARKit + ARCore + Unity), plus its code is completely open sourced. The Mixed Reality ToolKit can do everything that ARKit and ARCore can do, plus:

1. Powered by a bunch of platforms.
2. Able to track hands and pupils of the eyes.
3. Provides a UI library for creating virtual forms and sliders that can be moved with bare hands.
4. 3D mapping environment and boxed out of the box.
5. Integrates with all popular engines from Unity to Unreal Engine.
6. One can write regular 2D applications on standard Windows frameworks.

Vuforia, Wikitude, Kudan [17]. There are dozens of cross-platform frameworks under a commercial license on the market. These are the three most popular applications in descending order on the App Store and Google Play. By a set of features, they are not inferior to the abovementioned. Each has its own SLAM, Light Estimation, OpenGL renderers and plugins for Unity.

The Passport of National project of National program "Digital Economy of the Russian Federation" highlights the improvement of virtual and augmented reality systems [24]; The road map of development of a "through" digital technology "technologies of virtual and augmented reality" adopted in 2019 defines the development horizon of the technologies under consideration until 2024.

The priority sectors for the application of AR/VR technologies and subtechnologies that are important for social development and economic growth are:

- education and corporate training;
- industry and construction;
- healthcare;
- mass consumer services [23].

As rightfully represented in the aforementioned program, the technology in deeply intercorrelated with other leading-edge fields of study, namely DL/ML [15].

The report of year 2019 shows that, as per projections by the experts, the top three most prioritized fields of investment directed to the development of AR/VR/MR/XR technology by the end of 2021 would have been the following (see table 5).

Table 5

**The most prominent sectors, experts' views**

Sector	%
Gaming	54
Healthcare and medical devices	43
Military and defense	36
Manufacturing and automotive	28
Movies and television	20
Live events (e.g., sports, concerts)	17
Workforce development	15
Education	15
Marketing and advertising	13
Retail/ecommerce	11
Real estate (e.g. virtual showings, construction)	9
Other	1

One of the compendious sources is the comprehensive book by S. Aukstakalnis, which covers the entire basics of the sphere in general and is sufficient for initial studying thereof [1]. Another fundamental study, covering classification and developing theoretical approaches to the matter, proposes taxonomy model for AR [12].

Augmented reality (AR) is traditionally viewed as instrument in the scope of sales [3; 8; 10]. Disclosed therein are augmented reality (AR) devices, systems and methods that facilitate the purchase of one or more items or products at a retail location [7].

AR in logistics is another prominent field of application [4], as well as in supply chain management [9].

Prominent examples can be found in construction sphere. To demonstrate how building information modeling (BIM) and AR can be integrated and used on-site, this [...] presents a number of examples that focus on the following areas [13]:

1. Interdependency;
2. Spatial site layout collision analysis and management;
3. Link digital to physical;
4. Project control;
5. Procurement: material flow tracking and management;
6. Visualization of design during production.

The Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems in e-procurement are generally applied to planning, purchasing, production and logistics therein. To create a mapping, BIM may fetch information from ERP by a barcode or a Radio Frequency identification (RFID) tags placed on real objects. In turn to visualize such mapping, AR is used.

While presenting powerful tool another research focuses on the technologies and methodologies of prolific sales, in views of seller predominant beneficiary [6]. This paper aims to offer a better understanding of these concepts and integrate technological (embodiment), psychological (presence), and behavioral (interactivity) perspectives to propose a new taxonomy of technologies, namely the "EPI Cube" (Fig. 3). Additionally, the EPI Cube is a valuable tool

for managers since they can choose the most suitable technology for their marketing strategy to achieve their strategic and business goals.

Devices can be classified by the degree of “internality” (Fig. 1). Reality-virtuality continuum distinguishes pure artificially created simulation (VR) and real world, with all possible combinations and conditions in between (Fig. 2).

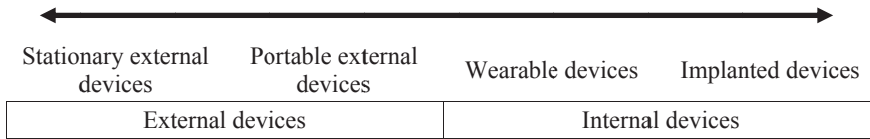


Figure 1. Classification of technological devices according to degree of embodiment

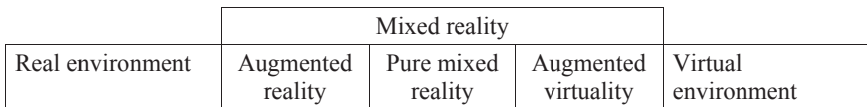


Figure 2. Reality-virtuality continuum

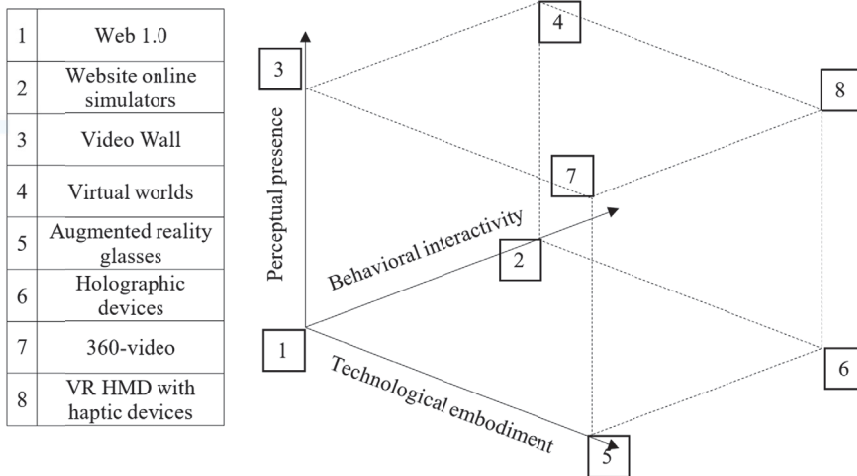


Figure 3. The “EPI Cube” and associated extreme examples

### Discussion

Industrial Augmented Reality (IAR) is applying Augmented Reality to support an industrial process [5] The major applications of AR, VR and pertaining technologies in industry is widely covered in specialized literature. We shall list, as deduced from the literature scrutinized, the most prominent fields of application of AR/VR/MR/XR (not in the order of importance):

1. Product Design;
2. Manufacturing;
3. Assembly Guidance;
4. Training;
5. Commissioning: Validation and Documentation;
6. Inspection and Maintenance;
7. Revamping and Decommissioning;
8. Commerce (marketing);
9. Logistics;

#### 10. Supply chain management.

The implementations of AR/VR in procurement has not yet seen its summit. Notwithstanding, such area is prone to adoption of named technologies, considering ubiquity of them in e-commerce and in marketing. [...] the user turning a printed page in a catalog or scrolling a website for an ink pen, AR technology would bring the “catalog to life” and allow the user to hold the pen in their hand before making the purchase. Such proposal is only one example of applicable usage of the technology.

The main positive outcomes of AR/VR implementation appear to be as follows:

1. Simplification, clarification of documentation for the purchase;
2. Identification, ascertainment of the needs of the buyer;
3. Elimination (or contraction) of faulty purchases, insufficient for the needs of the purchaser, or unacceptable for his constraints.
4. Decreasing of logistical complexity and time consumption;
5. Elucidation of presale and post-sale service;
6. Simplification of delivery and installment;
7. Negotiating process simplified (teleconference);
8. Visualisation.

As stated in a research by the year 2025 the industry will continue to grow and eventually it will be seen not only in B2C, but in B2B and B2G more often than not [18]. In general, there are not many intrinsic features, unique for the procurement; virtually all approaches covered in the theoretical papers and in practical articles are relevant to it. With further development of technologies in question the industry will see further and broader implementations of the former. Such propositions are arbitrary for the time being and are needed to be further testified and verified.

#### Conclusion

The article covers the phenomenon of virtual reality (in the broader sense), its technological base, theoretical grounding, typical executions in industry, statistical data and forecasts of the near future. The prospects are auspicious, the field for research is fruitful. Nonetheless, the scientific sphere has not yet faced a considerable contemplation of VR in procurement and sourcing and is not bearing much research on its own. The conventional approaches, typical for marketing, sales, e-commerce in general etc., are proposed to be relevant to a certain degree to the sphere in question. Moreover, present paper did not cover any possible controversial or purely negative outcomes.

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## Problems of Formation of Cultural and Educational Competences Among Performers on Folk Instruments

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**Annotation:** *in order to have successful concert and pedagogical activities, the musician-instrumentalist must have cultural and educational competences which are important for his profession, including the ability to lead a concert, to tell fascinatingly and cognitively about the performed musical works, to motivate the audience to the active perception of music, to select a repertoire and to develop a concert program in accordance with the aesthetic needs of the public and the educational goals of the cultural event, to communicate with all participants of the creative process, to form an aesthetic taste and to organize cultural and creative activities of different parts of society. In practice, however, there are too little time devoted to these competencies, and most of disciplines is spent on universal, general professional and special performing competencies related to the skills of playing the folk instruments and stage behavior of musicians. Meanwhile the musical art was given the most important educational and developing role in folk culture of Russia. In conditions of entertainment mass culture promoting pleasure and bright impressions, the performer of folk instrumental music, which has become a very distant sphere for modern man of the globalization and digitalization epoch, is extremely difficult to attract listeners with folklore and convince of the importance of values reflected in traditional art.*

**Key words:** *musician-performer, professional competencies, folklore, folk instruments, cultural and educational skills.*

**JEL classification:** *I200, I290.*

### Introduction

The process of formation of the musician-performer personality, playing the folk instruments (psaltery, balalaika, accordion, domra, horns, etc.) in the educational environment of the university is aimed to preparation of the specialist for successful performing career, effective pedagogical and cultural and educational activities. Two main directions of development

of folk instrumental performing art can be highlighted on the modern concert variety: they are creativities of professional state orchestras of folk instruments and ensembles of authentic style, in the performance of which the folk instrumental music sounds in an initial condition (as far as it is possible in modern sociocultural conditions), thanks to that regional performing styles, manners of playing, and traditional repertoire (authentic tunes and melodies) are preserved. Musicians of both kinds of collectives have active concert activities, which are primarily characterized by educational and developing goals. Folk music today is not the object of entertainment culture: it translates traditional values and involves listeners in the national culture treasure, so performs a high educational mission like no other kind of musical art, carries the light of truth, which indicates to mankind the path to immortality [4; 5; 7; 9].

The need to study this problem is due to the difficult processes of the folk musical tradition functioning in the modern sociocultural space. Despite the obvious fact that the impact of the folk culture values on man motivates him to the active development of his spiritual component, the educational potential of folklore is not used enough in modern concert and performance practice. The involvement in the folk culture, national values and common traditions elevates the younger generation to the level of high moral qualities of mankind. In the 20<sup>th</sup> century folk traditions should have priority in the development of a highly moral, aesthetically-formed personality [11; 14; 15; 18].

It should be noted that popular culture has unique features, including identity, natural educational character, ability to contact with culture of other peoples, synthesis of elements of pagan and Christian culture, moral and spiritual emotional message, inextricable connection with nature, with habitat, with mentality of people. The customs and traditional systems of each nation are the result of centuries of cultural and creative efforts. Thanks to this system, each people recreates themselves in a number of generations, in their spiritual culture, in character and psychology. All this is transmitted to listeners of folk music concerts in the singing and playing the musical instruments [10; 12; 13; 17; 23; 24]. However, the educational mission of the musician-performer goes to the background in the conditions of the market economy, which affects the organization of concerts of folk music and first of all requires the payback and profitability of the event.

This is the main problem of modern concert practice: what are the prospects of using the spiritual and moral potential of folk music in aesthetic education of children and young people; what are the principles of selection of concert repertoire for modern listeners by musicians-instrumentalists, what is the educational function of folk music, are the graduates of professional music educational institutions capable and ready to effective educational activities, inextricably connected with their concert and performance work and at the same time originally laid in Russian musical folklore?

### **Methods**

The methodological basis of the study of the problem is the principles of historicism, studying the educational process, observation of work experience and analysis of the works of outstanding teachers and psychologists in the field of folk artistic culture, analysis of philosophical and pedagogical approaches to the formation of spiritual and moral foundations of the individual.

The spiritual and moral education of the person has been the subject of scientists' research during many centuries. Ancient philosophers argued that music is a condition of the spiritual and moral formation of the individual. A great contribution to the teaching of spiritual and moral development of man, his highest mental capabilities was made by psychologists B.G. Ananyev, L.S. Vygotsky, S.L. Rubinstein, D.B. Elkonin and others. The theory of personality formation in the spiritual and moral aspects was considered in the research of theorists and practitioners of Soviet pedagogy V.A. Sukhomlinsky, K.D. Ushinsky and others.

Such scientists as N.I. Anufrieva [2], V.M. Shchurov [22], N.N. Gilyarova [8], A.V. Rudneva [19] and many others played an important role in understanding the educational potential



of folklore. Studies on the history and theory of Russian musical traditions reflected the principles that formed the basis of the process of training the professional performers who master the folk manner of performance. L.N. Rupakova [20], L.P. Sarayeva [21] and others researched philosophical and cultural aspects of Russian musical folklore. L.N. Tolstoy wrote about the importance of spiritual-moral and aesthetic education. He believed that spiritual power was identical to that of thought, and that thought should have a vector on creation, consent, and love. In this process it was always important to involve in the popular culture. The re-creation of folklore rites on the stage, the sound of instrumental tunes and songs reflecting the history and culture of the people, serve as a means of forming and awakening a national-patriotic feeling of men. These actions involve people in the atmosphere of Russians life, make it close to historical and cultural heritage, give an opportunity to feel the connection and continuity of generations.

### Results

Today it is obvious that future musicians-performers need to study modern methods and forms of cultural and educational activities, ensuring integration of knowledge and skills, as well as obtaining practical experience. It is an extensive field for the development and realization of personal abilities and professional skills of students. It is extremely diverse, contains many "roles" embodied by the participants, as well as varied in forms, content, directions. Musical and educational activity develops in Russian culture many decades; it represents the special type of activity directed to dissemination of knowledge about music, getting the people to know the best examples of world musical culture and closely connected with issues of education, development, and esthetics. Education as process is aimed for the formation of consciousness focused on eternal values, eternal meanings, it is a process of involvement in cultural and universal human values. In a philosophical sense, it is a way for man to realize himself as a value part of the world around him. Mastering the works of a different epochs, we identify hidden meanings due to semantics and semiotics of art and understand that artists, musicians, poets wanted to say anything serious about Man and the World in all centuries.

At the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries there was transformation and reorientation of sociocultural development, connected with active use of scientific and technological achievements and information technologies [16]. There was a reassessment of values, new priorities and goals of human and social activity arose, the cultural vacuum of the 1990s and 2000s led to a change of mentality. In the fast flow of innovations, which gives confidence in the intelligence almighty and comprehensive knowledge of the world, man has broken away from his past, from the traditional way of life, from spiritual values transmitted from generation to generation in the folk art. The questions of a moral nature have increasingly begun to arise in the new realities; they have updated the problem of the spiritual and moral potential of man and the means of its development. The importance of traditional values, which serve as a moral guide in the life of society, has increased; mankind has felt the need for the most human quality – for spirituality.

Spirituality determines the level of human development and self-awareness, which is based on higher human values. The scientists often connected the "spirituality" with such foundations of society, which are embodied in moral values and traditions, and had a reflection in religious teachings and practices, as well as in artistic images and senses. Morality is a combination of the intents, world view and morality of a person, which directly affects his behavior and interaction with society. Development of spirituality and morality happens in the process of educational and developing work. Concert and educational activity is one of the most effective forms of spirituality and morality forming, reflected in folk vocal and instrumental music.

Involvement of a new generation to the song-instrumental traditions of its people, to the culture of its region, to musical folklore is understood by modern society as a vital process that reveals the spiritual and moral potential of society. Concert activity has always had priority



among other forms of educational work: art, including folklore, more quickly finds a way to the heart and soul of the younger generation due to its aesthetic pleasure which listeners receive in perception process. The concert also refers to leisure and entertainment sphere, so it attracts the public more than, for example, a lesson or a lecture.

There is a certain relationship between creativity, music, art and spiritual and moral values, life guidelines and goals. In modern times, the younger generation, regarding folk music with indifference and misunderstanding, does not identify itself with the Russian people and the Russian traditions [6; 8]. In the circle of interests and hobbies of the current youth there is practically no place for folk and spiritual music, sounding of traditional folk instruments. It is hoped that the younger generation will be able to save an informed attitude and interest in folklore thanks to the genetic code embedded in everyone's subconscious. However, more than one generation of Russians was disconnected from national traditions, and current students-musicians, unfortunately, are as far from folklore and its educational and developing potential as graduates from educational institutions 5 and 10 years ago. N.N. Bogdan and G.V. Kasyanenko wrote in their article that values are not formed in order; they are the achievement of repeated self-analysis [3]. Practical mastery of the spiritual world should begin in only childhood, but the childhood of our contemporaries is devoted to computer games, social networks, and entertainment.

The child, studying various types of creativity, is also acquainted with the culture of the people. Folklore contains a synthesis of artistic creativity and philosophy, which were in old times mastered by people from the early years, but this practice is very rare in modern Russian families. The education system today allows forming musical and performing skills, having started training to play the instruments at any age, but modern musician must form educational competences together with the performing ones, otherwise his concert activity is desecrated and will be reduced only to the entertainment for the public and receiving the profit. And this is part of show business, not art. Art arose primarily for the education goals, for the formation of aesthetic taste and creative attitude to the world, for using the spiritual and moral potential of the individual, improvement and enrichment of society.

Traditional folk culture reflects an artistic and philosophical idea of the inextricable connection between national unity and productive life of society. From an educational point of view, the folk musical tradition in its modern state serves as a spiritual and moral resource in the social, intellectual and creative development of young people. Folk instrumental music is one of the solutions of the organizing problem of human cognitive activities. Folklore traditions store knowledge about the norms and rules of interpersonal and group interaction, ideals and models of communication, behavior, attitude towards close people. Studying and mastering such traditions through music in the concert halls allows understanding this information and adapting it to own life. Musical folklore in the educational process allows a person to understand and master spiritual and moral guidelines of national culture, to become interested and respected in the main value guidelines of people, develops creative potential necessary for adaptation of traditional musical genres in the modern sociocultural environment. All these possibilities of instrumental folklore should be the subject of careful study by students of musical universities preparing to become concert performers of folk instrumental music, and therefore, not only variety artists, but educators.

### **Discussion**

At present, there is a vital need to address the folk music not only as a subject of historical and ethnographic research, but also as a powerful means of spiritual and moral education. But the problem is that the "carriers" of folklore tradition – professional performers, playing the folk instruments, and folk singers – are not ready to use the educational potential of musical folklore in their activities. It is possible and necessary to introduce folklore at concerts, lectures, festive events, classes in schools and clubs for children from an early age. Folk music like nothing

else is able to impact to a person aesthetic taste and creative attitude to the world since the childhood, satisfy people's need for beauty and perfection. Instrumental music gives energy charge and emotional liberation, gives a sense of joy, "tones up" nervous and muscular systems of the human body.

In modern times spiritual revival began, sincere interest in folk creativity and folklore traditions appeared in society. The realization of educational potential of folklore takes place in four directions: moral, patriotic, labor and aesthetic. Folklore gives the opportunity to reproduce the necessary moral and spiritual values by its means and forms, draws young people to the spiritual roots of our people. Folklore content becomes an effective means of transferring labor, practical and cognitive experience; a way to preserve the traditions and history of the family, the tribe's people, the community, and the whole nation. Knowing and understanding folklore, we can engage in dialogue with our close friends and with those who lived centuries ago. Folk musical creativity is a legacy of many generations of unknown singers, storytellers, skilled masters-instrumentalists. Instrumental tunes preserved the identity of the national character and reflected the national Russian mentality.

Modern forms of concert and educational activities include concerts-lectures, debates, interactive talks and other similar forms. A lecture is a form of musical education that is most often a "story" about music. Musical works often serves as examples, explanation in the form of illustration. The lecture concert suggests a greater volume of musical component in relation to the word. An important feature of this form is the construction of the concert, in which the listener, together with the lecturer, looks for answers to the problem questions posed, actively perceives the musical works performed. Quite differently the role of the host at the concert-debate is considered. The main component of such a concert is a discussion on any topic regarding musical art. In this form of concert, contact with the audience is most important. All participants of the musical and educational event reveal how they experience a musical work, what feelings the performed music causes, and what deep meanings open at this moment. One of the popular forms of educational work in modern times has become a quest. It is a form of games that require participants to solve problems in the process of developing a certain plot. Performance is an unusual and fascinating kind of quest. In performance, the game is that participants need to answer the question of whether to find a way out or a solution by completing many tasks, as well as achieving a certain goal.

A concert in the form of a conversation as a type of musical and educational activity is considered a standard [1]. This form of educational activity implies a balanced relationship between music and words. The listeners are active participants in the discussion of any issues, the direction of which is usually determined by the concert's leader. The concert with comments suggests the primacy of music, the word is auxiliary. Often the performer comments himself, tells, talks, explains, placing accents and opening some new facets for the audience. The program of the concert is built in such way as to unite the performed works with any theme or idea. Additional information sources (booklets, programs with annotations, etc.) can be used in such concerts.

The involvement of the young generation in the traditions of their people and culture of their region is understood by modern society as a vital problem that reveals their spiritual and moral potential. The future of humanity depends on value priorities. In the spectrum of interests and hobbies of the modern youth there is practically no folk and spiritual music, sounding of traditional folk instruments. Pedagogical practice shows the insufficient level of ownership of college and university students with a set of competences that are necessary to carry out in practice the tasks of professional musical, performing, cultural and educational activities, after all future concert performers generally cannot compose a fascinating repertoire or explain why a particular play is needed in a concert program, are unable to prepare an essay about a favorite performer on folk instruments, or list features of authentic music performance in a given region,

etc. High artistic perfection and accessibility to perception have made folklore an important means of education and learning.

A group of concerts dedicated to a single theme and having a common concept is defined as a cyclical form of musical and educational activity. This form includes not only a cycle of concerts, but also a musical ticket, a project, a festival. The cyclical principle implies a gradual, logically constructed deployment of the theme throughout the group of concerts. If a series of concerts of different topics is organized according to a single principle, such a form will refer to the form of a season ticket. In addition, it is possible to highlight a series of educational events: music lecture, cultural project, concert marathon, festival. Due to the scale of such projects, their organization requires some training of all participants, a lot of experience. Such forms are mostly implemented by professional organizations. Forms such as a charity and public concert are also fairly common.

### **Conclusion**

The involvement of the young generation in the traditions of their people and culture of their region is understood by modern society as a vital problem that reveals their spiritual and moral potential. The future of humanity depends on value priorities. In the spectrum of interests and hobbies of the current youth there is practically no folk and spiritual music, sounding of traditional folk instruments. Pedagogical practice shows the insufficient level of college and university students' mastery the competences that are necessary to solve the tasks of professional musical, performing, cultural, and educational activities. Future concert performers generally cannot compose a fascinating repertoire or explain why a particular play is needed in a concert program; they are unable to prepare an essay about a favorite performer of folk instrumental music, or describe features of authentic music performance in a given region, etc. Nowadays, the problem of applying the modern methods of creative implementation of folklore traditions is particularly acute, and purposeful work on adaptation of folklore material for modern variety is necessary in conditions of loss of cultural ties. High artistic perfection and accessibility of perception have made folklore an important means of education and learning.

At concerts of professional players the folk instruments there is a wide acquaintance of the public with folk instrumental tradition. Of course, forms of concert and educational activities such as musical lectures, concerts with comments, interactive and problematic forms, etc., are more acceptable to the modern listener. The insufficient development of concert and educational activities today is due to the lack of the population's interest, the absence of specialists in concert and educational activities and the low qualification of specialists of cultural institutions, including musicians-performers themselves. Hence the task of professional training of concert artists, including accumulation of quality concert repertoire, continuously and fully developing musical and imagine thinking of performers, and formation of educational competences. Training of specialists in concert and educational work in educational institutions is also effective. However, the formation of professional competences through the development of practical abilities and creative skills in the field of cultural, educational and concert-performing practice should be supported by the richest spiritual, moral and philosophical-aesthetic content based on domestic traditions of musical art and education.

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## Social and Psicho-Pedagogical Conditions for the Acquisition of Professional Skills of a Modern Vocalist in Open Educational Stipulations

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**Annotation:** *this article is devoted to one of the most acute issues in preparing modern pop vocalists for stage performance at a professional level. Among the analysed factors are the competitive environment influences and socio-pedagogical aspects that stimulate vocalists towards active, creative growth and self-education in the conditions of a modern information society.*

*Socio-psychological aspects include individual personality traits. The article discusses the positive as well as negative aspects of the social conditions for the development of a creative personality, which must be taken into account in the pedagogical practice of training the modern pop vocalists.*

*Also, the article examines the influencing factors of an aggressively competitive environment and the processes of creating a favourable social climate that unites the creative youth and nurtures an atmosphere of interaction between colleagues from all around the world. The article analyses both internal (psychological) and external (social) conditions, which are increasingly significant in the modern information society. The author sets out a goal of revealing the axiology mechanisms and updating the open education system.*

**Key words:** *personality, conditions, environment, psyche, society, competitive environment, open education.*

**JEL classification:** *I200, I290.*

### Introduction

The gravity of the problems within the modern musical pedagogy lies in the recognition of psychological processes and the identification of the laws governing the formation of a favourable socio-cultural environment for the active creative and professional development of young vocalists. The fundamental quality that shapes the identity of a modern person in the conditions of the information society and open education is the ability to learn, which is determined by the desire to develop and accumulate knowledge in both theoretical and practical fields.

Given the realities of the modern world, education requires a different approach to the culture of comprehending new knowledge and its systematisation.

We are forced to admit that the system of pedagogical influence on the student has changed drastically. Open education should be considered primarily as a process of self-education of an individual and the formation of internal creative productivity on the path to self-realisation within the information society.

Modern information and communication technologies (ICT), such as the Internet and the mobile phone network, provide each user with global informativeness – as in, consumption of any information developed by mankind at any given time, in any format desired (text, audio, video) [21].

There are numerous electronic resources available in the public domain that are of great cultural significance (full-text libraries, virtual museums, interactive foreign language lessons, etc.).

It is traditionally acceptable to use the terms, Net Generation, or Generation Millennium, or Millennials, or Digital Natives [6] when referring to those born in 1980–2000, since they grew up using the Internet and various electronic gadgets that fundamentally changed the information mentality. Adjusted for a slight lag when it comes to Russia in this regard, it can be stated that only in recent years a stream of students of this category has taken to the Russian schools and universities and a few young teachers belonging to that same generation have now appeared [16].

Studies conducted in the USA show that about 75% of respondents (students and university graduates) occasionally turn to open electronic courses because of their availability. 45% are interested in courses that don't exist or were not available in the university where the respondents studied, but they are needed for career growth. Finally, only about 6% indicated that the electronic course is integrated with the one currently being studied at the university and recommended by the teacher [13]. We think that such studies to a large extent can be applied to specialized musical academies. It cannot be denied that the representatives of the artistic professions need experience of performing on stage – this practical component of the learning process excludes isolation from the community of colleagues, teachers and spectators, but the process of learning and acquiring skills itself can be enclosed and limited to distance learning in electronic format.

In our view, the individual characteristics of the socio-cultural climate of those who are studying is an important psychological factor, as well as the formation of favourable conditions for overcoming psychological, linguistic and financial barriers during the learning process.

The Difficulty in studying this problem lies in the fact that all the above components should be taken into account when considering it – “personal”, “socio-cultural” and “psychological”. Moreover, the impact of the socio-cultural environment upon the contemporary performer, as well as the formed behavioural patterns and psychological stereotypes within the learning process in the given environment as a whole should be equally significant.

In our opinion, the atomisation of society, which is gaining strength and the active growth of individualisation in the modern world is taking place against the background of an overwhelming influence of mass culture patterns, creates an unfavourable environment for the development of a creative personality and a bright individuality.

If the requirements of the socio-cultural environment are not taken into account during the preparation for an active stage performance, there could be a skew towards shocking behaviour and bad taste, which can affect the professional and artistic level of performers skill extremely negatively. In this regard, the independent work of young vocalists which happens online must have its logical continuation in the form of personal contact and work with a mentor in an offline mode. This is possible both in full-time, part-time and distance learning in the university environment, and outside of it.

### **Methodology**

We are living in a new pedagogical reality, and an open education system has already firmly entered our line of sight. In its development, modern society moved on to a new stage in the informatization of education, when the problems of informational-communicational interactions became relevant.



The human perception of information algorithms is built differently in the traditional education system in comparison to the open. The principle of world cognition itself has undergone significant changes, especially in the presence of a huge flow of information. This implies the development of the ability to operate with information in a dynamic environment, including occurrences in society, science, and the profession – all this creates a space of constantly changing cultural strata, on which an active modern personality that is integrated into society “manoeuvres”.

We believe that a free development of a personality, the discovery of its creative potential and individuality is a fundamental factor within an open education system in the field of developing vocal performance skills. The open education system allows everyone to carry out a controlled educational process, independently determining its intensity, working on an individual schedule with a flexible definition of the time and place for their classes. At the same time, thanks to a highly developed modern network and multimedia technologies, as well as software capabilities, constant contact can be upheld with the teacher and students progress in learning the material can be verified by statistics. It is also important that open education allows conducting formative activities not only through traditional educational institutions but also in the alternative commercial institutions that are working in the cultural and social spheres.

An open model of education is emerging as a result of the evolution of social processes in the current round of informational development of mankind. These processes are less dependent on state policy towards the field of education, rather being a logical response to an objectively existing demand, formed by an active, modern individual.

An open international education system contributes to the integration of national educational systems into a single international space, and this, in turn, leads to cooperation and mutual enrichment. Neither the differences in the language environment nor variations in professional terminology will interfere with the international educational exchange of information. On the contrary, such practice is capable of providing a new leap in quality in the improvement and enrichment of the educational process.

The basic socio-psychological characteristics of each person are innate. This determines the need for taking the student's temperament into account – introvert or an extravert personality. Individual characteristics of human nature will inevitably affect behavioural responses and individual traits of a creative person, while their role in the learning process is often underestimated, which in turn, leads to a negative emotional state of the performer [5; 14; 23].

It is obvious for us that for the swift implementation of effective new technologies, we need trained professionals who are capable of supporting the production processes of open training, and more and more of them are now appearing. Already, open education technologies are being widely used in modern teaching practices. Confirming this is the massive interest in educational Internet channels and thematic websites. If the student has not grasped something in a classroom, they can cover on their own in the form of online lessons or webinars. All this confirms the validity of the above-mentioned processes occurring in our society and testifies to the manifestation of a motive-backed action on behalf of a modern person on the path to learning new things.

We understand that in the open education system higher requirements are applied to the student since the system requires a different quality of readiness for learning. Hard work, motivation, discipline, self-control – all the skills needed for independent work should be at a high level. It is important to objectively evaluate the starting level of a student's knowledge, and the basic set of skills already acquired by them, and the physical/technical capability of the workplace. Due to unequal starting conditions, the factor of social inequality can have an effect, however, unfortunately, this is inevitable in the modern world. There

is a big gap between elite education and that for the masses. The goal of the open education system is to minimise that gap and help people improve their informational and professional culture without condemning them to additional expenses.

The information delivery system in open education provides feedback and support for the teacher, which is usually difficult within the framework of traditional teaching methods. Of course, personal contact is of great importance, but the dialogue between the student and teacher is not always productive. Most important is for the student to be motivated to acquire knowledge and ability to self-organise since the lack of constant control for many acts as a positive impetus. Modern Internet platforms have training channels where the material is delivered an accessible and talented way. It should be emphasised that this is already an everyday reality for the students, which in turn, serves as an impetus for the development of learning modules and control systems to measure the learning process.

To date, researchers in the field of teaching methods based on modular training programmes have accumulated results that are extremely important for the development of professional studio and concert practices for a modern vocalist.

The fundamental factor and the key to success is the internal and external motivation, the pedagogical and educational function in motivating the student goes by the wayside in that regard. The interactive approach to communication between the student and the teacher helps to establish contact, and additionally between the students themselves. At the same time, the authority of the teacher does not diminish, and on the contrary, moves to a different level: mentoring as a type of individual and personal companionship and support of the student. The student becomes independent in solving individual professional problems while operating with the support of a teacher [12].

#### **Online Learning Modules**

The technological approach of modular online learning is naturally developing on the basis of traditional methods, but this evolution is taking place due to changes in the social systems and scientific and technological progress.

Researchers in the field of modular technology formulate the objectives of modular learning as follows:

- 1) the main goal is to achieve high-level results.
- 2) comfortable pace for the student.
- 3) self-determination of the trainees' own abilities.
- 4) flexible construction of content to be learned.

Thus, the modular approach is, in fact, an intensive way to solve educational goals [1]. In this regard, we are convinced that it is important to create online training modules for vocalists with different basic knowledge. Starting with the introductory (fact-finding) all the way to the professional. Such a well-planned developmental approach will allow forming sustainable singing skills based on the existing or newly acquired theoretical knowledge.

The widespread use of mobile and cloud-based modern information communication technologies (ICT), masses of open online courses determine the process of integration into the educational environment of specialised secondary and higher educational institutions – universities of a new generation. The teachers themselves are modernising the educational process – for most of them, the constant self-development and mastering of new technologies and activities is completely inorganic [20].

We have developed, described and filmed a video of a basic online training course system for people with an initial and intermediate level of knowledge in the field under discussion. Based on personal performance and pedagogical practice, the author attempted to answer all the necessary professional requests of the students. You can see this in table 1 "Training modules".



In the process of modular music education, basic operational knowledge about musical elements is formed. This becomes possible due to the interaction between several types of cognitive activities:

- visual cognitive;
- auditory;

Table 1

Training modules

MODULE I	MODULE II	MODULE III	MODULE IV	MODULE V
Elementary Music Theory	Range develop-ment	Solo vocals	Vocals in mo-tion	Vocals in motion
Vocal breathing	Vocal amplification	Rhythm section for vocalists	Help of the body	Stylistics and reper-toire work
Voice hygiene	Timbre	Harmony	Craft of acting	Vocals in the studio
Vocal/stage tone	Vocal mobility	Vocal improvisa-tion	Stage move-ment and vocals	Monitor field and work in various acoustic conditions
Fundamental tech-niques of vocal mastery	Rhythmic Solfeg-gio	Ensemble	Tools	Production and studio equipment

- intonational;
- rhythmic.

The author fully shares the opinion of colleagues who agree that such a technique creates a holistic approach to the study of the subject, increases the speed of perception of information and the acquisition of professional skills [17].

The psychological nature of creative inspiration is closely related to the issue of attention. Therefore, particular features surrounding attention play a very important role in the psychological analysis of a personality [19].

Unlike the traditional, IT lectures allow to unfold the presented content wider and deeper through the use of various teaching aids and technologies, in addition to resources from the Internet [11].

Results

In accordance with the needs and challenges that the modern vocalists face, and based on the desire of young professionals to integrate into the international community and undertake a successful performance practice, attention should be paid towards creating a favourable climate for colleagues to interact and acquire professional skills.

Many international music schools with a high-efficiency rating have opened online courses for everyone, including those from other countries. For example, Berklee Online: <https://online.berklee.edu/courses>.

We would like to continue our work on the creation of online learning modules for vocalists of various levels of competency, distinguished by their ability and desire for independent creative work, for educational and rehearsal work with a clear criterion of a subsequent evaluation of what was learned and mastered. Possibility of working offline, in turn, should become a powerful stimulus during personal contact with a mentor. This will enable to construct an effective system for acquiring the technical skills of vocal mastery for all those who are willing, regardless of their place of residence or their physical condition. Specifically, in cases when the health, remoteness, or other factors do not allow a student to be part of the educational environment of the university, modular online learning becomes especially relevant.

During our teaching practice, we observed that for students who are distinctly introverted, such a technique would allow focusing on individual vocal-associative-physiological processes thus revealing their inner potential, bypassing fear of external negative factors.

For extroverts, feedback from the mentor would serve as a favourable condition during training, since the regular correlation of their performance with expert evaluation and approval of their success is beneficial while working with such students.

An important factor in creating favourable conditions for the acquisition of professional skills by a modern vocalist is the interaction between the mentors and students, and this is often impossible due to tours or remoteness, as well as with distance learning.

Given all this, we are convinced that a modular online system will organise this process better than anything else. This, in turn, creates complementary socio-pedagogical conditions for the acquisition of the necessary professional skills by the modern vocalists.

### **Discussion**

It's obvious to the author that the stage is the main stimulus for a musician and the audience's sympathy and that the approval of colleagues provides strength for personal and professional growth.

Self-perception is of great importance for the personality as a whole and it is formed in the context of a person's attitude towards the society and performed activities [4].

It is obvious to us that participation in contests, concert programmes and other events is an integral part of the life of an active musician, vocalist in particular. In this regard, any performance presents a great opportunity to consolidate the acquired professional skills. Overcoming the fear of the stage, the ability to work in various acoustic spaces, free emotional expression of the musical material in accordance with the creative task that was set out, and many other factors are worked out in the rehearsal room, and then on the stage.

The competitive spirit, realized through participation in competitions among peers, will create the basis for the formation of self-esteem in a student. The analysis of the performance, the jury reviews and the applause of the audience all set the desired vector for professional development, which allows the artist to adapt among colleagues and mentors. Many professionals share this point of view, emphasizing that at this stage fairly stable friendships and relationships are formed that help a future professional vocalist find the necessary optimistic pre-set and self-confidence [22].

Mass culture products are created by professionals – specialists in the field of consumer demand, education, politics, mass art, and advertising [18].

To date, researchers in personality psychology have accumulated data that is extremely important for those practising concert performances. Here, first of all, one can single out the development of the personality typology theory by C.G. Jung [15]. It is interesting since it includes the study of both the sphere of the unconscious and consciousness in their organic unity, overcoming the well-known extremes of traditional psychoanalysis which places an exaggerated significance on unconscious drives in the psychological life and creative practices of a person [7; 9; 10].

Our analysis of the social and psychological environmental factors allows us to highlight a number of situational interactions of a creative person with the environment.

The first one is "consolidation". It is based on the formation of a social microenvironment and an informal interpersonal interaction (instances of "friendship" and "love"). It is important to note that there may be a fear of existential loneliness in the form of an absence of "one's own", "native", familiar audience, meaning that such a situation can be regarded as hostile and even critical.

The second is "confrontation". For many performers, it can have a stimulating effect – namely, the desire to "defeat" the audience, "show then", etc. This refers to the atmosphere

of competitive excitement supported by the surrounding social environment. However, in this case, fear of defeat is also inevitable, which can be perceived by the young performer as a disaster.

The third situation is described as that of a “creative dialogue”. It is formed during educational/rehearsal work and is filled with directorial and acting technologies. It is as if the performer is “coming to an agreement”, “attracting” the audience and listeners to their point of view and enter into a confidential contact with them. In this case, there is an anxiety that this contact will not occur, and this causes the corresponding fears.

The following situation can be described as the “situation of public loneliness”. Artists with developed internal creative potential that are inclined to self-centeredness may be scared of losing all contact with the audience, as they are largely self-sufficient. This situation arises due to an excessive personification of the performer in the process of their training, constant planting in the feelings of their own exclusiveness by those around him. Sometimes this can work but often leads to nervous breakdowns associated with the state of inner loneliness causing fears that are not well understood, which manifest themselves in the most unexpected situations – states of increased anxiety, depression, fear of being misunderstood by others [2; 3; 8; 10].

All the above processes fully relate not only to concert practice but also to the learning process as a whole. In the educational environment of the university or in creative groups, they are displayed very clearly. However, in conditions of open education, these processes remain largely hidden. What are the true motives and desires of young performers on their path to success and creative fulfilment? Obviously, the thirst for success in front of the audience and recognition of colleagues often act as a flip side of vanity. The author conducted a small study, during which several authoritative and famous musicians answered the question: “What served as an incentive to start studying music seriously?” Almost all of them answered: “Success”. So, we can assume that in many respects we are dealing with strong, atypical personalities with obvious leadership qualities.

Under the circumstances of an open society and education, the modern performer receives a universal tool for understanding and applying professional skills. This works regardless of the personality type, its inherent fears and complexes. Any subsequent work conducted offline with a mentor, concert or a competitive experience, will serve to consolidate the gained knowledge.

### **Conclusion**

Social and psycho-pedagogical factors surrounding the acquisition of professional skills by modern vocalists in an open education environment are both internal and external. We see that internal factors are conditioned upon individual psychological characteristics of personality development, which are based on a person’s genetic predisposition. The basic personality structure with which the individual is born carries vulnerabilities, which most often become a positive incentive on the path to acquiring professional skills and creative freedom. For instance, an introvert loses to the extravert in sociability, wins in the refinement of perception and feelings.

Versatility and even somewhat impersonality of the open education system in many ways equates the positions of different social and psychological groups. Hence, the subsequent examination, competitive and concert practices, as well as group work, among colleagues and with a mentor in an offline setup, can enrich the routine process of vocal rehearsals. Operating by the online training modules system facilitates a gradual socio-psychological adaptation of performers.

Each of these stages is crucial, and each student may overcome them at their own speed. However, while maintaining the overall thought-out sequence within the framework of the psychological and pedagogical cycle, each of the students will approach the next stage prepared,

regardless of the individual learning speed, time and place of where the professional knowledge and skills were acquired.

Art refers to life like wine to grapes – said one thinker, and he was absolutely right, indicating that art takes its roots from life, but gives something beyond what was taken that is not contained in the characteristics of what it originated from [23].

The task of an educational system within the modern realities is to provide a young creative person with all the necessary professional knowledge and skills that they can transform into the miracle of art at the highest aesthetic level.

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## Personal-Oriented Approach and Its Role in Formation of Professional-Applied Competences of the Musician-Performer

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**Annotation:** *formation of professional performing culture of the musician and development of applied competences of the future artists occur in the musical colleges. The professional and applied competencies of the musician-performer include a number of main components, such as intonation, nuance, phrasing, setting of the playing apparatus, correct vibration, possession of articulation technique, etc. The high level of performing culture is one aspect of the artist's successful performance on the stage, so it is so important to develop and enrich the musician throughout his training on the basis of a personal-oriented approach to each student. It ensures the effective organization and realization of the educational process, the specifics of which this study is devoted.*

**Key words:** *personal-oriented approach, professional-applied competencies, musician-performer, performing culture of the musician, musical colleges, string instruments.*

**JEL classification:** *I200, I290.*

### Introduction

The professional and applied competencies of the performer on string instruments refer to the continuously developing qualities of the individual, which are mastered through the process of personal-oriented training as the most effective approach in artistic education. Trends in the development of musical and performing arts, as well as the social and cultural role of musical performance in modern society are changing these days, the need to increase the level of professional skills of concert performers is becoming obvious, and the problem of improving the methodology of musicians' education is being updated.

The process of active formation of applied competences of the performer on string instruments begins with the first year of college, so the choice of pedagogical methods and approaches is important at the very initial stage of professional education. The question of finding educational technologies adequate to the modern educational system, goals and tasks of professional training of specialists arises again on the new turn of the historical "spiral".

### Methods

Methodological and theoretical basis of the study became: works of famous Russian and foreign teachers, musicians-performers (N.I. Anufrieva, L.C. Auer, M.M. Berlyachik, K.G. Mostras,

K. Flesh, A.A. Shirinsky, Y.I. Yankelevich); studies of the process of training of musicians-performers (V.N. Apatskiy, V.Y. Gregory, V.V. Gromchenko, S.V. Grohotov, I. Menukhin, N.I. Migunova, I.S. Kobozeva, etc.); psycho-pedagogical works devoted to the essence and specificity of musical activity, including the methodology of work on musical work (B.V. Asafiev, V.N. Apatsky, E.A. Golubeva), etc.

The following methods of research were used to solve the set tasks:

- theoretical analysis of the study problem;
- studying and synthesis of methodological literature, pedagogical technologies, advanced pedagogical experience;
- analysis of student performance and teaching practice.

### **Results**

Universal organizational and pedagogical conditions, which increase the efficiency of formation of performing-applied competences of the musician-performer in musical colleges, are:

- personal-oriented approach in formation of performing competences;
- setting of goals and objectives, selection of teaching methods taking into account individual abilities of students;
- development of individual creative qualities of the student in the perspective of artistic and aesthetic values;
- focus of music education on self-knowledge, self-analysis, self-realization and self-development of the student's personality and enrichment of artistic and creative thinking, building positive life and professional prospects [1].

The personal-oriented approach in the professional training of performing artists implies the conditionality of the content and teaching methodology choice, taking into account the properties and qualities of the student that influence the process of education, they are: features of perception and behavior, features of character and temperament, spiritual values and needs, style of thinking and worldview, social and age psychological attitudes, way of thinking and interests, system of views and beliefs, perceptions of the world and motives of life activity, will and self-control, habits and weaknesses, etc. All this is formed in students before entering college, so the teacher has to take into account the personal qualities of the student so that the learning process is effective.

The principle of a personal-oriented approach in training of college students is that the teacher:

- takes into account the unique properties and qualities of each individual during the training of the instrument;
- defines for each student individually the tasks that he is able to solve, and at the same time ensures progressive development of personality by complicating the content of training;
- analyzes the learning process and, if necessary, changes didactic techniques and methods depending on the results achieved by the students;
- teaches on the basis of principles of activation of student personality and developing training;
- combines development with the student's self-development, helping him to choose the direction, methods and techniques leading to successful and productive activity;
- develops comprehensively each pupil, trying to identify his talents and abilities, which will determine his future fate;
- develops independence, initiative, self-confidence students;
- designs the results of training of each student individually taking into account his creative potential, level of knowledge, various interests.

At the first stage the main attention is paid to development of such vital properties of the personality as spiritual independence, introspection, self-analysis, etc. All of them influence the

processes of formation of knowledge and professional-applied competences. The very content of performing arts classes should take into account the basic principles of the development of the intellectual and spiritual individual culture. The main methods of its development are:

- using problematic tasks and active training,
- activation of independent educational and creative and innovative approach to training.

The second stage is characterized by individual selection of training methodology. Each student requires a system of pedagogical methods and approaches developed for him not only for the development of his personality, but also for the formation of his individual performing style of player the string instruments. The musician's playing is unthinkable without individual style of performance, especially against the background of the instrumental ensemble or orchestra sounding.

Psychologists and teachers come to the conclusion that education plays a special role, creating the foundation of intellectual-philosophical, spiritual-moral, artistic-aesthetic culture of the individual, which is transmitted through communication. The three main components of the formation of professional-applied competences of the musician-performer are cognitive, motivational-value and activity, realized in the ability and readiness to carry out concert-performing activities in the modern world. Therefore, the principles of cooperation pedagogy are the basis of the structure of personal-oriented training.

One of the concepts of personality-oriented education is based on the idea of multiplicity of personality existence, meaning active participation of a person in all stages and phenomena of educational process. Hence the leading principle of training is selection of activities types requiring personal involvement of the student.

Musical performance is primarily the art of interpretation which is playing the instrument characterized by unique qualities and features of style. Playing the string instruments is also an interpretation realized through means of performance expression. When applied competences are formed, it is necessary to follow two goals at the same time: to create conditions for the realization of individual creative qualities, style features, manner of playing the instrument, and at the same time to form a culture of interpretation of musical works.

The individual performing style of the musician is characterized by a basic complex of qualities and features of music performance, reflecting the cognitive, creative and technical activities of the person. One of the main features of the individual performing style is the unique manner of the playing and the articulation technique, which is performing manner used in the interpretation of musical works, chosen by each musician according to his taste, creative abilities, skills and features of the play.

Formation of musical and performing competences has a subject focus. The performing abilities and skills of the musician appear in college as an integrative, dynamically changing, systemic phenomenon, combining personal, activity, subject, cognitive, and reflective components. Professional-applied competencies are supplemented and transformed into a new quality due to the development of students' creative abilities, the formation of a system of their spiritual values, which fit into the modern model of personality development, constructive solution of professional concert and performance tasks.

Any musician, whether a pianist, flutist or violinist, should be able to perform beautiful and filled sound with certain expressive qualities [7, p. 18]. A music college student often does not pay due attention to sound shades in the music he performs. A cellist usually thinks playing the correct score text is all it takes for a successful performance, forgetting that such subtle musical instrument as cello is able to reflect the many nuances, halftones and faces of the sounding.

Nuance is the most important sign of individual style of the performer of string instrumental music. Nuance includes such an important concept as volume dynamics. It plays significant role as mean of musical expression. Dynamics is an effective artistic-expressive mean of influencing



the listener regardless of the genre of the work, its style of artistic or technological performance criteria [12, p. 8].

Dynamics are one of the most understandable means of musical expression and can be easily perceived by a listener who does not have the special musical training that is necessary, for example, to comprehend the melodic or harmonic features of a musical work. At the same time, despite its apparent simplicity, dynamics can produce great psychological and emotional effects [3, p. 227]. There are several types of dynamics: aged, gradual, stepped, contrasting, and wavy.

Sustained or stable dynamics are characterized by the instrument sound as equal as possible. The main condition is to withstand the volume level specified in the note text (*f*, *p*, *mf*, etc.) without any changes.

A gradual dynamic or up and down dynamic wave (*crescendo*, *diminuendo*) most often has an expression in phrase, sentence or whole period, creating a diverse volume sounding of the instrument. The step-by-step kind of dynamics differs from the gradual ones as it has clear gradations of volume increase or decrease, that is, exact delineation of volume levels within the musical period (*p*, *mf*, *f*, *mf*, *p*) without intermediate *crescendo* and *diminuendo*. This kind of dynamics was widespread in the works of Baroque-era composers.

Contrast dynamics are a very sharp, widest change of volume amplitude. This kind is characteristic more of a motif partitioning of musical material or the showing of its phrases. The contrast dynamics are characterized by the following nuances: accents, *sforzando*, *subito*. The wave type also refers to the main types of dynamics. Motif and musical-melodic structures are characteristic for this kind the most. Regularly alternating dynamic shades *crescendo* and *diminuendo* in the motive basis of intonation structure develop into a phrase. At the same time, the dynamic top of each wave-shaped construction gradually increases, displaying in the volume of the instrument sounding.

The phrase in music, as well as the sentence in the book, has a great sense load. The phrasing is a complex concept, as it implies both internal partitioning and integration of phrases into a single whole, as well as the through development of the artistic image of the whole musical work.

In spoken speech, punctuation marks are used to distinguish sentences. In music this role is performed by pauses, which reveal the beginning and end of a phrase, as well as a more or less close relationship between two adjacent phrases [9, p. 115]. The performer receives a reliable guide to the application of dynamic and agogics shades (the main factors of expressive interpretation) only after the boundaries of the phrase and its climax points have been determined. Without this, the execution is similar to reading by separate letters, which, together with the emphasis of bars, gives the impression of dead monotony [5]. Work on the phrase should begin from the beginning of work on the musical piece.

The melody is similar to a smoothly bending line, in which there are reference points to which it aspires and which characterize it. The brief sound of the motif may be lifting or referring to a previous phrase. To understand this, a harmonic analysis is needed: if such sound is a resolution of dissonance or harmonically refers to the previous phrase, it means its conclusion; if such sound is the beginning of a new phrase, it is natural to play it as a rise [13, p. 19].

Intonation can be defined as the process of identifying human consciousness in specific forms of musical art [4, p. 336]. Work on intonation should be subject to a clear system, as well as work on dynamics, technique, rhythm, etc. True intonation is produced as a result of musical hearing improvement, which painfully perceives false intonations [17, p. 6].

Pure intonation requires, first, the activation of musical hearing, the development of internal hearing, and the possibility of so-called before-hearing. This means that the cellist must not only find and correct the false intonation, but also imagine how the note should sound in advance and direct his fingers in advance, trying to play clean. Second, it is the skill of the

left hand, the agility of fingers, good possession of the neck, knowledge of positions, intervals, and chromatics.

One of the most important conditions of pure intonation is a well-tuned cello. The teacher tunes the instrument himself at the initial stage of training, and then the tune training should become part of the lesson. Hearing can be developed at the initial stage of training by singing and solfeggio. This problem becomes more profound in college, as some students with good hearing suffer unsustainable intonation playing the instrument. The teacher in the special class should educate in his pupils their skills of self-control and demanding to himself. If the intonation is pure, then, getting into the overtones, the sound of the cello will be clear and ringing. A dim and bleak sound is obtained if the intonation is not accurate.

The statement of the playing apparatus is one of the most important subtleties of playing the cello. The correct position of the body in space includes the placement of hands, the optimal position of the body and legs. The production can be developed in six months, but as the practice shows, its correction goes during the whole period of college.

Definitely the statement of both the left and right hands affects the performing culture. The principle of freedom and economy of movements of the left hand should be the basis of work on the performing apparatus of each student, because the best results can be achieved only at the least cost of muscle energy [7, p. 109]. The correct position of the hand helps to achieve the accuracy of finger movements [18, p. 28]. Cello pedagogy is more than two hundred years old, but the most effective way to master the technique of the left hand is to play scales and special exercises. They only will give freedom of action, strength and special flexibility. And such classes develop children's willpower and self-discipline.

Holding a bow is the coordinated movements of all parts of the right hand: the blade, shoulder, forearm, hand, fingers, as well as several joints that connect all these parts. Only all movements in aggregate are capable of straight line maintenance of bow [20, p. 49]. Playing the cello with the maximum released muscles of the right hand involves using the natural weight of the bow and hand [14, p. 6]. A full, strong sound is appeared as a result of optimal contact between a well-grated canine bow and a string, rather than due to primitive pressure increase on the bow. To express an emotional state, the performer can use several means of musical expression: it can be vibration, glissando, etc. However, the main condition for the fulfillment of all set artistic tasks is the maintenance of a bow, as all dynamic and agogic shades, such as *crescendo*, *diminuendo*, *accelerando*, etc., by which the performer affects the public, are performed with the right hand [14, p. 12]. There are several ways to hold the bow, but with any of them it should be done without tension and sufficiently chain and firmly. It should be noted that each string performer holds the bow slightly in its own way, based on the features of the hand structure.

Performance culture also includes the concept of vibration. String performers define it as small periodic fluctuations by pitch as well as by volume. Vibration gives musical sound a new timbre color – heat, dynamics or emotional tension [2, p. 16]. There are several types of vibration – finger, brush, elbow and mixed. This or that type of vibration is applied depending on the effect to be achieved. Special kind of vibrato is applied in musical works of different epochs. Working on vibration, performer needs to strive for freedom of movements and minimal expenditure of muscle energy, as well as to control frequency and latitude of oscillations. It is also important to watch that the hand moves parallel to the neck, does not unravel the instrument itself and does not interfere with the uniform movement of the bow.

The characteristics of vibrato are influenced by several factors: register, tempo and dynamics. For example, the vibration amplitude will be wider and lower frequency in the lower range than in the upper range, where the amplitude will be smaller and the vibration frequency will increase [11, p. 95]. The vibration occurs mostly subconsciously, guided by the soul along with emotions and moods. Not all students are able to vibrate correctly on the instrument. The reason may be the compaction of the left hand movements or the convulsive clamp of the cello neck

between the thumb and the base of the forefinger. It is possible and necessary to correct these shortcomings by means of various exercises, which are selected for each student individually.

Another component of the concept of performing culture is the mastery of articulation technology. Articulation on a cello is a specific form of bow movement that gives the desired sound result for the realization of a artistic intention [19, p. 5]. As soon as the student has learned to hold the bow, he gradually begins to master articulation, first the simplest, longest, such as *detache* and *legato*. Then there appear more complex marked strokes – *martel*, *staccato*, *dotted articulation*, “jumping” – *spiccato*, *sautiller*, *ricochet*, *tremolo*, etc.

Cello changes can also be attributed to the performing culture. The good connection of the bow movements provides the cello sound with the most attractive feature – “singing”. Young cellist increases a susceptibility of their hearing to the dynamic and timbre side of sound in the middle classes, when there are the active development of emotional beginning in performance, the general strengthening of the performing apparatus and self-control.

The changes of the bow from string to string can be made in different ways; everything depends on the tempo, direction of bow movement and direction of melody. When the melodic motion goes easy up and the bow goes down, it is necessary to use a smooth change of strings rather than step-by-step. This can be achieved by gradually, continuously lowering the shoulder and wrist. Thus, the bow makes a smooth movement, not jumping from the one string to another, but slipping, as on railings, instead of steps of stairs [6, p. 24]. The plane of the bow movement on each string is not fixed, it gradually changes; thus, the bow does not touch the next string. When bow moves in the other direction, everything happens exactly the same, but in reverse order.

At a fast tempo, the change of strings is made by a small segment of the bow in its middle part. There is one common upward and downward movement in the right hand. It is important to ensure that there are no clamps in the shoulder and in the hand, and all movements of the right hand are plastic, soft and do not strain the joints. Regulation of the bow movement speed, in other words, the distribution of the bow, has a great importance for the level of sounding. The slightest uneven acceleration makes the sound louder, contradicting the notion of even sound. And there is also a risk of “suffocating” towards the end due to the acceleration of the bow first.

### Discussion

The purpose of college classes is to form a performing culture that includes many different concepts that are important to be embodied in the process of playing the musical instruments. There are several criteria that act as conditions for the formation of a performing culture:

- criterion of knowledge (interest in understanding a particular type of performing activity, as well as the performer’s ability to assess the level of his sound culture);
- practical criterion (ability to systematical playing the instrument, which will be aimed at improving the playing skill; self-analysis of their performance activities; ability to use theoretical knowledge received from solfeggio lessons, playing the violin works);
- emotional criterion (ability to create own vision of a musical work based on individual artistic experience; artistry, freedom of expression and performance will).

Thus, the performing culture can be defined as a set of personal significant qualities shown in the process of musical-creative concert-performing activity. Forming the performing culture of the musician, the teacher does this taking into account his individual characteristics, level of his musical abilities. Research by E.A. Golubeva has shown that the abilities of each pupil are closely related to his personal, unique characteristics, such as emotional sphere, temperament, stress resistance, memory, intelligence, typological features of the nervous system (strength – weakness, activity – inertia, etc.) [10, p. 201].

The development of performing culture has three structural components:

- experience in performing activities;
- performing competence;

- complex of musical and creative abilities.

Assessment of the quality of the performed work on the basis of their own musical and hearing views, regular expansion of knowledge in the field of musical genres and styles, formation of intonation and hearing experience, ability to emotional perception of music – all these are the main components of such concept as experience of performing activity.

Performance competence is the presence of certain performance knowledge, abilities and skills; mastery of various types of sound producing and sound techniques; accurate articulation; analysis and self-analysis of their own performing activities; availability of ready concert repertoire; control and self-control of the extracted sound quality; ability to read from a score and to learn quickly by heart; virtuosity and artistry. The complex of musical and creative abilities includes musical talent; artistic-shaped thinking, musical imagination, fantasy; creative interpretation of musical material [16, p. 472].

The experience of performing activities and professional-applied competencies can and should be developed both within the concert and performing practice in the college. Participation in concerts, musical evenings, class “living rooms”, in competitions and festivals, creative productions, playing in a string ensemble and even playing role in a school amateur theatre contributes to the accumulation of public performing activity experience.

### Conclusion

The pedagogy of music education can be seen as a creative process. The teacher builds the educational process for each pupil taking into account his age and individual characteristics. The principle of individual approach can be traced to the example of repertoire selection. Each student has their own number of plays, sketches and exercises, which corresponds to his level of performing culture, and also contributes to the growth of technical and artistic and creative development.

The principle of unity of artistic and technical development is not the last place in the system of formation of performing culture. Any work must be played technologically and expressionately. In some schools, especially Asian ones, a technical component more dominates in performance, which develops into an end in itself. A musical work played with such intense becomes callous and boring for the listener; it loses its depth and is of no artistic interest.

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## Changes in the Constitution of the Russian Federation and Their Impact on Interfaith Relations in the Country

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**Annotation:** *this article is aimed at studying the adoption of amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation, specifically the amendment of the preamble and a number of other paragraphs affecting the interfaith community, as well as the feasibility of this action. The purpose of the article is to find out the consequences of these changes and to consider the reactions of representatives of different faiths.*

**Key words:** *amendments, faiths, interfaith relations, God, religion.*

**JEL classification:** A140.

### Introduction

On behalf of the President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, a bill to amend the Constitution of the Russian Federation was submitted to the State Duma. In his message it was stated that this will be a strengthening of the main law of the country, not a fundamental change in it [13].

In the package of revisions there are a number of the following directly related to inter-ethnic issues and issues of interfaith relations.

This topic is relevant, as the amendments to the Constitution have generated a wide public resonance.

### Methods

Of course, this issue is incomplete at this stage.

In this regard, the study is based on a comparison method using data from various information portals, newspapers, Internet resources and citizen surveys. A generalization method was also applied to reflect the main essence of the study.

Theoretical methods of analysis and synthesis were used in the most detail in the study of amendments. With the help of methods of derivation and induction, a pattern of opinions of citizens was revealed.

### Results

On March 10, 2020, the State Duma of the Russian Federation held the second reading on changes in the basic law of the country and approved the final package of revisions for submission to the All-Russian vote.

The vote was scheduled to take place on 22 April 2020. But on March 25, the President of the Russian Federation, in a live address to citizens, postponed the date of the referendum indefinitely due to the difficult epidemiological situation in the world caused by the COVID-19 [15].

Patriarch Kirill proposed to amend the preamble of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, adding a mention of God, as, in his opinion, most Russians recognize its existence [12].

Now, the preamble to the Constitution reads as follows: "We, the multinational people of the Russian Federation, United by a common destiny on their land, asserting human rights and freedoms, Civil peace and harmony, preserving the historical unity of the State, based on the universally recognized principles of equal rights and self-determination of peoples, Honoring the memory of the ancestors who gave us love and respect for the Fatherland, Faith in good faith and justice by reviving Russia's sovereign statehood and asserting the inviolability of its democratic foundation, Desiring to ensure the well-being and prosperity of Russia, on the basis of responsibility for our Motherland to present and future generations, conscious of ourselves as part of the world community, we adopt the CONSTITUTION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION" [7].

### Discussion

To article 67 of the Constitution, Russian President Vladimir Vladimirovitch Putin proposed to add such a chequered amendment: "The Russian Federation, united by thousands of years of history, preserves the memory of ancestors who have given us ideals and faith in God."

It should not be forgotten that despite the abundance of faiths, peoples and ethnic groups living on its territory, the Russian Federation is a secular State.

The public immediately wondered whether Russia would remain such a state?

It is important to mention that, in general terms, a secular State is defined by the fact that no religion is established as a State, the State and religious associations are separated from each other, no religious associations are given special protection and preferences, and relations between citizens are governed by law not related to any particular religion [2].

From the author's point of view, several conclusions can be drawn from this.

The constitutional principle of secularism has been tacitly violated for many years. Also, for this to be a violation of this principle, without a connection with a certain religion, one mention of the concept of "God" is not enough.

According to the religious scholar Roman Lunkin, the secular character of the state is not threatened and claims about its violation have no proper basis. The Constitution of Ireland and the Constitution of Greece explicitly state the Christian faith and the Holy Trinity, that the people are guided by faith in the Holy Trinity. At the same time, the principle of secularism is manifested in the way in which the State treats religious organizations, how religious legislation is respected, and how a certain neutrality of the State – already at the local level – vis-à-vis religious organizations is maintained [6].

Opinions of experts were shared. The first Deputy Chairman of the State Duma Committee on State Construction and Legislation Mikhail Emelanov explained his position: "Article



14 of the Constitution of the Russian Federation establishes the separation of church from state, and it is mentioned that none of religions can be established as official. That is, if the Patriarch proposed to make Orthodoxy, or Islam, Buddhism, the official religion, then it would be contrary to the secular character of our state". Such opinion is held by the deputy of the State Duma Natalia Lyubskaya: "I am convinced that the mention of God in the Constitution of the Russian Federation will not resent anyone. This does not contradict the paragraph "Russia is a secular state" – there will be no merger with the church" [17].

The Director of the Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology named after N.N. Mikluho-Maklaya RAS Valeriy Tishkov does not agree with this view. "Under the Constitution, Russia is a secular state where no religion can be state or compulsory. If God is included, for example, in the preamble of the Constitution, there will be a contradiction, – said "NGR" a valid member of RAS. – Reference to the words of the anthem – a weak argument. The anthem is a metaphorical, artistic component of our statehood, and the Constitution is strict and practical, understandable to all and accepted by all, both believers and non-believers. It is necessary that the working group in this matter weigh everything "for" and "against". The text of the Constitution cannot be held like God will put on his soul. I apologize for the pun!" [10].

There is a mention of God in the anthem of the Russian Federation, but it is a poem work that does not carry the obligation to perform it. There is a possibility that the mention of God in the preamble will be an additional argument for the Russian Orthodox Church to pursue its own policy, but already based on the Constitution. A non-believer, when claiming that there is no God, will automatically conflict with the Basic Law. With a negative scenario, such actions can lead to increased rejection of the church.

The Supreme Mufti of Russia Talgat Tadjuddin supported the proposal to introduce theses about God, and recalled that on Friday the statement of the Interreligious Council of Russia was adopted, at which all representatives of traditional faiths unanimously supported this idea. "And not only about mentioning God, but also that religion is separate from the state, but the state cares and supports all traditional faiths both morally and materially", the mufti added [16].

He noted that Muslims fully supported the initiative of the President and Parliament to amend.

For its part, the Chechen authorities supported the idea of referring to God in the Constitution, as according to the Minister of National Policy, External Relations, Press and Information of the region Jambulat Umarov, this will not cause any objections from representatives of the denomination, because Allah in translation from Arabic means God [7].

The magazine "Orthodo.FM" conducted a survey among the population on their attitude to the introduction of the above-mentioned amendment to the Constitution of the Russian Federation [19]. Opinions of Russians were shared. One as well as written the main law of the country, the second categorically against, the third for the first time heard this information, the fourth part agreed. There is also a reference to the clarification of the wording: – What exactly is God in question? After all, Russia is a multi-religious country in which various religions are preached.

Yes, one can speculate that God is one. But every representative of his religion perceives and interprets the concept in his own way. But the proposed amendment says nothing about this subtlety. On the one hand, it will be possible to avoid unnecessary disputes, but as an option of the wording, it could be suggested to mention historical denominations of Russia, which played a big role in the development of the country. In general, this revision will not worsen or improve already existing state-church relations.

Also, as an example, it is possible to take into account the fact that at a certain time on Rus refused to believe in God, burned temples and tried to destroy love mention of nemes. Then what heritage can we talk about?

At the same time, the Constitution lacks a clear designation of Orthodox ideology and Orthodox world view. The proposed wording is general, so the penalty for violation of the Law on Protection of Feelings of Believers should not be increased.

The author of this article conducted an independent study through the social network "VKontakte" on the attitude of society towards the forthcoming changes, and specifically the aspect concerning the mention of God in the Constitution. A survey was created with the possibility to choose both the ready answer and the self-offered option. It was attended by representatives of different faiths. Opinions of interviewed were shared.

Of the two hundred respondents, 35 refrained from a detailed response, 42 fully agreed with the President's proposed wording. 46 respondents responded with a categorical disagreement with the proposal, arguing that they were atheists or did not refer to any religion.

For example, it is natural for Christians to believe in the single God of the Father, the All-Holder, the Creator of Heaven and Earth, all visible and invisible, and in the single Lord Jesus Christ, the Son of God, the only native born of the Father before all centuries: the Light from Light, the true God from the true God, born, not created, the same being with the Father. And for Muslims God is Allah, whereas Jesus Christ for Muslims is not God, but a prophet. The Buddhist creator god (as a single entity) denies at all, they do not recognize such a single god in Buddhism. This creature has gone beyond Sansara, and it is not a creator god. A comparable concept to God Buddhist has and it is Buddha.

The 63 voters clarified that they were opposed not to a specific paragraph, but to the change of the Constitution as a whole and wanted the law to remain intact. 14 people do not follow news tapes, and this information got into their perception for the first time.

In analyzing the information obtained, the above study revealed the following:

The public is not opposed to the amendments as such, but most of the corrections to the proposed President of the Russian Federation have been questioned.

In order to be able to take into account and analyze information received from representations of different generations, the author of this article held an open lesson-discussion among pupils of the 11th grade in one of the general education schools of Moscow. During the discussion, the students raised the question, and is the package of amendments really as necessary as it is interpreted by the state authorities? An analysis was carried out in comparison with the current Constitution of the Russian Federation and further options for developments were considered.

Most high school pupils will be direct participants in the electorate, in view of the postponement of public voting, and therefore the lesson has become more relevant than ever. Material in the format of a lecture with discussion elements was provided for the students. The final opinion was divided. One of the students applying for a gold medal expressed the opinion that for faith in God he does not need any revisions in the Constitution, and also that this amendment is, at least incorrectly formulated, arguing that this fact can hurt non-Orthodox Christians and representatives of other faiths of our great homeland.

But a positive assessment of the actions taken was also identified. Some pupils expressed the view that all revisions, including those studied in this work, are socially significant and necessary for our State. They contribute to the socialization and unity of citizens, especially in such a difficult period for the whole world.

The main civilized proposals come from the Church, or from a closely related public. Today, the focus is on the traditional liberal agenda. In today's world, believers are really engaged in the development of civil society, while creating numerous non-profit organizations and public associations. The religious view of the family, values and the world as a whole creates the resulting social processes that the vast majority of citizens of the country share. In this case, the real manifestation of democracy will be to take into account the wishes of the majority, including when discussing the Constitution.

During the discussion, the participants were able to reach a compromise by proposing their options for dealing with the situation.

Especially, every citizen of our country is a hotel person with his own thinking. There is not for nothing an old saying, how many people, so many opinions.

One of the main factors in the dissatisfaction of people who deny the need for change is the need to vote on the adoption of the package as a whole and the inability to disagree with any certain paragraph. On social networks, on various Internet platforms and in personal blogs, the issue of innovation was raised. People who are used to living in society raise questions about the anger of the day. Many of the people's posts focused on the event. You can only get acquainted with them by inserting the name of the edit of interest into the search string.

The Interreligious Council of Russia, which supports the Jewish, Buddhist, Islamic and Christian communities of the State, supported the above-mentioned changes [3]. It was noted that these actions will consolidate the values of religious beliefs of the peoples of the country, because the religions represented by them are related both historically and culturally [5].

The second, considered in this article, amendment in the Constitution concerns the Russian language – as the language of the State-forming people. The Supreme Mufti of Russia Talgat Tadjuddin endorses this innovation.

The thesis that Russian is the language of the State-forming people, the mufti has no objection, as in fact, to all who live in Bashkortostan. This was expressed as accurately as possible in his time by the people's poet Bashkortostan Mustai Karim: "Not Russian I, but Russian".

"It is not immediately evident that only the Russian people are state-forming", Talgat Tadjuddin said in a conversation with the Russian Newspaper. "It is simply a justification that Russian is always the state language throughout Russia. It is Russian that is the language of inter-ethnic communication. And no one can object to it" [14].

The whole history of Russia, the mufti reminded, testifies that our state is an equal union of large and small peoples: "And the representative of any nation could always take any post, up to the Minister. And every person, regardless of nationality, defended his country at any time and against any threat".

According to the situation with this revision, high school students also spoke, informing almost in their majority that in their opinion the revision is useless, as the Russian language has already introduced the current law and is the main one in the territory of the Russian state.

At present, there is no explicit concept of the term in law. From what follows the conclusion that using this term, the legislator will further reveal the essence of this concept.

It should be noted separately that in the Russian legislation there is Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of February 26, 2010 No. 96 "On Anti-Corruption Expertise of Normative Legal Acts and Draft Normative Legal Acts".

This decision, in particular, indicates one factor that, when enshrined in normative acts, is corrupt, namely, legal and linguistic uncertainty – the use of irreconcilable, ambiguous terms.

The question arises as to whether this wording on Russian is discriminatory against the languages of the peoples of our country? After all, before the eyes there is a fresh example of Ukraine, where after the adoption of the norms of the national minority were violated in rights: TV programs are banned, mass media are closed, which are not ready to use mova. All document circulation – only in Ukrainian. Educational institutions no longer teach children in Russian, depriving them of this opportunity.

However, the second part of the 68th article emphasizes: "The Republic has the right to establish its State languages. In state authorities, local self-government bodies and state institutions of the republics, they are used alongside the state language of the Russian Federation".

But not all members of religious cultures share rainbow points of view. Thus, mufti of Tatarstan, Chairman of the Spiritual Administration of Muslims of the Republic Kamil Samigullin said that

he sees no positive prospects in reflecting in the Constitution the concept of “state-forming people”. According to him, the application of this phrase to one single nation is unethical and can lead to irreparable consequences [9].

The Chairman of the Presidium of the All-Tatars Public Center Farit Zakiev is in solidarity with him. In his view, changes to the language article were unacceptable. A large number of experts raised many questions about the amendment. Among those who do not support this paragraph of change, there was also the view that the Kremlin had the dual purpose of amending, including the “state-forming people”. But despite the criticism of many representatives of the modern world, the amendment is relevant. To avoid speculation, it is sufficient to pay attention to the fact that the “State-forming people” are equal along with other peoples. That is, in fact, Russians were offered a national idea that takes into account the ideals of patriotism and the continuity of generations [20].

Journalist Maxim Shevchenko is sure that if instead of the “state-forming people” to write “Russian people”, it will not cause any objections either to Tatars or to Bashkortostan.

“Thus, the Constitution would highlight the Russian people, and there would be no ambiguity with the state formation, because the federation is formed by many peoples by agreement for the sake of cohabitation”, – said Shevchenko.

“It would be very reasonable to single out the Russian people in the context of language. But they (authorities, – Red.) followed a very controversial path, looking for chauvinism and nationalism. To be honest, the Russian people do not need to be held responsible for all the crimes and atrocities committed on behalf of the state. Very skilfully they settled”, – added the journalist [8].

The Constitution uses the concept of “multinational people of the Russian Federation” in multiple numbers [1]. How is it proposed to use the phrase “State-forming people”, as a concretization of a people or as a generic concept? [11]

It seems that the proponents of the changes did not expect that the discussion would acquire a national level, translated into a debate concerning important issues of society, both political and fundamental [12].

In general, it can be concluded that perhaps another more correct formulation would not cause such a number of negative emotions in society [18].

### **Conclusion**

On the basis of the above, it can be concluded that in amending the Constitution of the Russian Federation, concerning the mention of God and the recognition of the Russian language as the main language of the country, there are both advantages and negative points.

It should be noted that the amendments caused a heated discussion of the public [4]. This means that society cares about the change ahead and is interested in resolving the issue.

The State must control the conduct of interfaith relations so that no one’s feelings or interests are challenged.

Unfortunately, it is extremely difficult to achieve this result, but at the moment most representatives of faiths have not expressed their open protest against the changes.

Due to the tense epidemiological situation around the world, the referendum and, accordingly, the adoption of the final decision, have been postponed indefinitely [15].

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## The Social Context of the Amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation in 2020 Year and the Problems of the Orenburg Region

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**Annotation:** *the article is devoted to the study of the main amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation proposed by President V.V. Putin on January 15, 2020 year. The result of discussions about most provisions were 400 amendment proposals that were considered by a special commission. The questions concerned both the wording and the main content of the amendments. During the study, the proposed amendments were correlated with the standard of living of the Orenburg region, it was concluded their relative need for residents of the region. The study reflected all-Russian and Orenburg polls about amendments to the Constitution, which showed a generally positive attitude of citizens to the proposed amendments, especially social ones, as well as awareness of the upcoming vote and willingness to participate in them. A wide public outcry caused a series of amendments, which were the most important for society and allowed the most active part of the population to express themselves. As a result, it became clear that the amendments are relevant for the Orenburg region and for the whole country as a whole.*

**Key words:** *amendments, the Federation Council, President, minimum wage, pensions, Russian language, marriage, public polls, Orenburg region.*

**JEL classification:** A140.

### Introduction

In recent years, ideas about the need to amend the Constitution of the Russian Federation have sounded more and more often in the media and in the communications of senior officials. The current Constitution of the Russian Federation was adopted in 1993 year. President of Russia V.V. Putin, on January 15, 2020 year, addressing the Federal Assembly, expressed the view that the organic law is not subject to drastic changes, but the current political, social, international



situation requires the correction of certain provisions. The president proposed a number of amendments that aim to ensure the sovereignty of the country, improve the political system, and also consolidate the social guarantees of citizens.

### **Methodology**

Of course, this issue is still poorly reflected in Russian historiography, due to its novelty and incompleteness of the process. In view of this, this study is based on a comparative method using all-Russian and regional surveys of citizens, data from official portals, federal and regional newspapers, and information portals. The comparative historical method made it possible to identify the dynamics in the work on amendments to the Constitution, changes in the assessments of citizens of certain proposals. The method of a systematic approach was applied when studying various ways of manifesting of social policy. In studying the amendments separately and as part of the general course, theoretical methods of analysis and synthesis were used. Methods of induction and deduction revealed the patterns of opinions and assessments of citizens. The method of generalization was necessary when working with surveys of residents of the Orenburg region and Russia.

### **Results**

Firstly, in our country such a large number of amendments are introduced that made it necessary for each region to participate in their consideration. Immediately after the announcement of the amendments, the President formed a working group to prepare proposals for amending the Constitution. Before the document was submitted to the legislative body of the country, about 400 interpretations and proposals on these amendments were introduced by deputies and public organizations, which showed the importance of this issue for citizens of the country. The working group worked on the amendments for almost two months. Only on March 11, 2020 year, the Federation Council adopted the bill [2]. The bill includes provisions on empowering the Federal Assembly, introducing restrictions on officials, changing the number of possible presidential terms for one person, the territorial integrity of the country, and the priority of the organic law over international agreements. The amendments also include social guarantees to citizens, such as the minimum wage not lower than the subsistence minimum, indexation of pensions at least once a year, the priority of family education, the transfer of parental responsibilities for raising children without guardians to state bodies, marriage as a union of a man and a woman, position about the Russian language and about God [22].

The presented questions of the political block of amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation in 2020 year are social, if we understand this term in the broad sense of the word. These questions affect the social interests and social well-being of citizens of the Russian Federation. It is no coincidence that in some studies, social policy is analyzed not only as one of the most important directions of the state's internal policy related to the practice of specific activities in the social sphere and the social consequences of their implementation, but also as an effective mechanism for creating a positive image of the country, "soft power", which helps state authorities to convince their citizens of their competence. In theory and practice, one cannot mean by social policy only a system of measures and acts to improve the living conditions of people. Social policy is the most important means of balancing interests, maintaining the stability of society and minimizing the threat of aggravation of relations in it [4, p. 62]. Social policy, well-being of citizens are mechanisms and at the same time indicators of the legitimacy of federal and regional authorities. Not the last place here is played by the personality type of legitimacy formed in our country and based on faith in a strong leader. In view of this, amendments of a political nature are incorrectly considered exclusively in political projection.

### **Discussion**

A wide resonance was caused by a number of proposals for amendments to the bill on changing the powers of the legislative body of Russia. The president proposed to expand the powers of the State Duma, which now has to approve the candidacy of the Prime Minister and

ministers. The Federation Council will receive the right, on an equal footing with the President, to participate in the selection of candidates for senior officials who are responsible for defense, security, internal affairs, justice, foreign affairs, emergency prevention, and public safety. The Prime Minister, in turn, will receive the right to independently nominate the ministers and their deputies to the State Duma without any consultation with the President.

In accordance with the amendments the President will receive the right to dismiss the Prime Minister without changing the structure of the government and without appointing new ministers. He will also be able to submit to the Federation Council the idea of terminating the powers of judges of all major instances. The president will have the right to apply to the Constitutional Court with a request to verify the constitutionality of federal law, even if the Federal Assembly overcame the president's veto.

These provisions have caused different responses in society. Some perceived this as an increase in the power of the President. For example, the leader of the Communists in the Legislative Assembly of the Orenburg Region, Maxim Amelin, at a meeting to consider the bill on March 12 said the following: "we only see the strengthening of the presidential power and the destruction of the principle of independence of the branches of power" [23]. Then Head of the regional branch of the Just Russia party Vladimir Frolov also negatively assessed the draft amendments, expressing his disagreement with the following words: "The amendments will usurp the full power by the president, destroy the basic principle of a democratic legal and secular state" [23].

Another part of society evaluates these amendments positively, emphasizing the strengthening of the role of the upper and lower houses of parliament. According to Oleg Dimov, Deputy Chairman of the Government of the Orenburg Region for Domestic Politics, this innovation should contribute to the process of forming a civil society in Russia [8]. As regards the cancellation of the terms of the President, the majority here agree that V.V. Putin in our country is the keeper of security, stability and the guarantor of the execution of decrees.

The prohibiting officials to have foreign citizenship caused generally positive reviews among the population. The director of the Center for Political Analysis and Social Research, Pavel Danilin, expressed the opinion that this would protect the country from external interference in the internal affairs of the state. In the words of P. Danilin, "our officials and representatives in power should be exactly ours – and not represent the interests of other states" [14].

In addition to changing the powers of the President and the Federal Assembly, the powers of the State Council are expanding. According to the amendments, its tasks will be to ensure the coordinated functioning and interaction of state authorities, to determine the main directions of domestic and foreign policy and priority areas of the social and economic development of the state. According to the current Constitution of the Russian Federation, these functions are performed by the President.

Opinions on the assessment of this amendment were also divided. Some believe that expanding the powers of the State Council will make it a new center of influence in Russia's domestic politics. Member of the Bureau of the Presidium of the Rodina Party, director of the Freedom Institute, Fedor Biryukov, believes that the State Council will turn out to be a very sovereign structure of the Russian government, since now this body will discuss domestic politics, economic and social problems.

Opponents view the amendment as an opportunity to legislatively formulate and consolidate the functions of the State Council in the Constitution of the Russian Federation [17]. At the same time, it is only a deliberative body of the state, which does not have authority. For example, this opinion is shared by an expert at the Center for Political Analysis Andrei Tikhonov.

In the context of a number of territorial claims against Russia, special amendment related to the preservation of the country's territorial integrity is relevant for Russia and universally

recognized. Member of the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation, director of the non-profit Foundation for the Study of Democracy, Maxim Grigoryev is confident that society needs this amendment [6].

The need to combat coronavirus intensified the work of federal and regional authorities. The increased responsibility of the governor of the region and the presence of cases of the disease forced the introduction of a regime of self-isolation from April 1, 2020. The authorities of the region have strengthened measures to disinfect public transport, patrol the streets and houses by the police and control prices in stores. The measures taken have already shown the necessity of amending the Constitution and at the same time laid additional opportunities for ensuring social protection of citizens.

The largest block of amendments is represented by amendments to the Russian Constitution of a social nature. First of all, this concerns the proposal to establish a minimum wage level not lower than the subsistence level. This amendment did not cause widespread discussion. According to the all-Russian survey of VCIOM (Russian Public Opinion Research Center), 90% of respondents positively evaluate this innovation.

According to statistics from the Orenburg region, the lowest incomes for the first half of 2019 year were observed among paper and paper products workers (11 813,3 rubles) [10]. The cost of living in the region at the end of 2019 year was 10 042 rubles for the able-bodied population [7]. Based on the statistics, it can be argued that in this subject of the Russian Federation there are no workers with incomes below the subsistence minimum and below the minimum wage.

Among the amendments, it is worth noting the indexation of pensions at least once a year. Among the scientists and politicians, this proposal has caused controversy. Some noted that this amendment should be enshrined in federal law another sure that the government will not be able to act on the basis of the possibility or impossibility to allocate money for this.

At the same time, the overwhelming majority (91%) of Russian citizens supported the introduction of this amendment. In the Orenburg region, the pensioner's subsistence minimum is 7779 rubles. 59 thousand 760 people touch on innovations, and local authorities are going to bring pensions to a living wage first, then indexation.

In the context of social well-being, the decision of the authorities on maternity capital made in within the President's message voiced on January 15, 2020 year was of great importance. In particular V.V. Putin proposed to increase payments for the birth of a second child. Since 2020 year in the Orenburg region requirements for candidate families for maternity capital have been reduced, and the amount of payment has been increased [20].

Recently, in Russian society, a tendency to increase the religious consciousness of citizens has become increasingly apparent. In this regard, the President proposed introducing a provision on God in the bill. The head of the Federation Council Committee on Constitutional Legislation and State Building Andrei Klishas expressed the view that faith in God and the preservation of the unity of the country can be reflected in the Organic Law of the country, but the principle of a secular state will remain unshakable. In turn, the co-chair of the working group on the preparation of proposals for amendments to the Constitution, Pavel Krasheninnikov called the mention of God in the Constitution of the Russian Federation inappropriate [16].

The decision on marriage as a union of a man and a woman refers directly to the social block. Against the backdrop of the expanding LGBT movement and the increase in the number of same-sex marriages in the West, this entry is relevant and will help to defend the value of a traditional family in Russia. V.V. Putin itself expressed his opinion on this issue as follows: «we will not have one and two parents – we will have a father and mother» [17].

The wide resonance in society was caused by proposals for children and the family. In this case, we were talking about the wording of the amendment. Initially, it was proposed to indicate that children are the property of the Russian Federation. However, charitable foundations appealed to the chairman of the Presidential Human Rights Council, Valery Fadeev and a member of the Human

Rights Council, Alexander Asmolov, with a request to change the text of the amendment, since this imposes a tinge on the «ownership» of the state on children [5]. Subsequently, a member of the working group on the preparation of proposals for amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation Pavel Krashennnikov also admitted that this was not the most successful formulation. It was proposed to change the text of this innovation. As a result, the text of the amendment began to sound like this: «children are a priority of Russian state policy» [13].

Also debate was caused by the amendment about children without parental care. The working group decided to indicate that the state assumes the responsibilities of parents in relation to such children. But the public did not approve of this wording, since the state cannot satisfy the emotional and psychological needs of the child, as well as bear criminal responsibility for improper performance of duties [5]. As a result, it was decided to formulate in the Organic Law that the state is given the role of defender of the rights of the child, and it ensures the priority of family education.

Significant attention was attracted by the amendment on Russian as the language of a state-forming nation that is part of a multinational union of equal nations. On the one hand, public figures supported the adoption of this mandate, since the Russian language plays a connecting role among all the nations of the Russian Federation. This opinion is shared by Margarita Lange, a member of the Council on Interethnic Relations under the President of the Russian Federation. She also noted that the confusion begins when they say that the native language of one of the peoples becomes dominant [24].

At the same time, opinions are voiced that there is no need for this amendment. The followers of this provision rely on historical data, asserting that the Russians have always been the majority in our country and are state-forming people. The mayor of Saransk Petr Tultaev, in turn, noted that his family had many nationalities, each of which has its own culture, its own language and its own characteristics. However, they all share a common foundation in the form of the Russian language.

The Russian Public Opinion Research Center presented data about the attitude of Russians to the all-Russian vote on amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation. According to the polls, on February 12, 78% of Russians were aware of the upcoming vote, on March 3 – already 83% of the population [9]. The survey results in the Orenburg region as a whole confirm this data. So, 58% of Orenburg residents are confident that they will go to vote on April 22nd elections [15].

On the official portal of the Government of the Orenburg region, a survey on amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation in 2020 year is opened for residents of the region. By mid-March, about 2,000 people had already voted. After analyzing the preliminary results of the vote, the following conclusions were made. In the region as a whole, the majority of respondents (approximately 60%) are positive about amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation and agree with the proposed amendments to the country's Organic Law. However, it is worth noting that in large cities of the region, from 60 to 80% of respondents expressed a negative attitude to amendments to the Constitution. In most urban districts and municipal districts of the Orenburg Region, 50 to 100% of respondents consider it necessary to change certain provisions in the Constitution of the Russian Federation and express their approval for the proposals made. At the same time, from 87% to 100% of those surveyed, both in large settlements and in the countryside, are aware of the upcoming vote and plan to participate in it on April 22, 2020 year [3].

It can be concluded that in the region there is a separation of opinions, and citizens of large cities do not support the amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation, in contrast to rural residents. It can be associated with a higher level of income among residents of cities for whom the issue of incomes at the minimum wage level is not relevant. Perhaps this is due to a higher level of education in cities, which allows people to be critical of the proposals of the Government of the Russian Federation. In addition, the 2020 year amendments are considered

in a single block, without separately highlighting the political, social, cultural, religious provisions in the voting.

The latter is confirmed by VCIOM polls, according to which citizens consider social amendments as the most necessary proposals (more than 90% of citizens), which confirms the opinion of V.V. Fedorov, general director of VCIOM, on the greatest interest of citizens in amendments to the social plan [19].

The public of the Orenburg region did not remain indifferent to the amendments to the Constitution. The leaders of the regional branch of the Fair Russia party proposed amending the return of the old retirement age and fixing it in the Organic Law of the country, as well as indexing pensions for both working and non-working pensioners [1]. Some deputies of the legislative assembly of the Orenburg region, in particular Vladimir Frolov, spoke about the amendments on the negative side, even calling for a boycott of the vote [12]. However, as was shown above, there is no urgent need for these changes among the inhabitants of the region.

### Conclusions

Thus, the proposed amendments can be considered relevant for citizens of the Russian Federation, since almost every amendment was heatedly discussed by the public, which indicates their significance for society. Earlier, the media often has discussed ideas that were proposed by the President as amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation. This indicates the development of civil society in our country, as well as the fact that the government sees current issues and takes into account the opinion of citizens.

The amendments on the powers of the President, the Federal Assembly, the provisions on God, the Russian language, the family and children received wide publicity. All the provisions of the bill can be considered social, since their consideration revealed the interest of citizens, contributed to the activation of citizens' work on making proposals for amendments.

We can also conclude that the proposed amendments should be considered more likely to consolidate the established order than to introduce something new. The data of the all-Russian survey indicate the relevance of social amendments, but statistics from the Orenburg region and analysis of the media in recent weeks have shown a low level of citizens' interest in this issue. Perhaps this is due to the relatively stable social and economic situation in the Orenburg region, and possibly due to a lack of understanding of the essence of the political amendments proposed by the president.

For the Orenburg region, the amendments under consideration are in demand. The amendments will allow the head of the subject to influence the decisions made, which in turn can intensify the work of nonprofit organizations in the region and the process of formation of civil society as a whole. Social amendments guarantee every citizen the right to an income not lower than that established by the state, which will allow citizens to feel more secure in their country. The amendments on God and the Russian language are of particular importance for the Orenburg region, since the population of the region is motley in terms of religion and nationalities. These amendments will allow emphasizing the centuries-old policy of the internationality of Russia, stabilizing the social and cultural situation in the region and in the country as a whole in the face of increasing interethnic and inter-religious conflicts in the world. But entry into force is possible only after its approval by the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation and after an all-Russian vote. The head of the subject, Denis Pasler said that citizens would vote: "For a new level of social guarantees for older people and those who work today" [11]. In the Orenburg region, preparations have already begun for the vote [21].

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## Election Institute in Modern Russia

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**Annotation:** *this article presents a brief description of the institution of elections both in foreign countries (USA, Great Britain, Nigeria, Georgia, Brazil) and in modern Russia based on the use of information technologies. In particular, the author gave data on the use of such systems in the electoral process in the Russian Federation and foreign countries, such as the video surveillance system, the electronic system of processing ballot papers, blockchain, biometric identification systems and artificial intelligence, showing that all these systems carry both positive and negative aspects.*

**Key words:** *Electoral institution, electoral process, elections, politics, information technology, elections, blockchain, biometric identification systems, information technology in politics.*

**JEL classification:** A140.

### Introduction

At present, almost the entire world is characterized by explicitly globalized development, which is helped by information technologies that penetrate all spheres of economic life of society. The financial sector, the digital economy, medicine, aerospace research, etc. – many examples of how information technologies affect the above segments in the context of positive or negative dynamics can be read in the media, but the more politically targeted segment – the institution of elections – is also now subject to rapid inclusion in this information and digital paradigm of public life, which makes the selected topic relevant. IDEA International, whose aim is to establish democracy in elections around the world, In its 2017 report, too, noted that a number of countries have already turned to various technological solutions over the past decade, Aimed at making the electoral process more efficient and cost-effective, And build stakeholders' confidence at each stage of the electoral cycle through IT technologies [8].

### Methodology

Aware of the multivariance of the electoral process in states around the world, the author concluded that the most suitable methods of research will be the following, which have been applied in the work: analysis, synthesis, comparison, climbing from abstract to concrete.

## Results

There are 251 countries in the world and each has its own electoral legislation. Moreover, it should be noted that the electoral process is constantly being modernized, which makes it possible to speak of a really large impact of digital technologies on this process. For example, based on article V.C. Iwuoha can be learned that in 2018 the electoral process in Nigeria for the first time used biometric technologies, which allowed to significantly improve the process of identification of voters, as well as helped in counting votes [9]. In July 2019 it became known that Georgia is preparing to spend 150 million dollars to improve the electoral process by introducing many innovative technologies, including new systems for counting votes, systems protecting against hacking, etc., although in the country this initiative is not supported by all experts in the field of information security [4]. Generally speaking, the use of information technologies in the electoral process is already characterized by the following forms [7].

1. Creating a built-in link to log into the voting “personal cabinet” is a significant facilitation of the virtual voting process.
2. Geospatial mapping – turning voting data into an interactive graph.
3. QR-codes – with this technology you can “go” to your online bulletin and vote using a mobile device.
4. Single entry point – you can vote from a single platform, which will improve automated data collection.
5. Membership Reminder – To do this, you organize a mailing to your phones, e-mail, and provide pop-up online reminders.

However, one of the fastest-spread technologies in the electoral process is the use of artificial intelligence. Artificial intelligence (AI), sometimes called machine intelligence, is understood to be the intelligence displayed by machines, as opposed to the natural intelligence exhibited by humans and animals. Leading AI experts define this area as a study of “intelligent agents”: any device that perceives the environment and takes actions that maximize its chances of successfully achieving its goals. In spoken speech, the term “artificial intelligence” is often used to describe machines (or computers) that mimic “cognitive” functions that people associate with the human mind, such as “learning” and “problem solving” [5]. And it is artificial intelligence that has become widely used in the electoral process in recent years.

For example, Z. Khashman and A. Khashman noted, that when an election [not a Presidential] is held in the US Congress, or a vote is initiated on an issue, Votes from the biggest parties in America – Democrats and Republicans – gather with artificial intelligence. And, to be more precise, an artificial neural network allows for automated gathering of politicians ‘voices to minimize human labor in their count. And the whole system is based on three response elements [11]:

- 1) “Yes” is the vote cast in favour of a decision;
- 2) “No is the vote cast” against “a decision;
- 3) “Abstained” – lack of a vote, although the voter is present, but does not want to vote due to conflict of interest.

Artificial intelligence is indeed an effective tool for the electoral process, no matter in which country. It has the ability to analyze unique psychographic and behavioral profiles of voters, with the possibility that AI is already being used to persuade people to vote for a particular candidate or even create prejudice against that candidate’s opponent. The most common application of AI in the US electoral process. In the 2016 US presidential election, for example, researchers at the University of Washington found that automated bots on social media were used to increase traffic on Twitter’s social network to lift Donald Trump’s top hashtag supporters – one of the presidential candidates. Political consulting firm Cambridge Analytica was accused of helping D. Trump win the election by promoting “anti-Hillary Clinton”

content among voters, which influenced their choices. In order to do this, the company gained access to the data of more than 87 million users of the social network Facebook, after which the machine learning algorithm was initiated to draw up psychological profiles of potential voters, followed by Facebook's own targeted advertising system, which showed content related to Trump's activities, which encouraged the formation of opinions [1].

A similar information and policy manoeuvre was registered during the 2017 UK general election, when automatic social media mailing systems (bots) like Facebook and Twitter were used to spread fake political news, incriminating a candidate. These bots were used to select candidates who were more likely to vote for a certain political party. Through negative reports, bots managed to get voters to question their choices or not even come to the polls because of it. In the last 3 months before the 2017 election in the UK, Twitter blocked more than 58 million malicious automatic accounts. And the sociological study that followed showed that people now tend to believe that it is information technology that can really affect the outcome, not people's opinions, which demonstrated the growing distrust of citizens in the British government and electoral democracy as a whole [1].

In fact, artificial intelligence has the ability to determine policy by collecting data on the country where the electoral process will take place, but there are still AI systems that have been put forward as one of the candidates for the proposed post. Thus, during the 2018 presidential election in Russia, a person named Alice was nominated as a candidate. She conducted her campaign using slogans such as "Behind Me the Political System of the Future" and "The President Who Knows You Best". However, Alice was not "she" in the physiological sense, but "she". Alice was an artificial intelligence system created by Yandex (the Russian equivalent of Google). Although Alice did not win, she nevertheless received 25 000 votes in her support. Alice is not the only example of AI who is running for the position of politician in the management apparatus of the state. In April 2018, during a mayoral race in a small area of Tokyo, an AI named Michihito Matsuda took third place with 4000 votes. His campaign slogan was: "Artificial intelligence will change the city of Tama". Another example of the same IT influence on the electoral process is SAM, an artificial intelligence company from New Zealand that will run for election in the country in 2020, being the first virtual politician in the world. Today, SAM addresses voters via Facebook Messenger and shares its thoughts on climate change, health care and education. All this shows that in the future real politicians can replace artificial systems that can make decisions in a completely impartial manner [1].

Turning to the description of the experience of the Russian Federation with regard to the use of IT-technologies in the electoral process, it can be said that in Russia the institution of elections in its technological development is also not standing still, constantly adding new initiatives in the field of both information security of the voting process itself and side areas on which the electoral process itself is based. Moreover, as Zaslavsky S.E. noted, presidential elections are held in conditions of openness and political competition [20]. In 2018–2019 there were some technologies designed to improve the conditions of the institution of elections, at the same time changing it, creating new planes not only for further possible changes, but also sometimes putting at risk all success of innovations. Thus, one of the almost daily introduced information technologies is the possibility to view the situation at the polling station from surveillance cameras in real time. On September 7, 2019 – before a single voting day in the Russian Federation – the Ministry of Digital Development, Communications and Mass Communications of Russia gave the last order to provide video surveillance at polling stations. All systems were tested for functionality and operability, servers were strengthened with additional encryption protocols, and on September 8 – voting day – the entire system was restarted. In general, on the day of voting video surveillance operated at 14.7 polling stations, as well as in more than 1 territorial election commissions. The broadcast was available on Our Choice and the entire access system was as follows [18]:

- 1) it is necessary to enter in the string "search" the number of the polling station by place of residence, if it is known, or the city as a whole;
- 2) you must select the area of interest;
- 3) you must click on the start of translation button (the list of available cameras is usually visible under the name of the site – there may be one or more);
- 4) if there were problems starting the broadcast, you could contact support to establish feedback and fix the problems.

The use of digital technologies in the electoral process has indeed accompanied the Russian Federation for more than five years, and one of the earliest innovations was the use of the ballot processing complex, the purpose of which is expressed in three aspects [14]:

- 1) leveling of time for setting of voting results;
- 2) leveling the human factor (human error) in vote counting;
- 3) maximizing citizens' confidence in the electoral process paradigm.

In general, the main equipment consists of the following tools [14]:

- 1) touch voting device (built-in or portable);
- 2) small-sized printer;
- 3) network controller;
- 4) service block;
- 5) code modifier;
- 6) memory card and reader cards;
- 7) uninterruptible power supply unit;
- 8) set of connecting cables.

The technological operations involved in the operation of the device system really help to automate the counting of votes, which increases the speed of the operation.

Another information system that allows to develop the electoral process in the Russian Federation in a more innovative reading is the CEO "Elections", which is an opportunity of Internet voting. Serbin L.A. and Serbin M.V. stressed that Internet voting has a significant impact on the political activity of young voters, increasing it [17]. P.O. Zaharov agrees with this, although he noted that the system has not been fully modernized, so there are situations with erroneous data entry or technical errors preventing the entry of this data, which suggests that the whole system should still be finalized [10].

Nevertheless, it is worth stressing that the electoral process is modernized through digital technologies, long-term and effectively coordinated work of the State, political and legal organizations, as well as the expert community is necessary to overcome possible obstacles expressed in illiterate technical environment or due to organizational and legal problems. And one of the latest trends can be considered the use of blockchain technologies.

Blockchain is a comparatively new technology that was introduced to the world in 2008. Speaking of its functioning, it can be said that it is a kind of growing list of records called blocks that are linked by cryptography. Moreover, each block contains a cryptographic hash of the previous block, a timestamp, and transaction data typically represented as a Merkle tree. Alekseyev R.A. believes that blockchain, as a technology that supports both transparency and anonymity, can give each capable citizen of the Russian Federation its own code in the electoral process, which will help to comply with the principle of secret voting, as well as exclude the throwing of ballots [2]. It should be noted also such positive factor during the vote by means of the analyzed technology that it will be possible to vote online, as the author notes, it will save people from obligation of visit of the polling precinct, for vote that will provide percentage increase in an appearance.

On a single election day in 2019, blockchain technology was applied at Moscow polling stations, and problems related to its technical situation were identified. So, for example, on site No. 30 the system did not work for half an hour, and people could not vote. There were also

complaints about the failure of the system and further hanging, which prevented people from voting, and when they again initiated the login, it was written that the vote had already been cast [6]. Problems in the use of blockchain in the Institute of Elections in the Russian Federation lie really in the technical plane, as early as August 2019 it was hacked at the request of Russian specialists by the French cryptographer P. Godri, who pointed to the problem of too small a size of encryption. Correlates with this and the article of the foreign IT specialist L. Meary, who in August 2019 released a large article, noting that the introduction of blockchain could be the end of democracy. He explained his position that blockchain is not a priori the safest technology, and can be hacked by intruders while rigging the results. The author believes that the institution of elections should be particularly protected from hacking, as hacking in the 2016 U.S. Presidential election by Russia was confirmed. In the USA, blockchain is used mainly in the election process from phones, so IT specialists believe that mobile devices can be hacked, a hacker attack can be carried out, etc., which will prevent obtaining reliable results, so that blockchain itself should be used together with biometric identification technologies, as well as with a better encryption system [13].

In addition, many experts believe that the use of blockchain in the US electoral process should not be initiated. N. Kshetri noted in his article that although there are many positive aspects associated with the use of this technology, there are still many negative factors that can destroy the electoral process. In the United States, blockchain is used in the Voatz app, allowing U.S. citizens abroad who are unable to come to the polling station to vote using the app. For example, in the November 2018 congressional elections, the state of West Virginia allowed 144 voters living abroad to cast ballots from 31 different countries using the Voatz app, with West Virginia wanting to expand the functionality of the voting app in the 2020 Presidential Election. In Denver, Colorado, 119 voters who are not geographically in the United States used the same system to vote in the municipal primary elections in May 2019. In the June 2019 elections in the city district 112 voters voted through the Voatz application, and already in August 2019 24 voters voted abroad using the same application in the elections in Utah County, Utah [12].

There are several obstacles to using blockchain for large-scale, legally binding voting. First, most people don't understand how blockchain systems work. Another, equally important aspect, is that even experts are unable to identify all possible irregularities in online voting. Voting in paper format, by contrast, is well studied as a voting system, and it is easy to test. Another of the most important aspects of a blockchain voting system is the method by which a computer system checks voters' identities. When an authorized voter creates an account in the system, this process creates a digital key that reliably identifies them when voting. A more complex key is harder to crack, but it also requires more computing resources to verify, so it will be important to find a way to protect the integrity of the voting process without exhausting government budgets or spending finance on purchasing advanced computing power. The required processing power can make blockchain systems ineffective for voting in the world, or specifically in the United States, given densely populated states such as California and Texas [12].

In addition to the widespread introduction of blockchain in the future into the institution of elections both in the Russian Federation and in other countries, biometric technologies are expected to be of great importance. Thus, in particular, as early as 2014 there was information that Russians will be offered a voting system, which can be initiated by touching the display with a finger, confirming their identity. In this regard, there will be no need to use passports at polling stations, and the process itself should become more transparent and increase public confidence [16]. This system is in place in some countries, and in Brazil it is planned to reach absolutely everyone who has the right to vote by 2020 [3]. However, the CEC refrains from more detailed forecasts, although it does not rule out that biometric identification systems will be used in elections and in Russia in the future.

## Discussion

Despite the fact that informatization is already more firmly entering the electoral process around the world, there are nevertheless certain problems related to this phenomenon. For example, Karpov P.N. believes that despite the fact that web-technologies allow to initiate closer communication of voters with candidates and facilitate in general the election process, these same technologies can become a strong tool of manipulation of voter consciousness by the state apparatus, parties and candidates [10]. K. Roose, in turn, in his article gives the thesis that the only safe type of electoral process is the electoral process with the least use of IT-technologies, preferring the paper option of collecting votes. He explains his position by the fact that not all voters may know how to use a technology, may not have a voting application [if it is available], why the vote will not be obtained, and also retains the probability of failure of the system collecting votes, why the electoral process will not take place [15].

## Conclusion

Thus, it can be concluded that the institution of elections is now a dynamic phenomenon that actively implements information technologies that help to modernize the electoral process. Both foreign countries and the Russian Federation now have video surveillance systems for the electoral process, complexes for electronic voting, blockchain is being developed, artificial intelligence is being used, and even in plans to introduce biometric voter identification systems. Nevertheless, information technology at the electoral institute is accompanied by technical and organizational difficulties, which can offset the effectiveness of the digital electoral process. As well as IT technology can be “caught” for manipulating voters opinions, Although, with each new electoral process, all existing systems become more advanced, By making the election process transparent and by increasing voters’ confidence in the process.

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## Patriotism in the Framework of Intercultural Communication As an Aspect of Intercultural Unity of Civil Society

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**Annotation:** *the article presents a study of international events (forums) as a platform for intercultural communication of representatives of various cultures from the point of view of cultural knowledge. The thesis is substantiated that in major international events, the subject of scientific analysis can be traditions (the way of acting), which in Russian culture are interpreted as patriotic and unite Russian youth with the youth of other countries.*

**Key words:** *patriotism, patriotic traditions, intercultural unity, theorization, intercultural communication, cross-culture, identification, international events, civil society.*

**JEL classification:** A140.

### Introduction

The relevance of the research topic of this article is associated with the tendency of reliance in modern socio-political life around the world on culture as a global humanitarian communication platform. It is predicted that it is culture that will provide the world community with mechanisms for developing and coordinating positions on certain issues of human life on Earth. And this trend inevitably creates a chain of subordinate tasks that need to be addressed. Thus, the need for an all-humanitarian platform forms the social order of choosing the most effective forms of manifestation of these cultural values. The selection involves a choice from a number of studied and evaluated in terms of the effectiveness of the forms of sociocultural activity of people and states. This, in turn, poses the problem of developing criteria for the effectiveness of a particular form of sociocultural activity to achieve specific goals. Justification of the criteria is impossible without a comprehensive study of each of them by methods and tools of various sciences.

One of such qualitative criteria of effectiveness may be the conformity of a particular form of sociocultural activity to the requirements of collective identity (universality). The main characteristic of collective identity is the equality and accessibility of a specific communication platform for all people who are interested and share their values.

The hypothesis of this study is the assumption that patriotism as a feeling and worldview is inherent in people in all countries, and as a collectively identical feeling it has common features, a similar value system, often common sources for its occurrence. On this identity (universality), the coordination of the positions of individuals, civil society institutions and states can be built, the concept of intercultural unity can be formed.

For example, the patriotic tradition of celebrating Victory Day has a common source of origin. At the beginning of the 20th century, the most severe armed conflict occurred for the history of mankind, namely, the Second World War (1939–1945). This terrifying war involved about 80% of the population of planet Earth, who lived in 62 of the 73 states that existed at that time. At the end of the Second World War, the awareness of how fragile and valuable human life was increased with universal power in universal consciousness. People began to be guided by the understanding of the presence of common (global) tasks, to seek and continuously update the forms of joint actions to solve them.

One form of joint action was the celebration of Victory Day in World War II. Seven decades after the end of the war, Victory Day became a sociocultural phenomenon and took shape as an intercontinental patriotic tradition [12]. On different dates, but in many countries this day is officially celebrated. For Russia, this is May 9th. For countries of the anti-Hitler coalition and some former Soviet republics – May 8 [14]. Of significance for the topic of the study is the fact that in 2004 the United Nations declared both of these dates the Days of Remembrance and Reconciliation dedicated to those who died in World War II. This recognized the universality of the patriotic tradition – a tribute of respect and memory to the fallen defenders and victims of the war.

In many countries, patriotic (in the sense of showing interest in the history of their country) festivals, events and other forms of cultural events have long and firmly entered into the activities of both state structures and public organizations. Among the most recognizable events of this kind, for example, the widespread movement of reenactors in many countries [20].

This allows us to consider patriotic traditions as the basis for intercultural unity of peoples in solving problems both on international platforms and within countries.

The object of the study is the patriotic traditions of people communicating on the same platform with representatives of different cultures, allowing their participants to experience intercultural unity through the formation of a specific environment of understanding and unity of interpretation of individual events or processes.

The subject of the research is the manifestation of the patriotic traditions of the Russian Federation by means of an international event.

Purpose: to identify the potential of festivals and international events in promoting patriotic traditions.

To achieve the stated goal and confirm the hypothesis of the study, it is necessary to solve the following tasks:

- to analyze and interpret the results of the analysis of theoretical sources on the research topic;
- develop methods for classifying patriotic traditions;
- to analyze international events as a platform for intercultural unity of its participants.

### **Methods**

The methodology of this study is structural functionalism. To solve the problems posed in the study, the author of the research applied the following methods of scientific knowledge.

The method of theoretical analysis of studies and regulatory legal acts related to the topic of the study, demonstrated the position that this topic is still waiting for its researchers. Neither patriotic traditions as a resource of sociocultural behavior on international platforms, nor international events held on the territory of Russia, today attract attention of analysts and researchers. Today it is appropriate to talk about individual studies that are more descriptive and do not analyze the technology of international events as a systemically affecting public opinion event.

The study of normative legal acts showed that the theme of patriotism and patriotic traditions was elaborated in sufficient detail at the federal and regional levels. The use of the method made it possible for the first time in studies to propose a classification of measures whose content is assessed at the legislative level as patriotic.

The functional analysis method was used to assess the potential of international events to represent the Russian Federation to foreign participants of their cultural values, including patriotic ones.

The methods of empirical research are due to 5 years of practical experience of the author.

The applied systematic approach made it possible to consider patriotism, located in the system of the general concept of culture and the hierarchy of values and worldviews in general. To analyze the concept of "culture of patriotism" and similar definitions in the work, elements of the methods of semiotic analysis were used.

In addition, the axiological approach plays an important role in the work, which allowed us to consider patriotism, on the one hand, as the value of the individual and society, and, on the other hand, to assess the significance of patriotism as a culture-forming phenomenon.

### Results

This study is based on several semantic categories, which are basic for the disclosure of the research topic. These are the concepts of "intercultural unity", "intercultural communication", "patriotism", and "patriotic traditions". In the work, through understanding the theoretical and methodological approaches of famous researchers, they are given an additional interpretation, which allows them to be used for research tasks in a more applied sense.

A person as a citizen experiences a feeling of patriotism regardless of his citizenship; in all countries of the world patriotic feelings are not alien to people. Turning to the dictionaries, we will find confirmation that in each language the word "patriot" is primarily interpreted through the category of love for the person's homeland, however, the key differences will be how the manifestation of love for the Motherland is characterized in different languages.

For example, the Oxford Dictionary describes a "patriot" as an energetically supporting person who is eager to defend his homeland from its enemies or enemies [13]. The Cambridge Dictionary characterizes the "patriot" as a person proud of his country [2]. The joint international English dictionary calls a patriot that person who zealously supports the interests and authority of his country on the world stage. In turn, in Russian the most common is the definition of "patriot" given by D.N. Ushakov, who says that in addition to his own love for the Motherland, the patriot feels loyalty to his people and is ready to sacrifice himself, performing feats in the name of the Motherland [4]. For the purposes of the study of the total number of diverse definitions of a "patriot" in Russian, the closest definition is S.I. Ozhegova. S.I. Ozhegov treats the "patriot" as a person who is deeply devoted and attached to the interests of a business [5].

A number of scholars rightly point out that patriotism is, first and foremost, a tradition. In this situation, the displacement of traditional spiritual values by modern orientations oriented to the culture of the "consumer society" of Western countries receives a negative assessment and causes rejection by society. It is the preservation of national-historical continuity and the categorical inadmissibility of transforming the socio-psychological code of a nation that becomes a fundamental requirement for any of the new forms of civic education in the Russian Federation. This requirement is based on the identity of the cultural and historical development of the modern Russian Federation.

At the same time, traditions should be considered not from the point of view of preserving the old, but as broadcasting for youth all the best practices that have come from the past and are relevant today with modern realities and the necessary factors for modernizing present-day Russia. Thus, tradition as continuity simultaneously has the significance of horizontal development through the development within the generation that has accepted the tradition. This approach is based on the recognition of the role of traditions as an internal regulator of personality behavior, in the first place.

Currently, the most powerful engine of social development is patriotism. The main idea of this study is to define a set of actions or events that can be interpreted as patriotic and will have their own signs of universality. To achieve this goal, first of all, it is necessary to characterize by what

criteria the event selected for analysis is proposed to be understood as a universal patriotic (in its content) tradition [7]. That is, in general, a theoretical and methodological justification of the meanings and categories of the object of study is necessary based on cultural knowledge. In the framework of this study, we are talking about such definitions as "patriotic traditions", "intercultural unity", "civil society" and others.

As mentioned earlier, in this study, the author believes that tradition grows out of values. Initially, an event in its development takes the form of a socially recognized value, which in the future, by virtue of public recognition, broadcasting to the next generation as a value, becomes a tradition. As, for example, the celebration of Victory Day has become a patriotic tradition, passing from generation to generation. It can be assumed that the actions "St. George Ribbon", "Immortal Regiment", "Memory Watch" or "Victory Letter" will also continue their tendency to be an annual event and more and more go beyond the borders of our state and accept the status of international patriotic traditions.

In order to strengthen this point of view, we can turn to the definition of value given by A. Ya. Flyer, who understands by "value" "a certain quintessence of social experience of a society, in the framework of which the principles of life activity that are most proven and have shown the greatest social efficiency are collected ..., the basic norms of behavior and judgments that lead to increased social integration of the community, to an increase in understanding between people, their complementarity, solidarity, mutual assistance, etc." [8].

To reveal the research topic, it is important to identify theoretical approaches to understanding intercultural unity. Due to the fact that intercultural unity within the framework of the patriotic tradition is international in nature, it seems reasonable to consider the position of UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) as fundamental in this matter [15]. The adopted Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions in 2005 said that "intercultural interaction means the existence and equal interaction of different cultures, as well as the opportunity to create common forms of cultural expression based on dialogue and mutual respect" [3].

In general, theoretical and methodological approaches to the disclosure of the research topic were developed through the study of the works of A. Ya. Flyer. So, the mechanisms of cognition of a major international event as a universal model of a culture-forming event are suggested by A. Ya. Flyer "Culture as a Forecast", in which the author discusses the branch, differentiating and integrating properties of culture as independent universals for understanding the phenomenon of culture as a whole [6]. The latter, an integrating property, is understood by the author as a system of interests that unites people into stable communities and regulates their interaction, which functions at the same time as the social memory of all mankind and its individual communities, as well as the actual social consciousness of society, making culture a reservoir of social experience and a program ensuring the collective nature of life. This theoretical design allows us to consider international events as a system of interests in which patriotic and historical social memory and relevant social consciousness are formed using artistic means and political propaganda. At the same time, the thesis of A. Ya. Flier, that relevant social consciousness is a phenomenon of mass culture.

Taken A. Ya. Flier, an analysis of sociocultural communication as a process, gave the author an understanding that international cultural events, such as the World Festival of Youth and Students, Olympic and Paralympic Games, World Cups of football or hockey and others, can be considered not only as a single platform for communication between representatives of various cultures, but also as an independent mechanism of intercultural unity [9].

Among the works used in the framework of this study in order to clarify the content of certain categories, an article by O. N. Astafyeva "Intercultural communications and collective identity: new emphasis in the cultural policy of nation-states". It was this article that strengthened the position of the author of the study in the correctness of the hypotheses put forward. And

specifically, the thesis that modernity makes demands for a state of culture that ensures the free use by representatives of one culture of the values of another culture [1].

From a special angle of research attention to study international events as a platform for intercultural communication allowed the work of A.P. Sadokhina on intercultural communication, in which the author discusses intercultural communication as a new science and a new discipline whose goal is to develop communication and interaction skills among representatives of different cultures.

In addition, the work of A.P. Sadokhin allows us to understand in which particular theoretical direction the research in this article should go. The author speaks of two directions: the first is descriptive, which is based on folklore, the second is cultural and anthropological, which explores the variability of the cultural activities of social groups and communities, their norms of behavior, values and traditions, where young people are singled out as a separate social group [17].

For research also a theoretical understanding of patriotic traditions as a mechanism of intercultural unity of civil society was given by M.A. Poletaeva "The structure of national self-awareness: the experience of culturological research". In this work, the author considers the concept of synchronization of people's worldview as a condition for their coexistence as a single collective. It is important to assert that this kind of synchronicity manifests itself at the time of the joint empathy of any event, when "at the level of ethnic self-consciousness, the concept of unity in time and spirit is developed, that is, the idea of extrapsychological resonance and continuity in something" [16].

Thus, a number of semantic categories was considered, which is the basis for the further disclosure of the research topic. These are the concepts of "intercultural unity", "intercultural communication", "patriotism" and "patriotic traditions". By means of understanding the theoretical and methodological approaches of famous researchers, an additional interpretation is given that allows, in a more applied sense, to use these semantic categories to solve research problems.

### **Discussion**

As noted earlier, even at the theoretical level, achieving the goal of the study was fraught with great difficulties, since for every nation, every culture and country the concept of patriotism was traditionally perceived as an exclusively territorial (national, local) phenomenon. This is an attitude that primarily contrasts the citizens of one country with the citizens of another country. And, in this situation, an attempt to identify universal patriotic traditions that would unite people with the very fact of patriotism, without opposing it, while preserving the uniqueness of each patriotic tradition, demanded above all to overcome this perception.

Summing up the key results of the study, the following conclusions should be made.

1. Festivalization as a form of manifestation of social and political life in different countries can create universally collectively similar traditions in the sense of meaning. Festivalization implies the holding of various social events, on the site of which representatives of different cultures can coexist at the same time.

2. According to the principle of love for the motherland, respect for its history, these traditions can be interpreted as patriotic and used as an instrument for intercultural unity of civil society.

3. It is possible to identify a fairly wide range of criteria and indicators by which individual forms of socio-political life can be classified as patriotic. This classifier cannot be regulated and have a rigid ideological framework.

### **Conclusion**

The aim of the study was to identify and study the potential of international festivals to promote patriotic values in civil society and the use of festivals as a mechanism for intercultural unity of peoples and countries.

Even at the theoretical level, achieving the goal of the study was fraught with great difficulties, since for every nation and for every country the concept of patriotism is traditionally perceived as an exclusively territorial (national, local, local) phenomenon. This is the attitude that primarily contrasts the citizens of one country with the citizens of another country. And an attempt to identify universal patriotic traditions that would unite people by the very fact of patriotism, without opposing, while preserving the uniqueness of each patriotic tradition, demanded above all to overcome this perception [10].

The research hypothesis was analytically confirmed – patriotism as a feeling and worldview is inherent in people in all countries, and as a collectively identical feeling it has common features of manifestation, a similar system of values, often common sources for its occurrence and manifestation.

The theoretical and methodological tools of cultural studies have shown their effectiveness in the analysis of major international events.

During the study, the following results were achieved:

- the criteria for distinguishing certain traditions as patriotic are justified and based on them to create a classifier of events of patriotic content, the organization and conduct of which is recognized as a tradition and enshrined in the regulatory legal acts of the Russian Federation;
- the elements of Russian culture are highlighted, which are certainly perceived among representatives of other cultures, interpreted not only as manifestations of patriotism of Russians, but also as part of the world cultural heritage created in Russia;
- the mechanisms for using patriotic traditions for the purpose of intercultural unity of civil society are defined.

During the study, evidence was found and presented that major international festival events can be a source of universal patriotic traditions. Patriotism for the Motherland can be successfully and neutrally integrated into the world cultural space. The main integration tool is dialogue. Thus, the technology of the international festival events showed that, as a social institution, it, on the one hand, contributes to the formation of value orientations of its participants and supporters. On the other hand, it translates into society a system of values created within the festival on its communication platforms. The forms of communication at the festival venues give rise to a certain cultural practice, within the framework of which, for example, patriotic meanings and guidelines are realized, with which the participants relate their actions [18].

The next conclusion is that patriotic traditions generated and manifested on large international platforms require a categorical scientific approach, they need to give generalizing names and agree on the contents of this name. It is this name that should unite citizens and civil institutions of different countries around itself, creating a new intercultural community. Evidence of the possibility of such an agreement is provided by, for example, the World Festival of Youth and Students [11].

The study made it possible to confirm that the main and most effective way of uniting civil society around a patriotic tradition is through the creation of it, tradition, images and symbols. So, the tradition that stood the test of time and political upheaval is the very fact of the preparation and holding of the World Festival of Youth and Students. Traditionally, he gathers young people from all over the world who share and live outside the festival events according to the principles and values of this youth movement. Within the framework of the preparation of the next festival of youth and students, it became a tradition to compare positions on the most pressing issues of people's lives and to express the collective point of view on them in the mottos and slogans of the festival. The result of the interaction of the participants in the movement are also symbols and images of the festival. As part of the study, they were disassembled.



The theoretical significance of the study in this article is that it complements the notions of patriotic traditions prevailing in Russian society and offers a classifier of patriotic traditions of Russian society; substantiates the collective identity (universality) of individual patriotic traditions; offers mechanisms for using these traditions for intercultural unity of civil society.

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## Powers of the President of the Russian Federation: Russian Legislation Analysis

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**Annotation:** *the article is concerned with the analysis of the powers of the head of the Russian state. The purpose of this article is to study the functions of the President of the Russian Federation and to determine the powers formed from these functions. During the work, both general scientific and specific scientific methods of enquiry were used. As a result, there were established the role and place of powers of the President of the Russian Federation in the structure of his constitutional and legal status. There are investigated the forms and methods of legislative consolidation of powers of the head of state. The functions of the Russian leader are revealed, from which his powers are formed. The grounds for classifying the powers of the head of state are determined. Measures conducive to the most efficient, fastest, and coordinated exercise of powers by the President of the Russian Federation are investigated. The findings of this study can be used as the basis for subsequent research in the field of constitutional status of the President of the Russian Federation. The scientific novelty of the study is that the author, based on a wide range of sources, comprehensively investigated and analyzed the powers of the President of the Russian Federation.*

**Key words:** *Constitution of the Russian Federation, President of the Russian Federation, powers of the head of state, branches of government.*

**JEL classification:** A140.

### Introduction

Currently, in the political systems of many countries with a mixed or republican form of government, the institution of presidency exists and functions. More often than not, the term "president" is understood to mean the head of state, who was elected by citizens in elections. In the Russian Federation, the President does not belong to any branch of government. Every day, the head of the Russian state takes a large number of important and necessary decisions for Russia both at the international level and at the domestic level.

For their successful implementation, the President of the Russian Federation is legally endowed with an extensive list of powers. Success in resolving any tasks facing the Russian Federation depends on the legislative elaboration and effectiveness of the mechanism for exercising the powers of the head of state. Due to the fact that the President of the Russian Federation has a voluminous list of powers that are aimed at solving a wide range of state tasks, a causal relationship between these powers of the Russian leader and his functions is possible.

Despite the obvious relevance of conducting research on the study and analysis of the powers of the President of the Russian Federation, the necessary attention was not paid to this

issue in the scientific literature. Nevertheless, various authors conducted research on some aspects of the problem of determining the constitutional legal status of the head of state and his specific powers.

Separate ways of this problem's solution were disclosed in fundamental studies of: Lazarev V.V. (2009), Maklakov V.V. (2012), Palienko N.I. (2012), Sergeev S.G. (2012), Mishin A.A. (2013), Dobrynin N.M. (2016).

Some aspects of certain powers of the President of the Russian Federation were investigated in scientific articles of: Alimbekov R.R. (2018), Belikov P.V. (2019), Bondarets E.B. (2014), Valiev K.D., Sofronova I.A. (2018), Gaag L.V. (2017), Galueva V.O. (2018), Demchev V.D. (2015), Zhivaev A.A., Vardanyan O.V. (2019), Kishoyan N.A. (2012), Kolyushkina L.Yu. (2019), Kryuchkova E.A. (2012), Loshkarev I.O., Yastrebova A.I. (2019), Mamina O.I. (2018), Minkha G.V. (2016), Pavlov E.Ya. (2012), Prokofiev V.N. (2016), Protozanov S.A. (2019), Smirnov A.A. (2016), Tselikova E.Yu. (2019), Schipanov A.V. (2009).

### **Methodology**

In the process of writing a scientific article, private scientific and general scientific methods of cognition were used. From the general scientific methods of cognition that were used in the study, one can distinguish deduction, system analysis, and induction. The used private-scientific methods of cognition include system-structural, formal-legal, analytical methods.

Using the method of system analysis, causal relationships were established that influenced the occurrence of the problem (analysis of the powers of the President of the Russian Federation), options for resolving this problem were analyzed taking into account risks, uncertain environmental conditions and restrictions. Using the induction method, there was carried out a research from individual, particular factors to general conclusions and generalizations (establishing the role and place of authority of the President of the Russian Federation in the structure of his constitutional and legal status based on individual research results, etc.). The deduction method was used to put forward various hypotheses, that is, assumptions about the existence of a certain relationship between political and legal processes and phenomena, and their subsequent verification on certain facts.

On the basis of the system-structural method of enquiry, structural relations were established between the various bases for classifying the powers of the President of the Russian Federation. The analytical method of enquiry was used to analyze the correlation of the functions of the Russian leader with his powers, formed from these functions initially in separate aspects, then in the form of a single and integral phenomenon. Using the formal legal method, the legal norms of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, federal constitutional laws, federal laws, acts of the President of the Russian Federation were investigated and analyzed.

### **Results**

The study found that the powers of the President of the Russian Federation play an important role in solving international or domestic problems. The powers of the President of the Russian Federation occupy a central position in the structure of his constitutional legal status along with rights, obligations and guarantees.

It is determined that the powers of the head of the Russian state are enshrined in the federal legislation of Russia, as well as in the Constitution of the Russian Federation. Moreover, in some cases, specific powers may not be clearly enshrined in the country's Basic Law. In this case, the legal boundaries of authority will be determined using the principle of separation of branches of government and requirements on the compliance of orders and decrees of the President of the Russian Federation with the Constitution of the Russian Federation and federal legislation.

It is revealed that clear, legislatively fixed powers are formed from certain functions of the Russian leader. It seems possible to distinguish the following groups of functions of the President of the Russian Federation, of which his powers are formed:

- the functions of the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, the guarantor of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the rights and freedoms of a citizen and a person, the protection of territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of the state;

- leadership of various state bodies, ensuring their effective and coordinated functioning and interaction, the formation of the Government of the Russian Federation and participation in the management of its activities, the creation of other state bodies, participation in the legislative process, ensuring the conduct and organization of referendums in the country, the appointment of government officials;

- determination of the main directions of the country's foreign and domestic policy, representation of the state at the international level, management of its foreign policy;

- representation of Russia throughout its territory, implementation of legally significant actions and adoption of power decisions on behalf of the Russian Federation. Based on this, the need for recognizing the causal relationship between the powers of the head of state and his functions was established.

It has been determined that the powers of the President of the Russian Federation have various scientific classifications: by field of activity, by sources of consolidation, by subject or target orientation, by belonging to the head of state or to the head of the executive branch.

It has been revealed that in practice, measures are often applied that contribute to the most effective, fast and coordinated exercise of powers by the President of the Russian Federation. These include the creation of various deliberative and advisory government bodies. However, some federal ministries, federal services and federal agencies are under the direct supervision of the head of state.

### **Discussion**

Each head of state with a mixed or republican form of government has its own constitutional and legal status from the basis of which its functions appear. The functions of the head of state are the main areas of his activity, on the basis of which powers arise. The powers of the head of state are legislatively enshrined in the Constitution of the country or in other constitutional legal acts.

Loshkarev I.O., Yastrebova A.I. noted that the period of one presidential term in the Russian Federation is six years. In order to carry out activities to maintain a stable and real development of democratic values and institutions, to prevent the concentration of legislative, judicial and executive power from one person, the duration of the same person in the office of the President of the Russian Federation is limited to twelve years, that is, two consecutive terms [11, p. 28–29]. The head of the Russian state is endowed with the Constitution of the Russian Federation and other federal laws with an extensive list of powers arising from the functions of the Russian leader. According to Alimbekov R.R., in the Russian Federation there has been a situation more than once, in which some of the powers of the President of the Russian Federation did not have a clear and unequivocal fixation in the Constitution of the Russian Federation [2, p. 897].

Based on this, the Constitutional Court of the Russian Federation adopted resolutions No. 10-P of July 31, 1995 and No. 8-P of April 4, 2002. According to them, if any powers of the President of the Russian Federation do not have a clear and unequivocal fixation in the Constitution of the Russian Federation, their normative boundaries will be revealed through the application of the principle of separation of powers and requirements for compliance of acts of the Russian leader with the Constitution of the Russian Federation and other federal laws.

The powers of the head of the Russian state occupy a central place in the structure of his constitutional legal status along with guarantees, rights and obligations. Shchipanov A.V. claims that these powers have various scientific classifications: by affiliation to the head of state or to the head of the executive branch of government, by field of activity, by sources of consolidation, by subject or target orientation [17, p. 285–286].

Bondarets E.B. believes that the Russian leader exercises the functions of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, the guarantor of the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the rights and freedoms of a citizen and a person [4, p. 45]. Along with this, the President of the Russian Federation develops and implements measures to protect the territorial integrity, sovereignty and political independence of the state.

Based on these functions of the head of the Russian state, clear, legislatively established powers are formed. The President of the Russian Federation has the right:

- introduce a state of emergency throughout Russia or in some of its localities with notification of the upper and lower houses of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation;
- introduce martial law throughout Russia or in certain localities when there is a direct threat of aggression against the state or when it is carried out with the notification of both houses of parliament;
- to approve the military doctrine of Russia;
- appoint or dismiss the highest command of the Armed Forces of the country from their posts;
- form the Security Council of Russia and supervise the work of this body [1, p. 746].

Tselikova E.Yu. notes that the head of the Russian state is forming the Government of Russia, participating in the management of its activities, leading various state bodies, ensuring their effective and coordinated functioning and interaction, creating other state bodies [19, p. 6]. As well as ensuring the conduct and organization of referenda in Russia, participation in the legislative process, the appointment of government officials.

Based on this group of functions of the Russian leader, clear and legislatively established powers are formed. The Russian leader has the right:

- appoint the Chairman of the Government of Russia. The Russian leader is entitled to exercise this authority only after preliminary approval of the candidacy of the Chairman of the Government of Russia with the lower house of parliament [18, p. 181];
- establish the system and structure of federal bodies of the executive branch of government;
- with the preliminary approval of candidates by the Chairman of the Government of Russia, appoint his deputies and federal ministers, or relieve them of these posts;
- repeal acts of the Government of Russia in case of their conflict with the Constitution of Russia, acts of the Russian leader or federal law;
- chair the meetings of the Government of Russia and thereby actually exercise the functions of the Chairman of the Government of Russia;
- dismiss the Government of Russia if it fails to comply with the acts of the Russian leader;
- issue own acts, take the legislative initiative [9, p. 39]. Minh G.V. believes that, in the framework of the exercise of these powers, the head of state can introduce various bills to the lower house of parliament [13, p. 92];
- sign and promulgate federal laws of the Russian Federation. As noted by Prokofiev V.N., the President of the Russian Federation is vested with the Veto right, he may not sign the bills submitted to him for consideration, but send them with written comments to the lower house of parliament to eliminate comments and re-examine [15, p. 163];
- ensure the organization and conduct of referenda in the country [21, p. 399];
- determine the date of elections to the lower house of the Russian parliament;
- to release or appoint to the post of representatives of the country in the upper house of parliament [7, p. 224];
- dissolve the lower house of parliament;
- propose to the lower house of parliament candidates for the post of Chairman of the Central Bank of Russia or raise before her the question of his resignation;
- propose to the upper house of parliament applicants for the position of the Prosecutor General of Russia, his deputies, or raise before her the question of their resignation;

- propose candidatures for judges of the Supreme Court, the Constitutional Court of Russia to the upper house of parliament;
- use conciliation procedures to resolve disputes between government bodies of the federation and subjects of Russia, or government bodies of subjects of Russia [20, p. 4–5];
- carry out the appointment of various persons holding the citizenship of the Russian Federation to senior positions in the subjects of the country;
- monitor the performance of official duties by the leaders of the subjects of Russia, to dismiss them;
- dissolve the legislative bodies of the subjects of Russia, suspend the effect of by-laws adopted by executive authorities of the subjects in cases established by law [6, p. 29].

According to Mamina O.I., the President of the Russian Federation defines the main directions of the country's foreign and domestic policy, management of foreign policy of Russia, represents the state at the international level. It is worth noting that in the framework of the implementation of these functions, the Russian leader has the right to appeal to both houses of parliament with the help of annual messages [12, p. 30–31].

Based on these functions of the head of the Russian state, clear, legislatively established powers are formed. The Russian leader has the right:

- accept recall and credentials from diplomatic representatives accredited to the Russian leader;
- to appoint or recall diplomatic representatives of Russia located in foreign states or international organizations [14, p. 21];
- sign international treaties or conduct negotiations with authorized representatives of foreign states [16, p. 101];
- sign ratifications and stamp them.

Along with this, the head of state introduces the Russian Federation throughout its territory, implements legally significant actions and takes power decisions on behalf of the country. Based on this group of functions of the Russian leader, clear and legislatively established powers are formed. The Russian leader has the right:

- to award state awards of the Russian Federation, to assign the highest military and special ranks, honorary titles of Russia [8, p. 105]. Unfortunately, at the moment there is no legislative consolidation of the legal status of many state awards, except for the title of Hero of the Russian Federation;
- sign various treaties in which the Russian Federation will necessarily be one of the parties;
- resolve issues in the field of citizenship of the Russian Federation. The Russian leader has the right to consider issues of admission to the citizenship of the Russian Federation in a general manner, about reinstatement of Russian citizenship in a general manner, about withdrawal from citizenship of the Russian Federation in a general manner [5, p. 46];
- to grant a pardon [10, p. 118];
- provide political asylum in the territory of the Russian Federation.

Belikov P.V. claims that in order to create conditions for the exercise of constitutional powers by the President of the Russian Federation, a special state body is formed – the Presidential Administration [3, p. 96]. This body is personally formed by the Russian leader based on article 83 of the Constitution of Russia. Along with this, there are other consultative and advisory bodies created under the head of state, performing the same functions.

### **Conclusion**

The Russian leader is endowed with the Basic Law of the country, other federal laws with an extensive list of powers. Under him, various consultative and advisory state bodies are created that provide the most effective and coordinated implementation of the powers of the head of state. Moreover, some federal ministries, federal services and federal agencies are directly led by the President of the Russian Federation. It is worth noting that such bodies exist

in many countries with a republican or mixed form of government. As a rule, these bodies act as the operating apparatuses of state leaders whose main function is to create conditions for the effective and coordinated exercise of powers by the heads of state.

Also, the President of the Russian Federation can implement legally significant actions, appoint various persons with Russian Federation citizenship to government posts or dismiss them from their posts, apply the Veto right and the right of legislative initiative in the cases established by law, issue decrees and orders that are generally binding on the whole the territory of the Russian Federation. Of course, these measures contribute to the most effective and quickest implementation of powers by the Russian leader.

In consideration of the author conducting a comprehensive study and analysis of the powers of the President of the Russian Federation on the basis of a wide range of sources, the scientific novelty of the research is manifested, as well as the existence of a causal relationship between the powers of the Russian leader and his functions – from certain functions of the President of the Russian Federation certain powers are formed, which are legislatively enshrined in various legal acts.

Based on the results of the study, it becomes possible to update the current Russian legislation, fill in legal gaps in regulating the powers of the President of the Russian Federation, and further improve the system of public bodies that ensure the practical implementation of these changes. Also, the conclusions of scientific research can be applied by subjects of state strategy in the process of forming public policy. Although these issues were not raised in the framework of the study, they can become the basis for further research.

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## Culture of Dialogue of Cultures: New Challenges of Modern Time

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**Annotation:** *the article analyzes new factors caused by world globalization and their impact on the cultural component of human activity. The concept of "culture" is interpreted in two different basic terms. The methodology of modern approaches to understanding universal values is presented. A historical parallel is drawn with the consequences for cultural development caused by the Spanish flu epidemic a century ago. The current consequences of Covid-19 in the cultural, economic and political spheres are analyzed. New technologies for the dialogue of cultures in conditions where traditional methods are limited are described. It is concluded that it is necessary to develop protective mechanisms for leveling the risks and threats to the culture of society associated with globalization. A forecast of the possible development of the dialogue of cultures is given.*

**Key words:** *culture, dialogue of cultures, culture of dialogue, civilization, Spanish flu, epidemic, pandemic, coronavirus, Covid-19.*

**JEL classification:** A140.

### Introduction

Culture is perhaps one of the few concepts in the world that has so many definitions in so many areas of human knowledge. If I try to find an analogy for this phenomenon, I would compare it with the universe – the same infinity, the same mystery. The relic radiation of our universe is reflected in the echoes of ancient culture, and its permanent expansion is reflected in the growing cultural knowledge. As you know, the expansion of the universe had a complex and even contradictory nature, it was accelerated and slowed down. For almost 14 billion years from its beginning, there was a period when our universe was shrinking. There is no contradiction with the analogy of culture. After all, in the history of mankind, the flourishing of culture alternated with times of cultural depression and even its barbaric destruction. From countless examples I would like to cite just one historical fact of the characteristic times of the Tartar invasion: "...in Baghdad, there was a cultural-civilizational catastrophe: the Mongols destroyed Baghdad's famed libraries, including the library of Islamic Academy "House of Wisdom", where the precious collection of manuscripts of all the ancient world. Ignorant steppe dwellers used books to arrange a crossing through the Tigris River" [1, p. 149].

There are two main approaches to the interpretation of the concept of "culture", which together describe all its diversity. The first deduces culture and its meaning from the word

"cult", thus emphasizing its religious and spiritual basis. Here is what N. Berdyaev, one of the most ardent fans of this idea of culture, writes about it: "Culture was born from a cult. Its origins are sacred. It was conceived around the temple and in its organic period was associated with religious life". Berdyaev continues: *"Culture is symbolic in nature. It received its symbolism from the cult symbolism. In culture, spiritual life is expressed not realistically, but symbolically"* [2, p. 248]. Here culture is a completely spiritual phenomenon. In human activity only that can correspond to culture which has a spiritual and moral content.

One of the first philosophers who tried to understand the phenomenon of culture was I. Kant. He believed that nature is indifferent to the goals of human existence. The nature is led by the necessity, which is devoid of any meaning. And the main thing that drives a person is the ability to act in accordance with the goals that he sets for himself, in other words-to be free. Unlike animals, the human phenotype is based not only on the ability to adapt to the external circumstances of his life but mainly to adapt them to his interests and needs, creating a culture by such actions. From this follows the well-known definition of culture by I. Kant: *"the ability of human being to set any goals – that is culture"* [9, p. 464].

Here is what I. Melikov writes about the spiritual side of culture: *"Culture is a completely spiritual phenomenon. Therefore, in human activity only that can be attributed to culture that has a spiritual and moral content. Culture is not any activity, not any product of activity, but only those activities and products that are good, useful, and moral. It is the involvement in spirituality that makes culture the sphere of freedom, the area where a person finds freedom and ceases to depend on the world of necessity"* [12, p. 15].

However, in this paper I will mainly rely on the second and more common definition of culture. According to that, the word "culture" goes back to the Latin "cultura" – which literally means "cultivation", and later "education, development" [6]. Here, culture is a product of human activity. The essence of this interpretation is that culture refers to everything created by man, all his activities [3].

In the new century and the new Millennium globalization is embracing all spheres of public life. Economic, political and cultural ties have already gone beyond the borders of separate countries and peoples. Now when solving social problems, we must take into account that the cultural development of each society is dictated by global processes [11].

Global interdependence has opened up problems that never existed before in history. Their meaning is concentrated in the so-called "butterfly effect" – when even a minor event can have large and unpredictable consequences in any place. The situation is aggravated by the fact that in the modern world different states do not cooperate with each other but compete and fight. Globalization processes create contradictions and conflict with regional and local cultures, traditions, and lifestyles.

The rapid development of modern world throws new challenges to humanity and creates previously unknown threats. The consequences of an outbreak of pneumonia caused by a previously unknown type of coronavirus in December 2019 in the Chinese city of Wuhan have already led to serious economic and cultural damage around the world. Despite the statements of the Chinese authorities that the epidemic was brought under control in China itself the mortality rate significantly the number of new cases continues to grow sharply and their geography in the world has increased.

### **Methods**

The complexity and mobility of the modern world, the interpenetration of various spheres of society, the instability of value orientations, and the modification of the usual social worldview lead to the search for relevant strategies for interaction in the face of new risks and global and local threats.

The high level of growing globalization requires new cooperation and mutual security. The modern world is characterized by unprecedented opportunities for interaction between the

cultures of East and West, and it is socio-cultural entities that play the role of participants in the dialogue [19].

At the same time, cultural diversity is increasing and its fragmentation is increasing. Large-scale changes have emphasized differences in socio-cultural communities, expressed in preserving their identity, ethnic and religious factors [20].

At a time when the modern world is becoming more integrated, the basis of intercultural dialogue is universal values that reflect the unity of human nature. However, the cultural space is heterogeneous and includes a variety of cultures which have its own understanding of universal values in different ways [17]. This explains the existence of two methodological approaches in the history of philosophy – formational and civilizational.

The essence of civilized approach follows from the definition of “civilization”, which was first introduced in the scientific revolution by Marquis de Mirabeau in the eighteenth century in his work “The friend of Man” (*Ami des hommes*): *“civilization is a softening of manners, courtesy, politeness and knowledge spreaded in order to create rules of decency, and these rules played the role of the laws of society”* [14].

The civilizational approach implies equality of cultures and is based on such concepts as identity, cultural uniqueness, stability, mentality, and tradition. Here is what G. Kuzmenko writes about this: *“...if we believe that the ontological status of cultures is the same, respectively, we admit their equal ethical and legal subjectivity. Within the framework of the civilizational approach, the difference between cultures is insignificant and is related rather to the difference in the structure of universal values that they present. However, the ontological status determines the form of the relationship, and we call this form a dialogue. We have a respectful dialogue of compromise, in some way cultural convergence”* [10, p. 63]. The modern civilizational approach mainly is the result of the crisis of traditional ideas about the future of human civilization. The reason for this was the structural changes in the world caused by cultural diversity, pluralism and tolerance; the increasing importance of traditional, ethnic and religious forms of identification; and the politicization of inter-civilizational conflicts.

The formational approach expresses a completely different position in understanding human values. It stands out a certain ideal culture which is the standard for other cultures it should strive for this ideal, trampling on their own identity. The formational approach builds a hierarchy of cultures. At the top of this hierarchy is a certain super-culture that uses hard and soft power to impose its value priorities on others. American political scientist Joseph Nye distinguishes between “hard power” that is power based on economic and military power, and “soft power” – the ability of a country to make other does want what it wants due to the attractiveness of its culture and ideology of power. In the context of the idea of hard and soft power are the words of the American sociologist and political scientist S. Huntington. *“West won the world not because of the superiority of its ideas, values, or religion (to which only a small number of representatives of other civilizations were converted), but rather because of the superiority in the use of organized violence. The people of West often forget this fact; non-Westerners will never forget it”* [8, p. 65].

The principle of the formational approach is expressively reflected in the article (and later in the book) by F. Fukuyama “The End of History?” published in the National Interests Magazine in 1989. In it Fukuyama talks about the end of the ideological struggle, the triumph of the West and the Western idea, and the victory of the United States with its liberal values. The author connects the collapse of the USSR with the choice of a non-Western way of development. *“What is currently happening is probably not just the end of the cold war or the end of some period of world history, but the end of history as such. In other words, this is the final point of the ideological evolution of mankind and the universalization of Western liberal democracy as the final form of government in human society”* [7, p. 85].

Cultural inequality is the basis of a formational approach, and it is necessary to assess the problem of intercultural dialogue in its framework taking into account the primacy of the

nominal ideal culture over the other [15]. It is obvious that in such a paradigm the conflict rather than the dialogue comes to the forefront in intercultural relations. S. Huntington definitely writes about the risks of the formational approach: *"in the emerging world of ethnic conflicts and clash of civilizations, western confidence in the universality of western culture suffers from three shortcomings: it is wrong; it is immoral and it is dangerous"* [8, p. 507].

Both the formational and civilizational approaches are two current and completely opposite paradigms that give an idea to understanding universal values. However, there is no doubt that in the modern world, the cultural paradigm of social relations is at the heart of the social sphere. Not without reason Huntington himself defined the main idea of his work – *"The Clash of civilizations": "... in the post-cold war world, culture and various types of cultural identification (which at the broadest level are the identification of civilization) determine the models of cohesion, disintegration and conflict"* [8, p. 13]. And what is especially important: *"in the world after the cold war the most important differences between people are no longer ideological, political or economic, but cultural"* [8, p. 15].

### Results

A century ago, humanity was struck by the most massive pandemic in absolute numbers, both in terms of the number of infected and dead people in the entire world history – the Spanish flu. The epidemic that began at the end of the First World War spread throughout the world in three years and quickly bypassed this largest military conflict at that time in terms of casualties. The total character of the "Spanish flu" is can be proved by the fact that there is only one place on earth that has not been affected by the pandemic – the island of Marajo at the mouth of the Amazon river in Brazil.

The technical progress in general and the enormous development of vehicles and infrastructure in particular were the main factors behind the spread of the epidemic in the world. The railway boom on earth, the appearance of high-speed ships at sea and airships in the sky provoked the rapid spread of the disease across the planet.

Having caused enormous damage to the population of the planet, almost thirty percent of the world's population were infected with Spanish flu, and about four percent of the World's population died, "Spanish" was a limiting factor in the development of culture. In many countries, public places – schools, churches, and theatres-were closed during the epidemic. In fact, it is not necessary to talk about cultural progress, when people-creators and carriers of culture are trying to survive. We don't have to talk about a dialogue of cultures when borders are closed. It is not necessary to talk about the culture of the dialogue of cultures, when the centers of culture are covered.

A century ago the Spanish flu epidemic clearly demonstrated that viruses do not have borders, they do not distinguish between nationalities, they do not care about language, they do not recognize culture.

A century later a new challenge has been thrown at humanity . COVID-19 – a coronavirus from the Chinese province of Hubei has already affected more than 112 000 people on the planet (according to the South China Morning Post on March 10) [23]. The virus infected people in 110 countries around the world, more than four thousand cases with a fatal outcome.

An open globalized world characterized today by a high degree of political, economic and cultural integration, is being closed, localized and fragmented under the influence of a new threat.

We clearly see a large-scale economic crisis. It was Covid-19 that served as a kind of trigger for the collapse of global stock markets on March 9, 2020. The decline of the Chinese economy caused a chain reaction around the world. Twenty years ago, this situation in the world economy was unimaginable. With all the advantages of globalization, Covid-19 has clearly shown the negative effects of global integration processes.

Of course, the first thing affected by such shocks is the world economy. In an attempt to stop the spread of the virus, governments of different countries introduce certain measures for the

safety of the population. Access to the territory of citizens from the most infected regions is restricted, and such foreigners are also quarantined. The two-week quarantine also includes their own citizens who have returned from countries already affected by the Covid-19 epidemic, such as China, South Korea, Italy, and Iran. If there is an extreme risk of infection spreading, the border is closed. So now the Russian-Chinese border is closed.

Such measures, which are quite effective in preventing the spread of the epidemic, slow down and even suspend the cultural and economic dialogue. Here are just a few examples of major global economic and political events that have been canceled or postponed because of the threat of the coronavirus.

In Russia:

- *St. Petersburg international economic forum;*
- *Forum “Development of Parlamentarism»;*
- *Sochi Investment Forum;*
- *Krasnoyarsk Economic Forum;*
- *International Economic Summit “Russia-Islamic world: KazanSummit»;*
- *Yalta international economic forum.*

In the world:

- *Geneva Motor Show;*
- *MWC mobile technology exhibition in Barcelona;*
- *The Hannover industrial trade fair.*

Most sporting events have also been canceled or postponed. This July the TOKYO 2020 Summer Olympic games are due to start in the Japanese capital. However, in the current epidemiological situation it is highly likely that they will either be postponed or will not take place at all. According to the South China Morning Post on March 11, 2020, the number of infected people – 568 people, Japan is in tenth place in the list of countries that have been infected with the Covid-19 coronavirus [23].

As in the case of the Spanish flu, which occurred a century ago, when one of the main reasons for its spread was the active movement of people around the world caused by scientific and technological progress, the same reason for the spread of today's Covid-19, due to the processes of world globalization. It is important to emphasize here that although difficulties in the economic and political spheres are first of all revealed and clearly manifested, they are based on a cultural, or rather cultural and social paradigm. *“Although globalization has at first glance economic forms and political consequences, in fact it increasingly reveals the primacy of culture at the global level”* [5, p. 220].

The list of cultural events cancelled altogether or postponed due to the coronavirus epidemic is even more extensive than the economic one. Here is only a small part of it:

- *London Book Fair;*
- *The television market MIPTV in Cannes;*
- *MIPDOC documentary project market in Cannes;*
- *Watches & Wonders jewelry and watch exhibition in Geneva;*
- *Art Basel Hong Kong Fair;*
- *Shows: Gucci in San Francisco, Prada in Tokyo, Ralph Lauren in New York;*
- *Tours in Asia: Green Day, New Order, The National, singer Khalid, hip-hop musician Stormzy, Avril Lavigne;*
- *Parades in honor of St. Patrick's Day in Ireland;*
- *Milan furniture exhibition;*
- *Opening of the Venice Architecture Biennale;*
- *Canneseries TV series festival;*
- *Electronic music festival Ultra Music Festival in Miami;*
- *Initiation ceremony of new monks by Dalai Lama.*



Because of the coronavirus outbreak, a special situation has developed in the Mecca of European culture – Italy. This is the largest outbreak of a new disease in Europe. In terms of the number of infected by Covid-19 Italy is in the second place, just after China. Of course, this is no accident. Italy is the world's cultural capital. Here are concentrated masterpieces of painting, sculpture, and architecture. Here are the world's best museums, operas, and theaters.

Due to the severe epidemiological situation, the whole of Italy is closed for quarantine until April 3. All modern and historical cultural space is closed.

In France, the coronavirus was diagnosed at the Minister of culture Frank Riester. Here, in France, all events involving more than a thousand people are prohibited.

And here's what the authoritative German newspaper Deutsche Welle writes about the cultural situation in Germany: *"Local authorities in many German cities decide to restrict public gatherings with a large number of participants and mass events. So in Berlin it was decided the decision to stop all performances in state cultural institutions before the end of the Easter holidays on April 19. These restrictions will affect, in particular, the Philharmonic, the Berlin state Opera, the German Opera, the Komische Oper, and the Friedrichstadtpalast concert hall. In Munich, performances at the Bavarian state Opera are canceled. North Rhine-Westphalia announced the cancellation of all events with more than 1000 participants"* [21].

Of course, even such restrictions will not be able to completely freeze cross-cultural relations. New forms and ways of interaction between cultures will be found [4]. However, these transformations will have a very negative impact on the quality of such interaction. Speaking about the qualitative side of the dialogue of cultures, it is appropriate to quote from the article *"the Dialogue of cultures and the culture of dialogue: conceptual foundations"* by Russian scientists I. Melikov and A. Gezalov: *"in the dialogue of cultures, it is not so much the dialogue that is important, as the culture of dialogue. For dialogue-interaction always happens. The cultures somehow interact and penetrate into each other"* [13, p. 34].

### Discussion

Society cannot exist without culture. In conditions where traditional dialogue of cultures is not possible, new ways of intercultural communication are emerging. The world is adapting to new historical realities.

In contrast to nature, which tends to entropy – chaos, uncertainty and complete rejection of order, culture as a developing system seeks to maintain homeostasis – to reproduce itself, restore the lost balance, overcome the resistance of the external environment. By reacting to external factors, culture finds new opportunities for its dialogue.

The circumstances caused by the new epidemic have led to the minimization of direct intercultural dialogue. In these conditions cultural communication is transformed and moves into a new field of interaction, simultaneously developing and adjusting it for its own purposes. Just as war contributes to technological progress, any external stimuli in the cultural sphere contribute to the development of culture.

Under the influence of factors that restrict traditional ways of communication, interactions in the public sphere move from the real environment to the virtual space. The economy is experiencing a shift in consumer priorities. There is a growing demand for a variety of Internet services in the field of consumption of goods and services. High-tech companies are moving their conferences online.

The introduced security measures not only limit the freedom of direct communication, but also increase personal time. Consumption of virtual content has increased dramatically: movies, TV series, and games. The popularity of virtual tours is growing on the websites of famous museums, galleries, exhibitions and other objects of classical culture [22]. The main thing is not to cross the boundaries of reason as it happens in V. Pelevin's novel *"Generation 'P'"*.

*"– Here's the sculpture, – the Secretary said, and dragged Tatarsky to a new sheet of paper that had a little more text than the others. – It's a Picasso. Ceramic figure of a running woman. Not*



*looks like Picasso, would you say? Exactly. But this is because the post-cubist period. Almost thirteen million dollars, can you imagine?*

— *Where is the statue?*

– *I don't know, – the secretary said. – Probably at the some warehouse. And if you want to see what it looks like, there is a catalog on the table"* [16].

The Athenian plague (429–427/426 BC) during the Peloponnesian war was the first epidemic in the historical memory of people [18]. Since that time, almost two and a half millennia ago, humanity has been subjected to various kinds of epidemics and its extreme form – pandemics. In our development, we become able not only to create new methods of fighting infection, but also to adapt to the situation and change it by finding new forms of cultural dialogue.

### Conclusion

On March 11, the head of the World Health Organization T. Gebreyesus said that the situation with coronavirus infection "can be characterized as a pandemic". It is becoming clear that in the near future the spread of Covid-19 will lead to a further increase in anxiety in society. This will certainly strengthen the current unfavourable situation in the cultural, economic and political spheres.

Historical experience shows that humanity is unlikely to ever live in harmony with nature. Of all the living organisms on the planet only humans can consciously bend nature to their will. The desire to create and the desire to destroy are two integral parts of the cultural component of human nature.

We don't know what caused this pandemic. However it wasn't without human intervention was necessary. Whether consciously or not, people's desire for self-destruction not once led them to the abyss of existence. We break nature by changing it for ourselves, and nature takes a hard revenge for that. There is no agreement in this struggle. Because there is no one to negotiate with.

We know that science is characterized by cynicism – a disregard for the norms of public morality and ethics, that is what we call culture. However, by science we only explore nature and by culture we change it.

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## Basic Approaches to Career Counseling for Young Parents Abroad

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**Annotation:** *the paper focuses on basic modern career counseling approaches popular abroad. Constructivist approach to career counseling considers a client's story within a social context. It entails the creation of the preferred professional identity, i.e. a story full of a client's personal meanings. Adaptive counseling and therapy means that counseling or therapy is effective in case a counselor's behaviour matches a client's characteristics. An approach based on cognitive information processing breaks down career guidance into 3 components: 1) knowledge about self and options, 2) necessary actions, 3) implementation.*

**Key words:** *career counseling, career guidance, young parents, vocational behaviour, constructivist approach, adaptive counseling and therapy, cognitive information processing theory, readiness for making a career decision, career transition.*

**JEL classification:** *A130, A230.*

### Introduction

Career counseling is vital for many reasons, the most obvious of which are the dilemmas and uncertainties that young people face when thinking about the future. In addition, the ability of young people to effectively correlate their abilities and strengths with career prospects may be limited by their level of development and insufficient life experience. Moreover, a realistic

attitude and the use of sound and reasonable arguments are not always characteristic of adolescence, when it is necessary to choose a profession. We also live at a time when our education does not necessarily reflect the chosen trajectory of life, as was the case with previous generations. Changes in the early, middle, and even late stages of a career are no longer rare, and people will need serious skills and support to help them overcome them. How well people can adapt to new career opportunities will be critical to the success and prosperity of each person, as well as to national and global economic and social development. Career guidance will be required using innovative approaches that are strategically focused on the current and future labor markets. This paper considers several approaches to career counseling and career guidance that are dominant abroad.

### **Methodology**

The collection and analysis of scientific theoretical foreign literature demonstrates the main approaches to career counseling that are now popular abroad: the constructivist approach to career counseling, adaptive counseling and therapy, as well as theories of cognitive information processing.

### **Results**

One of the popular approaches abroad is the constructivist approach to career counseling. Postmodern approaches to career guidance have arisen with an emphasis on revealing the personal history of the client, based on life themes and meanings. Both quantitative and qualitative assessments provide opportunities for collecting information that can be “woven” into the client’s history [2]. Helping people to create their career identities requires a focused activity, within which a career has a place in a person’s life, but it is not supposed that life should “fit in” with a career. Perhaps the concept of “career biography”, i.e. a person’s career history is a more preferable term than career identity, as it is more flexible. In the constructivist approach (and other narrative approaches) to career counseling, the consultant is seen as someone who works “together with the client to research life topics and create their own history” to build a career [16]. The approach encourages biographical agency, recognizing the presence of a factor of indecision in choosing a career path. This is achieved by rethinking interruptions at the moments of transitions and changes, while emphasizing the connection with the future, which is associated with continuing trends of the past. New ideas, experience and information can be “built on” to existing knowledge in a form that will make sense for a person: in other words, the client decides what is important, what to continue to do in the future, and what to leave behind [23]. Biographical and narrative career guidance approaches deviate from what was the dominant Western scientific orientation toward measuring professional traits using objective psychological testing. These approaches are moving toward greater attention to a more subjective understanding of the importance of career in a particular context in a person’s life. At times of career change, people may be worried, especially when decisions need to be made that affect their future. There are numerous factors to consider. Thus, a number of social and economic circumstances and cultural expectations affect the ability to make independent choices [17]. From this point of view, methods and approaches for career guidance cannot be based solely on the psychology of the individual “from the inside”, since it is also necessary to take into account that “from the outside to the inside”: therefore, here we should talk about a more psychosocial understanding of the person who considers such constructivist approaches in a social context [18]. As part of this approach, four practical tools have been developed. First, the line of life illuminates all three phases of the process when clients discover the past, “unpack” the present and write future chapters of their stories. The second one is personalized types of cards, which are developed on the basis of topics and values that were identified during the verification and confirmation of customer information. The technique of the circles of life roles gives a holistic assessment of the functioning of clients: understanding the role, what life roles are in their lives. The

sources of views on life roles are explored and the prospects for the future in their preferred lifestyle in the future are presented. Finally, the goal map concentrates on concrete steps for writing future chapters in clients' lives; This is a realistic overview of the goal, which includes timelines, steps, obstacles and resources [2].

Another approach used for career counseling is called adaptive counseling and therapy [8]. This approach is integrative in counseling and is based on the theory of situational leadership, which originates in the field of organizational psychology [7]. It can be noted that these theories are very similar to each other, namely: the theory of situational leadership says that comparing the behavior of a leader with the individual qualities of followers leads to more successful management. Also, adaptive counseling and therapy state the importance of matching the therapist's behavior with the client's personal qualities [1]. In turn, an important element of the theory of adaptive counseling and therapy is the relationship of two dimensions: the relationship between the style of the therapist and the "maturity of the client" (his willingness to perform tasks). The willingness of the client to perform tasks implies such qualities of the client, thanks to which he is ready to look for ways to solve his problem. This skill includes three main components: motivation, self-confidence and competence. Here competencies are the client's ability to complete the tasks set by the therapist. Self-confidence implies the client's faith in their abilities in carrying out these tasks. The motivation is the client's desire to build his behavior in such a way that he will achieve his therapeutic goal with the greatest effect. Thus, customers with high levels of motivation, competencies and self-confidence are able to demonstrate the highest level of willingness to complete tasks. Based on the theory of career choice and development, client competencies may vary. For example, the competence of a client may include knowledge of their skills, hobbies and needs; information about the world of work and profession; skills for finding professional information; understanding the relationship between the interests, abilities, needs and the world of the profession. As for such an aspect as self-confidence, it includes: the level of anxiety in decision-making; concern about making the wrong choice; faith in the ability to personally determine their own desires and interests. Aspect of motivation includes: the desire to spend their own forces and time to identify interests, abilities and needs; desire to explore the world of professions; the desire to make their own decisions in choosing a profession; taking personal responsibility for choosing a profession. As for the style of the therapist, it refers to the models of communication between therapists and clients, and also includes focus and support. The advisory style of counseling represents the greatest degree of management of the process and its structure by the consultant, regarding the degree of management of the same process by the client. Consultants with a higher level of directivity are more structured in fulfilling their tasks. The consultants, which demonstrate a low level of directivity, are not so much busy with work to achieve a specific goal as they allow the client to engage in structuring consulting sessions. Support from the therapist is expressed through supportive behavior, which is aimed at stimulating the relationship of the consultant with the client. Here, therapists who have a high level of support are more focused on the quality of relationships with the client, tend to take care of him, empathy, and try to create an atmosphere of mutual understanding and support. And therapists who have a low level of support do not consider it important to create a common atmosphere of understanding between the therapist and the client. Based on the relationship between these two indicators (directivity and support), four therapeutic styles were developed: supportive (low directivity, high support), educational (high directivity and support), delegating (low directivity and support), dictating (high directivity and low support). Career planning computer programs (such as SIGI and Discover) can be described as relatively directive and not very supportive interventions [9]. Regarding the application of the client-centered approach of C. Rogers to career counseling, he will be described as very supportive and non-directive [12]. Within the framework of adaptive counseling and therapy, it is believed that the effectiveness of counseling

is due to the correspondence between the four therapeutic styles and the client's willingness to complete the task. In order to determine the most appropriate style for a particular client, you need to understand where the client is on the continuum of readiness for completing tasks. Thus, the theory of adaptive counseling and therapy believes that clients with a low level of readiness to complete tasks will respond best to the most prescriptive, not too supportive therapy, and clients with a high level of readiness to complete tasks will better perceive less directive therapy. It is also noteworthy that a significant relationship was found between the therapist's adaptability (defined as the therapist's ability to identify theoretically prescribed answers for hypothetical clients) and the overall effectiveness of the consultant [4].

Career counseling also takes an approach based on the theory of processing cognitive information. This theory originated at Florida State University. The theory of processing cognitive information is a general term used to describe all our cognitive processes, such as attention, perception, coding, storage and retrieval of information. It is based on a two-stage model, where stimuli are processed by sensory means, and then transferred to short-term memory. Here, due to repetition and coding, they can be stored in long-term memory. In the search process, information can be extracted from long-term memory and transferred to the "working memory" for use [3]. The approach includes both the theory of professional behavior and the theory of career intervention. The theory of professional behavior is based on the theory of processing cognitive information and includes a pyramid of areas of information processing (the content of the choice of a profession) and the CASVE cycle (communication, analysis, synthesis, evaluation, implementation) [20]. The theory of career intervention also follows from the theory of processing cognitive information and includes readiness for making career decisions, readiness for career intervention, differentiated service delivery, evaluating negative thoughts about a career, and evaluating the space for making career decisions [14]. The application of the theory of processing cognitive information in practice was supplemented by three other theories, the authors of which were, respectively, J. Holland, A. Beck, and R. Gagnier. The RIASEC Theory (or "Holland Codes" or "Holland Professional Themes" is based on personality types and was developed by American psychologist John L. Holland. The US Department of Labor Employment and Training Administration uses an updated and expanded version of the RIASEC model in the Interests section of its free online database O \* NET (professional information network) since its inception in the late 1990s [19]. RIASEC stands for: Realistic (Doers), Investigative (Thinkers), Artistic (Creators), Social (Helpers), Enterprising (Persuaders), Conventional (Organizers). The RIASEC theory has been combined with the theory of cognitive information processing both in the study of professional behavior and in career interventions [15]. Cognitive therapy and the underlying theoretical approach to mental health services He was combined with the theory of processing cognitive information in the development of a list of career thoughts and a corresponding workbook [22]. The theory of teaching and teaching R. Gagnier was integrated with the theory of cognitive information processing in theoretical assumptions and in the development of educational resources used in self-help, in short-term interventions with a career consultant, individual cases and programmatic career interventions [21]. The theory of processing cognitive information provides people with the opportunity to build a career. The main goal of the theory of cognitive information processing is to help people increase their ability to make informed, thoughtful career decisions by exploring key areas related to making career decisions and working through the process of making these decisions. The basic model of this theory is determined by four basic elements that a person applies when deciding on a career. They are depicted in the form of the aforementioned pyramid of information processing. At a basic level are knowledge about yourself and knowledge about your abilities. Self-knowledge consists of everything that is central to man. In the past, this mainly included interests, values and skills, but today it includes all the elements that imply a person's knowledge of himself, i.e. multiple identities of culture, religion, vocation, gender,

health disorders, socio-economic status, sexual orientation, political views, etc. Self-knowledge develops over time and can change as a person interacts with the environment and adapts to it [23]. Traditional career interventions aimed at creating a position of self-knowledge would be: compiling a list of interests, passing tests to identify abilities, an autobiography, sorting cards and the like. Knowledge of one's capabilities includes knowledge of specific professions, i.e. about work tasks, training options, wages, and also general information about the world of work, such as employment trends. Knowledge of opportunities can be expanded to include any path that a person considers: for example, educational and training opportunities, types of work (for example, part-time, full-time, contract work, entrepreneurial activity) and possible ways of working in human life (for example, knowledge of how to balance work with other life roles and requirements). A person gains such knowledge by interacting with information, people, and testing the combination of work and other life roles. Thus, knowledge about opportunities may be biased depending on the source and how the person processes and perceives the information received. Traditional career interventions aimed at gaining knowledge about opportunities include providing the client with information about career and education / training, and possibly a way to organize career information, such as a table that allows you to compare opportunities. If the basic step of the pyramid is an aspect of cognition in building your career, the middle step is an aspect of the action, that is, where and how the construction takes place. At this level is a cyclic decision-making model called the CASVE cycle. Communication is the first stage and the moment when a person realizes that there is a gap between where he is and where he wants to be in terms of his career. This awareness can come from the inside (for example, anxious feelings, somatic problems) or from the outside (for example, others ask questions, demand a decision on the field of study). Analysis occurs when a person considers, explores and prioritizes information about himself and his abilities. Then there is a process of refinement and narrowing the number of options. The goal of the next step is to determine the priority and fallback options. Based on the costs and benefits of each option for an individual, his significant others and society, options are evaluated. At the implementation stage, a person tries in life what he has identified as a priority, whether it be volunteering, classes or work. As a person tries this option in life, he can return to the stage of communication (revision). At the top of the pyramid is an area of realization that is characterized by awareness and tracking of its internal dialogue. All these four elements (self-knowledge, knowledge of opportunities, decision making, implementation and internal dialogue) mutually influence each other. There are many technical tools and online programs based on the theory of processing cognitive information. For example, Focus (focus2career.com), Self-Directed Search, Campbell Interest and Skill Survey, Maree Career Matrix, online Occupational Outlook Handbook (bls.gov/ooh), O \* NET (onetonline.org), CACGs, Woebot [13].

### **Discussion**

If we talk about career counseling specifically for young parents, then it is worth considering the career difficulties they face (time limits, the risk of losing professional skills, the problem of the distribution of forces and resources, etc.). M. Kiselika believes that it would be important for young parents to take a short course in job search and job retention skills. To develop job search skills, it is proposed to use the ideas of Galassi on image management [5], as well as to model situations where you need to create a resume or write a cover letter. To develop skills to maintain work, career consultants emphasize the importance of interpersonal relationships and conduct trainings aimed at strengthening the skill of building relationships. It is also important to remember that parenthood implies a choice between the preferred plans of the young parent and the responsibilities of the parent. In this regard, it is necessary to work to prevent premature completion of career growth. Such career counseling should begin with a thorough assessment of: 1) a person's abilities, 2) interests and values, 3) commitment to work, 4) willingness to work. Thus, the consultant understands how much the client is ready to choose



a profession. Career counseling will be more effective if it is not carried out on an individual basis, but as part of a broad career guidance program [10].

### Conclusion

The paper considers the main directions of career counseling abroad: the constructivist approach, adaptive counseling and therapy, and the theory of cognitive information processing. Based on these approaches, the work of career counselors with young parents is built. They are also the basis of many techniques and interventions. Career counseling for young parents implies an interpersonal process that helps people create career stories that connect their understanding of themselves, their families with work roles. From the story of the life story, the client and the consultant together create a life portrait, and then create an autobiographical narrative about the central topic in the life of the client [6]. Currently, the literature refers to three important terms in relation to career counseling: career counseling, vocational counseling, and vocational training. Although these terms are often used to describe the same thing, in reality they are not synonymous. The concept of career guidance covers the widest range of activities: it includes information and assessment, counseling and professional education. Professional advice of young parents is aimed at developing the skills of not only one parent, but the whole family to solve a specific career problem (indecision, anxiety associated with a career, dissatisfaction with the academic career plan), and, in essence, is a psychological intervention [11].

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## Psychological Factors of Trust Syrian Youth in Russian Mass Media

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**Annotation:** *the article is devoted to the problem of Syrian society's trust in the Russian mass media that speak Arabic. The paper presents the main psychological aspects affecting the level of trust of Syrian youth in the Russian Arabic-language mass media. This article attempts to understand the dynamics of the correlation between trust in the media and the psychological climate in Syrian society in first period of 2020. It also studies the correlation between the belief in media objectivity and trust in it on a sample of Syrian youth. The researcher used sociomatrix analysis tools to assess the psychological climate in Syria. The trust of the Syrian youth in the Russian Arabic-language media was also measured using the questionnaire. The paper proves that there is a meaningful relation the belief in media objectivity and trust in it, and that the trust of Syrian youth in Russian media, which speak Arabic, is not derived from the psychological climate of Syria.*

**Key words:** youth, media, trust, objectivity, sociomatrix analysis, socioma (social matrix), consciousness, psychological factors.

**JEL classification:** A130, A230.

### Introduction

Media is one of the most important social institutions as it mediates the attitude of citizens to other institutions of society. The media is the process of disseminating information and influencing society through special means: print, television, radio, cinema, etc. As a result, information is sent immediately to large groups of people [7; 8].

In the opinion of the researcher, the influence and role of traditional media (newspapers, television or radio) and modern (electronic journalism) on society are limited to the following points:

- display information and news to the target audience, honestly and without bias;
- creating various discussions and dialogues with specialists from various fields, within a specific media space, as is the case in television talk shows;
- trying to create public opinion or to influence public opinion or direct it in certain directions;

- searching for issues that are important to the public, such as services and corruption of state agencies;
- create a social ideal by presenting a positive model in every area of life;
- finally, the media has a commercial role, as it saves time and effort for investors and is an appropriate place to advertise services and products often.

What is trust in the media and how is it defined? When defining the concept of trust, the focus in different dictionaries is on two basic points: the conviction that someone is right, and believing in their honesty and integrity [4; 11]. In the online environment where trust can be seen to be existing it is seen as “a decision by an agent A (the trustor) to rely on another agent B (the trustee) to perform a given action” [19, p. 335].

The concept of trust in the media is the belief in the credibility of the media and the people who work in it. Trust in the media begins with trusting the news sources on which the media relies. What is meant by the source of the news is a person or entity to whom the informant refers to obtain the information [3, p. 284, 309]. This means that the public’s awareness of the source bias of the media message makes it less confident about it.

There are five levels of trust, according to study Larina (2008) and these are as follows.

The first level is a Personal trust: For example the credibility of loved ones (relatives and friends), including a large emotional component. Confidence in colleagues, neighbors, teachers, etc. Personal confidence is aimed at the people with whom we interact directly, face to face.

The next level of trust is categorical, when the object is no longer individual individuals, but social groups and social categories that have similar features. This level of trust is transitional when moving from personalized trust to social trust. Trust in this case focused on categorical attributes: gender, age, nationality, etc. Typically this trust is accompanied by a massive stereotypes and prejudices.

Another abstract object for trust is social roles, which are defined as “specific behaviors specific to a given position”. Regardless of the individual performing them, certain social roles a priori evoke a sense of trust: a mother, a doctor, a University Professor, a priest, a judge. The trader from the Eastern market, the spy, the prostitute-these roles, on the contrary.

This is followed by more abstract objects of trust are also forms of social trust: institutions and organizations. This level is often referred to in the literature as institutional trust. The Bank, the state, the market, the Parliament, the family, religion, and the Constitution are typical objects of such trust. Trust in mass communication media can be attributed to the institutional level of trust, because the media in a certain sense is a social institution of society and has all the characteristics of a social institution.

Lastly, most abstract level of trust can be defined as the overall level. This is the level of trust in complete and abstract systems. Trust in this context implied the stability of the social system, the strength of society, and the functioning of a particular political system [6].

It can be said that trust is one of the main characteristics that the media seek to gain in the context of the relation with the public. Because public trust determines the extent and influence of the media and its ability to achieve its goals.

Over the past ten years trust in the media has been studied by researchers in different contexts and in various scientific disciplines [20]. These include; trust in political, economic, social and cultural institutions was analyzed [17; 18]. Trust has also been studied in the social media and television [17; 9], the researchers also attempted to study the relationship between social media use and political trust in society [5]. At the same time, the problem of foreign societies’ trust in Russian media is very rare, and the psychological climate in Syria has not been studied as a factor of confidence in Russian media, which speak Arabic.

SPUTNIK, Russia today RT, RIANovosti are regarded the Russian media houses which speak Arabic. Russia today (RT) channel is considered one of the most famous Russian media, which speaks Arabic, in Syria and the neighboring Arab countries. RT is a Russian media

organization managed by TV-Novosti, which is a news channel in the first place. It also offers a set of documentary programs that introduce the viewer to the political, economic, social and cultural aspects of Russia, and RT Arabic has become a platform through which Russia clarifies its stances towards various international and regional issues.

RT spends about 80% of its expenditures abroad, which is an indication of the importance that Russia attaches to reaching the foreign public. RT Arabic broadcasts its television programs 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It also broadcasts its programs online on social media such as Facebook, where the number of followers of RT Arabic exceeds 15 686 299 followers.

RIA novosti news agency also publishes various information on political, social, economic, scientific and financial life in the Russian language, main European languages and in the Arabic language on the Internet and via e-mail daily. The agency also organizes press meetings and seminars in the Arabic language.

SPUTNIK is also one of the most important international news agencies covering political and economic news for a wide audience. Sputnik started working in the global media in 2014 as part of the international news agency (Russia Today). The agency has websites in more than 32 languages, including Arabic. It is reported that Sputnik created the place of the international agency (RIA Novosti) and Radio (Voice of Russia), which were closed in 2013. The agency also administers a center for the study of world opinion, where public opinion is polled on urgent political and social issues.

Russian embassies also issue newsletters in the Arabic language, through which they communicate the Russian position on important issues for the Arab citizen [2].

As youth are the most socially active segment, recent trends in the media largely seek to influence audiences, public awareness and manipulation of public opinion, especially through the youth environment. At the same time, the widespread use of the media to manipulate public opinion, for example during election campaigns, negatively affects citizens' attitude towards the media.

The modern world provides a large number of ways to communicate (social media, television, radio, newspapers, etc.). Some are mainly dependent on the use of the the global Internet. This is due to the fact that science has made a huge leap in technology development over the past century. As a result, the current time is called the information age, because information is one of the most important values. Its creation and distribution is the work of the media [16, p. 57–59]. On the other hand, downloading the Internet in general and social networks in particular with information from different sources and without checking the accuracy of this information can be one of the reasons for the low trust in the media [1].

Algarbi J. (2019) studied the quality of Syrian and Russian websites in light of the following criteria: Inclusiveness, Accuracy, Objectivity and Intellectual Property. Inclusiveness of the information provided by the media means that the information provided to the public must be comprehensive, complete and not repeated in different places. The media should also provide an adequate level of detail by providing links to the source, photos, videos, or any other additional material on the target event or topic, which confirms the accuracy of the facts.

Accuracy: The media is obliged to ensure the accuracy and reliability of the information provided, avoiding information and factual errors, as well as typos and spelling errors, because inaccuracy in news and information will inevitably alienate users and lead to a decrease in the level of trust of users. The accuracy and correctness of the information is an important factor in determining the credibility of the media institution. Therefore, any error in the news or the report endangers the media institution's credibility.

In General, the objectivity of information can be defined as its lack of bias, impartiality, balance, and the absence of intentional or unintentional distortions, including those caused by political, cultural, religious, and other Biases. Although the terms (objectivity) and (credibility) are frequently echoed by media contacts. The Arab media is marred by many practices that violate objectivity and credibility.

As for the credibility of the media, it is a cumulative product of its commitment to investigate objectivity in its media practice so that it has a balance of credibility that it bets on, as it adheres to objectivity and balance in offering, and avoids the practice of fabrication, misinformation and distortion of facts.

**Intellectual Property:** Any information must be provided with a reference to the original sources, whether it is an individual, institution or organization, and with an indication of the author. The protection of intellectual property is considered as an essential part that should be studied and analyzed because it starts to be weakened as a result of the enormous spreading of the internet and the huge development of the information technology.

In our study of the trust of Syrian youth in the Russian media speaking Arabic, we focus on the link between the objectivity of Russian media and the confidence of Syrian youth in it.

In psychological literature, a set of concepts is used to denote the group's psychological situation, such as "psychological atmosphere", "social atmosphere", "climate of the organization", "microclimate", etc. But the term "psychological climate" is more expressive of the psychological state of large groups, and is broader and more durable than previous concepts. The researcher focuses on assessing the general emotional state in Syrian society and uses the term psychological climate, not mood, to express it. The psychological climate is a broader and more permanent concept than the mood, which depends on current tasks and goals. The psychological climate is less variable and depends on the influence of the factors that formed it [10]. The climate of human relations consists of three basic aspects: the moral aspect, the psychological aspect, and the social aspect.

The continuous diagnosis of the psychological climate can help to take appropriate and timely measures, so that the emotional state in society remains at a normal level.

This study can provide feedback to the Russian media about the confidence of foreigners in it and this help it to maintain its current followers and increase the number of followers in the future.

The data provided by the study on the psychological climate in Syrian society can be relied upon in taking a set of urgent social, economic and political measures and in the required directions.

Also, the method translated into Arabic (social matrix) can be used in the future to conduct emotional climate research in various Arabic-speaking countries.

### **Methods**

The degree of trust in Russian Arabic-language media is rated on a 5-point scale, where 1 – "I absolutely don't trust", and 5 – "I absolutely trust". Objectivity of the Russian media from the point of view of Syrian youth was measured by a questionnaire. The sample is random. The total number of respondents was 700, ages 18–30.

Sociomatrix analysis tools were used to assess the psychological climate in Syria in 2020. The technology of socio-analytical analysis allows you to quickly assess the emotional-semantic climate in a selected direction.

As briefly as possible, the essence of the technology of sociomatrix analysis is to use the words used in the text describing the target situation/direction to assess its current emotional and semantic state and build a forecast of its probable development in the near future [15]. Under sociomatrix analysis is a technique for evaluating the social matrix (Socioma-Light) that Developed by Russian psychologist Vlalivir Panushkin in 2011 [13]. A socioma (social matrix) is a field consisting of 256 cells, where the weight of each cell is calculated as a percentage of the total sum of all cells in the matrix, always equal to 1 or 100%. Based on the studied text, Socioma-Light evaluates 11 basic coefficients calculated based on the number of references to each of the 256 semantic cores of the matrix and the relationships between them [12].

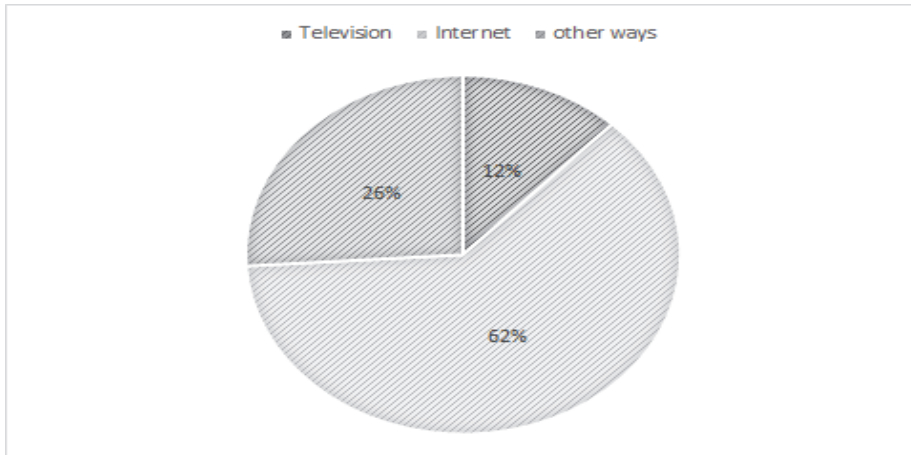
In 2019, socioma was translated into Arabic. It is used for an evaluation of the emotional and semantic climate of Syria from 2011 to 2019 was made on the basis of regular information flows with commercial and socio-political information. The work made it possible to compare the

dynamics of the calculated coefficients with real events in Syria in different years and showed high reliability of the results obtained [14, p. 23–24].

### Results

When answering the question: “Do you follow the Russian Arabic-language media?” almost 85% of respondents answered positively.

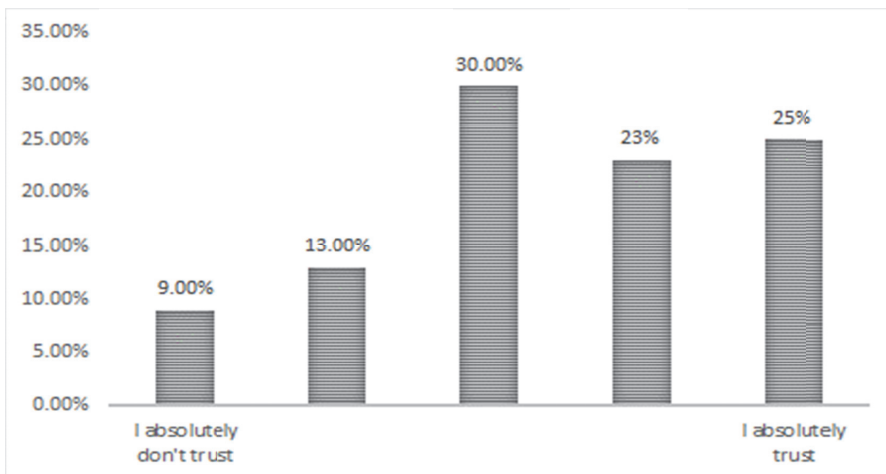
Only 26% of the respondents watch the media on television, more than half of the respondents watched the Russian Arabic-language media on the Internet, the answers were given to the question: “How do you follow the Russian Arabic-language media?” The following results were obtained (see fig. 1).



*Figure 1. The most popular sources of Russian Arabic-language media in Syria*

This distribution is considered very natural with the development of information technology, and the huge potential provided by the Internet in communicating and exchanging information.

Respondents were asked about the degree of trust in the Russian Arabic-language media, assessed on a 5-point scale, where 1 – “I absolutely do not trust”, 5 – “I completely trust”.



*Figure 2. The degree of trust of Syrian youth in the Russian Arabic-language media*



As a result (Fig. 2), it becomes clear that a low level of trust was found in a minority of respondents 20% of respondents (1–2), an average level of trust was found in 30% of respondents (3 points), and a fairly high level – in the majority of respondents more than 45 % (4–5 points).

In other words, the trust of the Syrian youth is relatively high in the Russian media speaking Arabic.

The percentage of respondents who believe that the Arabic-speaking Russian media is not objective is 14% compared to 25% who answered that it is characterized by high levels of objectivity and 61% believe that the Russian media is characterized by an average degree of objectivity.

The value of Pearson's correlation coefficient between the belief in media objectivity and trust was 0.85, That is, it is a strong positive correlation.

In the Social matrix of the psychological climate of Syria in 2020, the lowest level of the fear coefficient appears at 09.01. 2020, compared to the high level of the fear factor in January and February As shown in (Fig. 3). This date was taken by us due to the fact that an extremely important event took place on this date – the visit of Russian President Vladimir Putin to Damascus.

I briefly recall that the coefficient of fear in the social matrix Socioma expresses the degree of internal conflict of the participants in the situation.

In February 2020, a low level of anxiety and Coefficient of Consciousness was recorded (see Fig. 4). Negative values and values close to 0 are characteristic of anxiety and conflict situations and reflect active aggression against participants.

Previous studies have shown that narrowing the breadth of Awareness of the situation in war conditions and increasing anxiety leads to an aggravation of the economic and social situation.

Narrowing the breadth of perception of the situation in peaceful conditions and increasing anxiety leads to an improvement in social and economic conditions [13].

Low score in expectation and exchange sectors compared to coercion and condition sectors. It can be seen in the social matrix of the psychological climate in Syria in 2020 (Fig. 5).

Since the beginning of 2020, the Syrian government has passed a series of new laws, especially in the areas of economics, politics and the media, in an effort to improve the economic and social situation in Syrian society. At the same time, the Syrian Ministry of Defense came forward with statements about the victory of the Russian and Syrian armies over the terrorists, which explains the high level of coercion coefficient, while maintaining a balanced level of exchange coefficient during this period.

All of the above indicates that the new decisions were in the required direction, and had a positive impact on the psychological climate in Syria, but it was not entirely sufficient to raise the values of the expectation sector.

### **Discussion**

Despite the state of fear, conflict and anxiety that characterizes the psychological climate in Syria, the Syrian youth have expressed high levels of trust in the Russian media, which speak Arabic. This may be due to the neutrality and balance of the Russian media and avoiding the deliberate misrepresentation of information for political, religious or cultural purposes.

Based on the above, it can be said that the Syrian youth found in the Russian media which speaks in the Arabic language as a more reliable alternative than the official targeted media.

Nowadays, social media is used to spread information faster than traditional media or any other form of media, and this is why Syrian youth resort to it as a main source of information because of its ability to keep pace with the pace of social, economic and political events in Syria.

There can be no doubt that political and economic events explain the difficult psychological period that Syrians are currently going through. The study provides an early warning that the socio-psychological situation in Syria will continue in 2020.

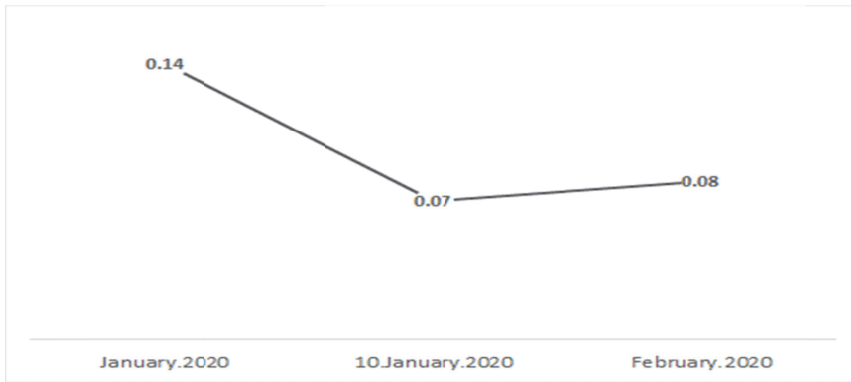


Figure 3. The dynamics of the coefficient of fear of Syria in early 2020

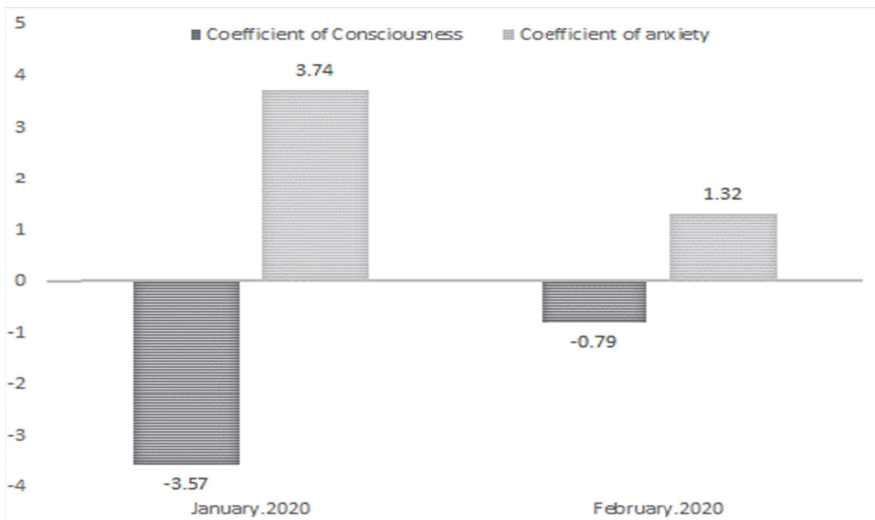


Figure 4. The dynamics of the coefficients of the Socioma psychological climate in Syria in 2020

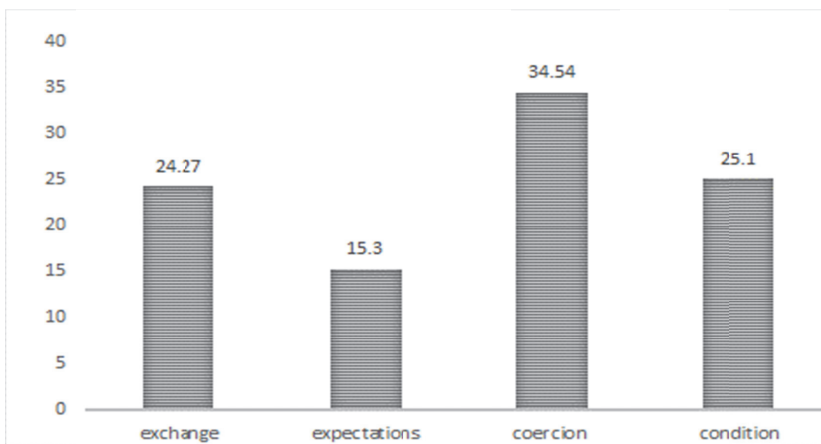


Figure 5. Tensions across the Socioma sectors of the psychological climate in Syria 2020

## Conclusion

1. Trust in the Russian Arabic-language media does not depend on changes in the psychological climate of the country.

2. The emotional nature of the information broadcast by the media reflects the psychological climate of Syria. This being an expression of an emotional state that depends on changes in the tension of news, on the one hand, political, economic and social events, on the other.

3. The high degrees of trust in the Russian media speaking Arabic in Syria derive from the belief in the objectivity of the Russian media, that is, the higher the belief in the media's objectivity, the higher the levels of trust and the higher the levels of trust and the higher the belief in the media's objectivity.

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## Civic Duty Notions of the Russian Youth

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**Annotation:** *in Russia, research on the topic of civic duty is not enough worked out, as well as on the ideas of youth on this subject. This article sets the task of highlighting the existing images of the category in question, to clarify the sources and conditions for its formation, the causal relationship of the concept and human behavior, and also to identify possible solutions for constructing positive ideas about internal and external civic duty.*

**Key words:** *civic duty, civic responsibility, civil society, young citizens.*

**JEL classification:** *A130, A230.*

### Introduction

Young people do not often think about high matters. They care about personal issues, relationships with peers, with the opposite sex. However, the age from 18 to 34 years, if they have sufficient intelligence, due to their energy and hopes for the future, contributes to reflection and active actions for the good of their country. This certainly addresses the topic of civic duty. And we would describe it as something positive and friendly from every citizen of the country towards it, something that contributes to its prosperity.

We cannot help explaining what we mean by prosperity, perhaps someone perceives this as a view of things through pink glasses, but we are sure that if you ask any person whether he shares this position, he will answer in the affirmative.

A country cannot live well and break records if the majority of its inhabitants do not make maximum efforts to this, which in turn cannot arise out of nothing. Need the desire of absolutely everyone. This is called a civic duty – to work, believe, not give up, help, protect (not only with weapons, but also mentally, verbally).

This topic has already been studied by many scientists [2; 4; 6–8; 18; 22]. Our research objectives are to define civic duty conceptions, to understand what shapes them and to formulate how to shape them in adolescence.

### Methodology

Through perception, we realize reality. The continuity between different perceptions is interwoven with memories that reproduce what has been experienced. Recognition of a phenomenon is a necessary factor in understanding it. It is important to be able to restore knowledge about civic duty each time without a visible subject characterizing it. A reproducible representation of the image does this [19].

Reproduction of sensual, and generalized semantic content. Reproduction includes not only perception, but also thoughts. In the process of life in humans, much is involuntarily imprinted.

And since the physical life of an individual is not eternal, the state raises the question of how to make this imprinting intentional, sustainable, constructing the correct social attitudes, since the conditions and needs in which society lives make it necessary to set applied tasks.

Reproduction of the representation reflects one's own attitude to its content. And if this attitude to civic duty is changed, it is possible to correct the tendency to reject the value and necessity of domestic civic duty, and the subsequent formation of ideas about external civic duty, and then the cross-breeding of internal and external ones, with the ability to reproduce similar ideas by specific individuals to other people [8].

Representations form a stepped hierarchy from which concepts, as well as images and memories, can flow. The presentation should be formed with an appeal to the memories, in conjunction with them, so that not only imagination works when creating new images, but also memory, for loading and reformatting old patterns, and all this should be accompanied by thought processes.

The ability to represent is developed in the process of activity in which this skill is necessary. The ability to evoke ideas and change them is developed in the process of the corresponding activity. Representation does not overlap the perception of surrounding objects.

Representation is a volatile dynamic entity. Without ideas, we would live only in the present moment, neither the past nor the future would exist for us. Notions create the plan on which our life unfolds.

The state not only strengthens society with legal relations, but also, being morally truly a higher universal essence, promotes unity in mores, education and a universal way of thinking and acting (since everyone spiritually contemplates and cognizes the other in universality). The more an individual can act on his own free will and independently for the sake of a common cause, and the more trust he has in the state [5].

Under controlled conditions we used a survey method, psychological testing, biographical method, determinism method and data analysis.

### **Results**

The first of them and the most commonplace is to serve the motherland. To go to the army, to join the military regulations, discipline, to show others an example that to be ready to give their lives for the country is worthy, honorable and courageous. In essence, clothe animal instincts in a social envelope, direct aggression towards enemies, and for the time being peaceful, practice deadly tricks and tactics.

Another area of fulfillment of one's civic duty is to comply with state laws and respect their importance for maintaining law and order in society. The law is necessary; without it, peace on the streets, confidence in the future, and the stability of social relationships are unthinkable. This includes the payment of taxes, compliance with the rules established in society, the struggle for justice in case of violation of these guidelines by individuals or groups of interests.

In addition to the military and legal spheres, there is a political one, an angle that, in my opinion, is more than important. Because it is known that when we are not engaged in politics, we are not interested in it, sooner or later it takes on us. This includes voting at elections of any level, public control over the activities of government bodies, the creation of non-profit organizations.

Civic duty is clearly manifested in professions directly related to saving and protecting people, such as police, rescuers, doctors, firefighters, emergency services, divers, special forces and others. Such people initially choose this direction of activity, because they feel they want to help people be protected and confident in the future, when they know that they can rely on professionals.

We interviewed a group of students and one young working collective regarding their ideas about civic duty. That is what we got.

Kinds of domestic civil duty (morality):

- to keep cleanliness in public places, near the house, in nature;
  - to respect other people and their rights and freedoms (people should not deserve the basic respect to be treated humanely, they have it a priori);
  - to vote;
  - to observe public order;
  - to report to the authorized bodies about the committed crime and about violations of public rules;
  - to be active and not indifferent to the problems of the country, society, region, city, district;
  - to talk about civic duty and its benefits for everyone;
- Kinds of external civil duty (legal nature):
- to protect the Fatherland and its interests in military conflicts;
  - to comply with the Constitution of the Russian Federation and laws of the Russian Federation;
  - to pay taxes and fees;
  - to preserve nature and the environment;
  - to take care of the preservation of historical and cultural heritage, to preserve historical and cultural monuments.

Some people are opposed to the fact that the existence of their own ideas about the correct behaviour in society by other citizens or even by the state itself can be explained or mediated by public ideas about civic duty. Such a parallel is often perceived unkindly, since a person in this case believes that since this is a civic duty, then he does not have his own choice, which is unacceptable for freedom-loving people [4].

Young people are reluctant to talk about external civic duty, arguing that civic duty must be respected prestigiously and honorably, and pride for the country and government efforts to ensure a decent life for people are needed. When such efforts seem inferior for many years, disappointment, despondency occurs, and the notion “civic duty is useful to society and the state” is clouded, the associative series is lost [16].

The young people do not seek to affect the country when describing civic duty from their point of view. They want to personify and narrow down to their own cultural level the desire to be a worthy citizen of a worthy society. And since society is still on the path to development, such youth makes an altruistic contribution in view of the love for their Motherland, which warms the soul with its most beautiful and unique nature, endless open spaces, centuries-old culture and the richest Russian language [11].

The idea that following moral duty is valuable in itself and this maxima can serve as the basis for moral behavior does not fit into a stable system of notions of millions of people [10].

According to polls, these factors preserve the love of the country, and they create strong ideas about how to preserve and increase the Russian heritage, what responsibility its citizens have for its future.

In the other hand, according to VTsIOM polls, in Russia more than half of citizens consider immoral the following acts:

- drug use;
- corruption;
- manifestation of racism;
- public manifestation of hostility to representatives of another faith;
- alcoholism;
- tax evasion;
- appropriation of found things or money;
- lack of fidelity to the partner;
- smoking in public places;
- army evasion.



These answers may well be considered moral notions that are harmoniously superimposed on ideas about civic duty, because morality, in addition to laws, acts as a catalyst for the “correctness” of citizen behaviour [23].

### Discussion

Our whole life is a patchwork of book and cinema stamps. Where do we get manuals, instructions on how to behave in society? Common answer: in the family. But if the family does not provide children with such ideas, because their families did not do the same. Where do people get the information from? Indeed, behaviour patterns are in any case information, even if it is received exclusively verbally from acquaintances, friends, family, or these are textual sources, or graphic, as films, series, and performances. Let us not forget about music, and a person is inclined to memorize at a subconscious level, as a favourite singer said in a song, such a style of behaviour of this person will be, figuratively speaking. If adults watch TV regularly, their perception is prone to images from it. These images are broadcast further and after turning off the TV, even if not immediately. “You are what you eat”. This is no coincidence. This is not necessarily related to food, the same acquired with knowledge, impressions, perceptions, ideas.

Speaking about the media and television, the last decade can be observed weak coverage of structural problems within Russia, and an active discussion of foreign issues. Prime time talk about other countries, pseudo-discussions of Russian foreign policy on television throughout the country create the idea among young people that this is done to spread fear of the existence of enemies abroad, a meek attitude to Russian politicians for their hard work, and distraction from real ones problems faced by society and citizens. With such an informational atmosphere, ideas about civic duty cannot be formed precisely in a constructive way, since they are initially laid on the basis of delayed mines: the confrontation of national and international law, foreign policy competitors. The ideas under discussion in this vein are not constructive, but destructive. Household, down-to-earth values are not broadcast as valuable ones; television currently does not carry an educational function. We are discussing this because of the great influence of television on the masses of people, therefore we cannot but touch on this tool of the media, since it has one of the direct relations for the formation of sustainable images of people on different topics [3].

We watch a wonderful patriotic film, we have tears welling up, we empathize with the main character, and emotions are postponed in us, one way or another, which can then emerge in any suitable situation. And we have the conception, which is formed.

For the past two decades, the state has been strenuously promoting the historical past of Russia to society, spending a large amount of money on parades, beautiful installations, and overclocking of clouds, but veterans who earned high honours at the cost of their courage live incomparably poor and often in appalling living conditions. Such a mismatch between the holiday message and modern social realities creates the impression among young people about the falsity of respect for history and its heroes, because the state no longer cares about veterans, but about the image of Russia in a political context, when it is more important to demonstrate historical commitment and military power to foreign countries and their citizens, awakening in them pride of their country. And as a result, the attitude towards the real problems of society among young people is either indifferent or indignant, and, having matured, they continue the tradition of ignorance due to hopelessness of group-thinking.

We are not talking about the uselessness of celebration, the point is how harmoniously the work of a patriotic-educational and financial-distributional character is built up, where distortions in any direction are unacceptable.

Everyone agrees with this, but, nevertheless, they continue to grow their children on these films, introducing these ideas into their minds, programming them to follow unrealistic guidelines throughout their entire future life – not out of malice, but guided by the common philistine philosophy to the principles of carelessness and irresponsibility: “Whatever the

child is amused, if only he is not hanged.” Meanwhile, the child’s consciousness is even more susceptible, it does not even know the simplest “sense of humor” defense.

Other tools for decoding to a person in the process of growing up the concept of “civic duty” is family, self-education, mass education, and mass culture [20].

By mass education we mean kindergartens, preparatory groups, comprehensive schools, lyceums, technical schools, colleges, institutes, universities, including their employees, teachers, and guest lecturers. There is a presentation of images and concepts to students, but they are so absorbed in feelings for an unloved subject, or thoughts about their personal and everyday problems that they are completely unable to perceive constructive information, take note of it and consciously choose this way of behaviour [1].

Such people distort students to the idea of “civic duty” as something highly cultured and moral. There is no room for manipulation in training; common sense should be at the head. Though the concept of civic duty crystallized, incorporating other words: honesty, conscience, justice, law-abiding, respect, responsibility, birth of children. Duty is a moral category; moral consciousness distinguishes between good and evil [14].

Considering that the phenomenon of civic duty is not fully encouraged by the state, in Russia its value and validity do not meet with a constructive response among ordinary citizens. Of course, this state of affairs is facilitated by mass education, modern mass culture, and a certain disunity of people due to growing individualism due to the capitalist basis of society. Due to the instability of modern ideas about civic duty, there is room for the application of specific programs to enrich our citizens with beneficial images of moral and ethical ideals [12].

Youth should take responsibility for their life and not shift it to the government, take an active political part, actively show their civic position, not stand aside and not be a passive observer of what is happening. This is expressed in the participation in all elections at all levels, from district meetings to the presidential campaign, reporting to the authorized bodies on non-compliance and violations of the law and any rules, including public ones, keeping order so that their persona does not interfere with other citizens.

Civic duty is paired with the unification of people, their opinions. Citizens find other citizens who have similar positions, and together defend the basics of justice. To hear a conscience is a crucial way to fulfil the civic duty. It is already sewn into us what is good and what is bad [17].

If you broadcast that corruption has always been in Russia, it is implied, albeit not openly and may not even specifically, that it will continue, that is a kind of alibi for such a phenomenon as corruption. And the notion of “civic duty”, not far for everyone, will include rejection of corruption as a phenomenon.

A person does not live on his own, but identifies himself with the society in which he is located, connected with various relationships with other people. The experience of previous generations, the desire to live in peace, not war, to enjoy benefits, to feel understanding and support, to feel part of one people, forms in us ideas about civic duty.

The citizen’s duty is to be interested in the life of the country, to try to understand the causes of its problems, to study the history and culture of the people, what is society, not only on election day, but every day, read, think, ask, seek answers. This work is a matter of conscience for every person striving to live in a developed society.

Overseas civic duty is inevitably linked to both internal attitude and external. The social structure itself requires a young man to earn money. Parents in every possible way stimulate children to live independently when they reach legal age. Much attention is paid to social interaction in schools and universities, where respectful attitude towards other people is cultivated. Laws promote the respect for private property, the protection of rights by law, where everyone knows that their rights will be protected. This creates a demanding attitude towards the authorities, perseverance in achieving solutions to their own problems, as well

as a preventive effect on potential violators and criminals. The inevitability of punishment for non-compliance with the law creates an additional subconscious impact on citizens.

Civic duty is inevitably connected with the country in which a person lives, and this is a significant characteristic. If a person does not identify with the state, does not respect his ideals, disagrees with his policies, thinks critically, his civic duty will be to act for the good of society and change reality in the constructive way that he considers correct, observing the laws countries [7].

Abroad, there are differences between civic duty and civic responsibility, and they are understood diametrically opposed to each other in contrast to the domestic scientific tradition. We have the concept of a civic duty, which is not legal; it refers more to morality. In foreign countries, it means a person's obligation, which is enshrined in legislative acts. For example, this is service in the army, payment of taxes, notification to the police of detected crimes, participation in jury trials, voting in elections and referendum, and more. And civil liability is understood not as a legal, but a moral norm, which means maintaining order near the house and not littering on the streets, not violating and respecting the rights of other people, being careful and attentive to older people and nature, to be an example for children, to observe law, resist injustice in society and more.

Civic duty can be perceived as a kind of payment for the fact that the state provides its citizens with rights and freedoms. Young people should serve in the army, pay back their duty to their country for a peaceful sky above their heads. Generation after generation follows this principle in order to be ready at any moment to repulse the enemy. Selflessness and courage fill the hearts of people when they are on shoulder-to-shoulder duty service, not to mention the line of hostilities, where every life counts [13].

Opposition to the infringement of rights and violation of the law, the desire for universal justice. However, often a person who gets the opportunity for personal gain comes from selfish thoughts and compromises with moral principles, which contradicts the ideals of civic duty aimed at promoting and achieving long-term public interests.

Justice is manifested primarily in the usual self-restraint in the pursuit of their own interests from attention to the interests of those around them. Further, it is expressed in the form of a sense of law, which enters everywhere for law and justice, and not only in the sense of not committing injustices, but, since it is possible for him, in the sense of not allowing it to be committed by anyone else. The significance of the will to law, as a counterweight to the will to power, lies in the fact that it creates the possibility of a peaceful life by the community. The consequence of injustice, not separable from its nature, is enmity and war [15].

The involvement of citizens in socio-political processes creates a sense of belonging to a common case. We are talking about domestic civic duty. The property of self-awareness is human dignity. This includes sustained positive self-esteem, respect for oneself and other people, one's own conscious system of values and the desire to build one's life in accordance with it, the ability to live one's own goals and interests. This again falls into morality, morality, decency. If not, then this is an imitation of human dignity [9].

The formation of a man and ideas happens through laying social instincts and basic attitudes. And for the formation of such a high idea of civic duty, people simply do not have enough life experience and "clear" examples to independently determine "what is good, what is bad" in this context. Therefore, this image of "a person observing civic duty, as well as his personal expediency" is not universally possible for everyone to consolidate, and it is not always possible to completely fill out the cells of the idea of civic duty with all the possible essential features of his subject, based on the experience of developed societies of other countries and historical heritage. The imaginations of each person are complemented by emerging ideas [21].

### Conclusion

Fulfilment of civic duty is the realization and embodiment of one's civic position. This is an indifferent attitude to the problems and difficulties of their country, support for public initiatives, personal participation as a volunteer in social events, an understanding of one's responsibility in every step taken and a spoken word, as well as a formed worldview that provides a picture that is worth the effort to achieve.

The development of ideas about civic duty does not stand still, and as the state grows, citizens acquire positive attitudes, each day encountering the same thing, on the roads, on the streets, in the store and at work, in everyday life. Active people, who have already realized the importance of democratic values for everyday life, are trying with all their might to show others how great it is to be among the same caring citizens.

Until now, the concept of "civic duty" has come a long way from the emergence of states, the formation of religions, the change of economic formations, scientific discoveries, philosophical treatises to an activity factor in the life of every person. Everyone has a different personality scale, which determines a certain attitude of a citizen to his state. Someone is dissatisfied with the policy of the authorities, the work of public utilities, services, but such aspects are also important for personal exploits, coming to a conscious choice in favour of civic duty. When a person does not notice the work of officials in general, they give up, motivation to do good things fades away. And the government, by all means and resources, must in no case prevent this state of affairs, carrying out fascinating events aimed at raising patriotism, financially supporting people who do their work in good faith and professionally. And we, as scientists, have to awaken consciousness of people.

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# LABOUR PROTECTION



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## Granulometric Composition of Bottom Sediments of the Small River Hodza, Moscow Region

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**Annotation:** *the article presents the research results of granulometric composition of bottom sediments of the river Hodza. The regularities of the distribution of particles of various sizes in the cross section of the riverbed, the relationship of the granulometric composition and the amount of bottom sediments with the presence of hydraulic structures on the river are studied. Granulometric composition of bottom sediments of the river Hodza not previously been investigated.*

**Key words:** *Hodza river, particle size distribution, bottom sediments.*

**JEL classification:** *J190, J280.*

### Introduction

The granulometric composition, quantity and distribution of bottom sediments are indirect indicators of anthropogenic load on reservoirs [9]. Violation of the hydrological regime of permanent watercourses during the construction of dams, reservoirs and ponds, straightening of bends leads to shallowing and silting of channels with the subsequent development of anthropogenic eutrophication and hydrogen sulfide contamination [16]. This problem is particularly acute for small flat rivers in densely populated and industrialized areas. In this regard, the rivers of the Moscow region are the object of close attention both from the scientific community [21; 10; 19] and from the local authorities, which since 2016 have been carrying out a set of measures for the

rehabilitation of small rivers in the framework of the State program "Ecology and environment of the Moscow region" [12]. The water bodies of the Moscow Region are a complex of natural watercourses, reservoirs and engineering objects, which together with the adjacent territories constitute a significant environmental, urban planning and recreational potential for the region. In the Moscow region there are 4312 rivers, of which all, except Moscow, are small. The largest are the Oka, Klyazma, Moscow River, Protva, Sturgeon, Dubna (a tributary of the Volga) and others. Water bodies, forming a unified river network consisting of collectors with the city drainage network, are deformed. Water quality in small rivers is deteriorating. The condition of most water bodies and coastal areas does not comply with current environmental requirements.

The growth of the population and the rate of urbanization leads to the pollution of river channels, on the one hand, and, on the other hand, to an increase in sanitary and environmental requirements. The study of the granulometric composition of the bottom sediments of the Hodza river will allow us to make a preliminary assessment of the degree of degradation of the riverbed for further measures to clean it up and restore it.

Bottom sediments: delayed water exchange, sedimentation at the bottom of suspensions of natural and anthropogenic origin, as well as degradation products of organic substances formed during the existence of the small river Hodza, can serve as a potential source of secondary water pollution.

Chemicals entering the sediment are concentrated in fine dust and silt. This is due to the strong fixing of their main components of these fractions.

The Hodza river originates from under a railway embankment on the Northern edge of the town of Elektrostal and flows South-East to the town of Pavlovsky Posad, where it flows into the Vohonka river (a right tributary of the Klyazma). The length of the river is 10 km, the width of the riverbed is 3–5 m, the average depth is 0.7 m. The speed of the river flow is 0.2–0.4 m/s. The river belongs to the Oka basin district. The banks of the river in the upper reaches are covered with mixed forest and swampy in places, the riverbed is straightened. In the middle and lower reaches, the river flows through an open area and actively meanders. The last third of the path of Hodza flows within the village Subbotino and neighbourhood of the city of Pavlovsky Posad. Several small streams flow into the river. At a distance of 5 km from the source, the Hodza riverbed is blocked by a dam with a water outlet, along which the road from Elektrostal passes, and a pond is arranged in front of the dam. Further downstream, on the outskirts of the village of Subbotino on the river there is another pond with a dam and a water outlet, along the course of the river several times passes collectors under railway tracks and highways.

The industrial city of Elektrostal is located 58 km from Moscow. It borders the Pavlovo-Posadsky district from the south and southeast. The population is 146 200 people. The city is a center of metallurgy and heavy engineering in the Moscow region. The largest pollutants are: JSC "Metallurgical Plant Elektrostal", PJSC "Mashinostroitelny Zavod", OJSC "Elektrostal Heavy Engineering Plant", OJSC "Elektrostal Chemical and Mechanical Plant named after N.D. Zelinsky", CJSC "Acetylene Station "EKSK"", CJSC "Polymer" and others. More than 4146,94 thousand m<sup>3</sup> of wastewater flows annually into the small river Hodza.

### Methods

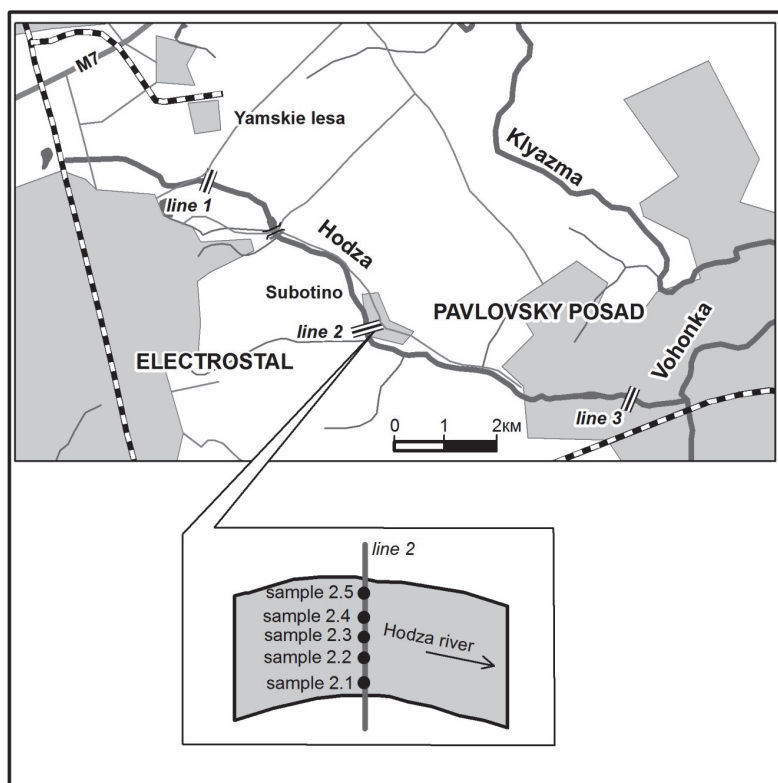
The sampling scheme was chosen to study changes in the grain composition of bottom sediments both along the width of the cross-section of the channel and along the length of the watercourse. Sampling was carried out in July-August 2019 in three sections evenly distributed along the length of the river (Fig. 1). Geographical coordinates of the location of the gates: target 1 – 55°48'44" north latitude; 38°29'44" east longitude; target 2 – 55°47'11" north latitude; 38°32'42" east longitude; target 3 – 55°46'29" north latitude; 38°37'40" east longitude. Target 1 is located in the forest, on the North-Eastern edge of the city. Electric steel on a straight section of the riverbed without visible traces of anthropogenic impact in the immediate vicinity of the river. Stvor 2 is located in the area of the village of Subbotino, 120 m upstream from



the pond, in a small floodplain grove. Target 3 is located in the estuary part of the river, in the private sector of the city of Pavlovsky Posad on River street.

The direct – sieve method for determining the particle size distribution of sandy soils does not require the use of sophisticated equipment, is simple to use, and gives fairly accurate results. The sieve method can be used to analyze clean sand, sand mixed with gravel and pebbles (gravel sand), as well as gravel and sandy soils.

Indirect – areometric method is based on the use of different sedimentation rates of different particles of soil in water. By measuring the density of the suspension with a hydrometer in the process of settling with constant characteristics of the particle material and the medium, the rate of fall of particles proportional to the square of their radii (diameters). As particles of various sizes precipitate, the density of the suspension of soil decreases. By measuring this density at calculated intervals by a hydrometer, it is possible to establish the content in the suspension (soil) of fractions of various sizes.



**Figure 1. The scheme of sampling for the determination of the granulometric composition of bottom sediments in the river Hodza**

The sampling points were located perpendicular to the riverbed at a specific selection point. Five bottom samples weighing from 0.60 to 0.91 kg were selected in each range. One of the selection points (the third in a row) was necessarily located in the core part of the riverbed. Sampling was performed in accordance with GOST 17.1.5.01-80 [6], GOST 12071-2014 [7] and the recommendations of the HDP f 12.1: 2: 2.2: 2.3.2-03 [11], RD 52.24.609-2013 [13] using the PDO-500 bottom sediment sampler on a nylon cable [14] from a depth of at least 0.25 m.

The sampling locations were linked using the Garmin eTrex 20x GPS Navigator. The samples were numbered in two digits through a point, for example, sample 1.2, where 1 is the target number, and

2 is the number of the sample from the right Bank. After sampling, the samples were packed in plastic bags and transported to the laboratory for analysis in accordance with GOST 12536-2014 [5]. To determine the granulometric composition of samples of the sand fraction, a sieve method with water washing was used, since the deposits are mainly represented by fine- and fine-grained sand differences with a particle size of 0.1-0.5 mm. The areometric method was used to determine the granulometric composition of particles of the clay fraction.

### Results

The results of laboratory tests are shown in tables 1–3.

Table 1

**Granulometric composition of bottom sediments in section 1**

The number of samples	Sample weight, kg	The depth of sampling, m	Composition, % and particle size, mm						
			sands			aleurites		plates	
			1,0–0,5	0,5–0,25	0,25–0,10	0,1–0,05	0,05–0,01	0,01–0,002	Less 0,002
1.1	0,65	0,25	18,3	52,8	18,9	0,5	2,5	3,2	3,8
1.2	0,91	0,4	25,5	40,9	22,4	1,8	3,4	3,0	3,0
1.3	0,64	0,7	41,2	40,8	15,0	1,2	1,6	0,2	0,0
1.4	0,74	0,5	30,6	32,4	25,6	2,0	2,3	4,0	3,1
1.5	0,75	0,4	18,8	56,2	19,0	0,8	2,1	1,8	0,9

Table 2

**Granulometric composition of bottom sediments in section 2**

The number of samples	Sample weight, kg	The depth of sampling, m	Composition, % and particle size, mm						
			sands			aleurites		plates	
			1,0–0,5	0,5–0,25	0,25–0,10	0,1–0,05	0,05–0,01	0,01–0,002	Less 0,002
2.1	0,75	0,4	4,8	17,0	18,4	11,0	2,5	32,8	13,5
2.2	0,80	0,8	7,7	22,4	21,7	8,8	2,4	27,6	9,4
2.3	0,74	0,8	10,2	36,2	27,4	4,8	1,2	12,7	7,5
2.4	0,87	0,7	7,4	28,8	25,5	3,2	2,2	22,8	10,1
2.5	0,82	0,4	4,4	16,2	20,7	9,4	4,4	28,7	16,2

Table 3

**Granulometric composition of bottom sediments in section 3**

The number of samples	Sample weight, kg	The depth of sampling, m	Composition, % and particle size, mm						
			sands			aleurites		plates	
			1,0–0,5	0,5–0,25	0,25–0,10	0,1–0,05	0,05–0,01	0,01–0,002	Less 0,002
3.1	0,65	0,3	21,5	48,7	15,8	3,8	3,6	5,1	1,5
3.2	0,63	0,4	24,8	45,6	14,6	2,3	2,0	8,7	2,0
3.3	0,60	0,8	34,2	40,7	15,7	2,0	1,8	4,1	1,5
3.4	0,70	0,7	18,7	48,7	19,1	4,7	6,8	1,2	0,8
3.5	0,74	0,3	16,8	38,5	25,7	6,7	5,4	3,8	3,1

According to the tables, linear diagrams of the distribution of bottom sediments of various sizes in the cross-section of the riverbed for each section are constructed (Fig. 2–4). The abscissa axis represents the percentage of particles, and the ordinate axis represents the particle size class for each sample.

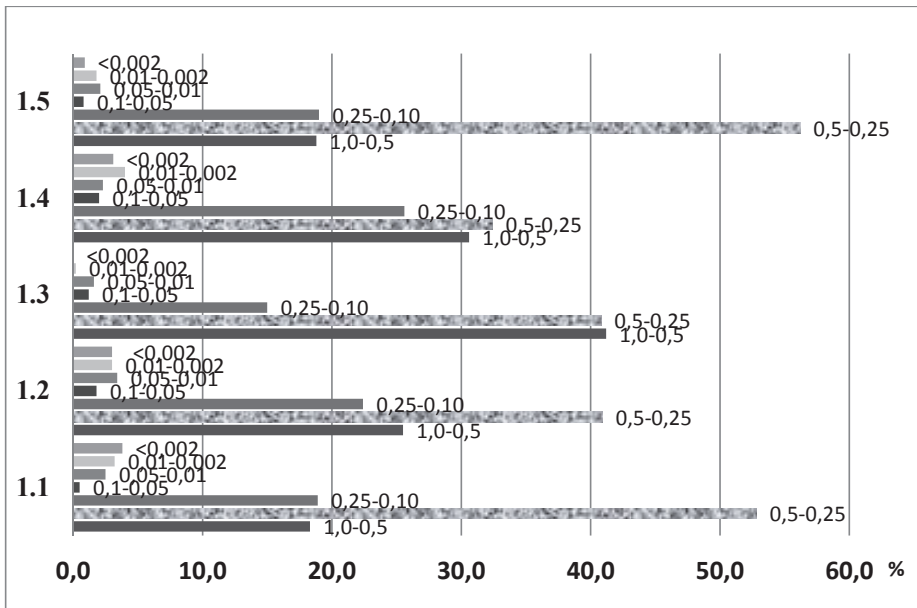


Figure 2. Diagram of the percentage ratio of particles of different size classes in samples of bottom sediments in the range 1

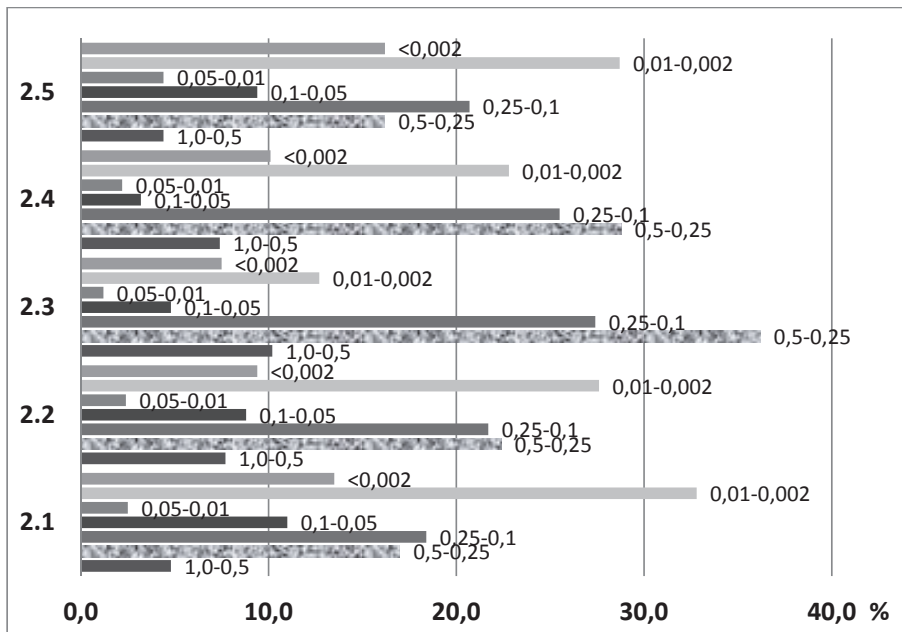


Figure 3. Diagram of the percentage ratio of particles of different size classes in samples of bottom sediments in the range 2

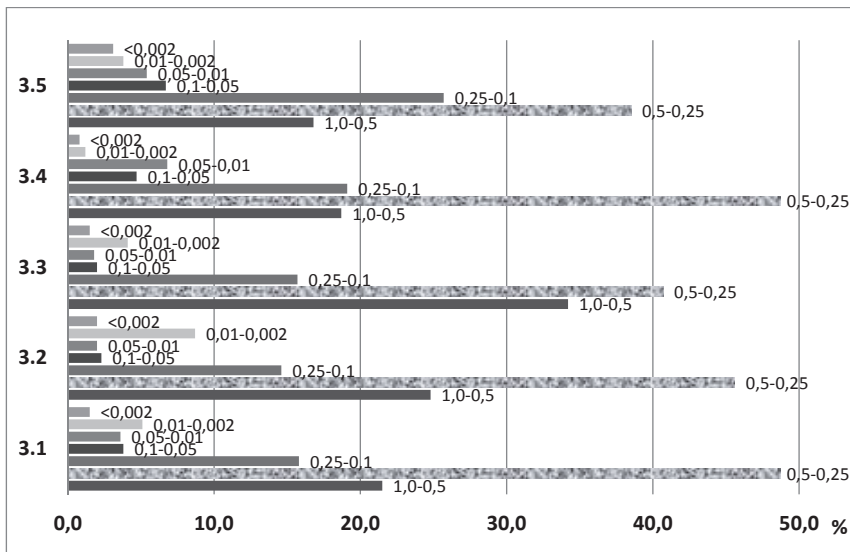


Figure 4. Diagram of the percentage ratio of particles of different size classes in samples of bottom sediments in the range 3

The average particle content by size class in all 15 samples is shown in table 4.

Table 4

**The average concentration of particle size classes in the sediments of the river Hodza**

Sands			Aleurites		Plates	
1,0-0,5	0,5-0,25	0,25-0,10	0,1-0,05	0,05-0,01	0,01-0,002	less 0,002
19,0%	37,7%	20,4%	4,2%	2,9%	10,6%	5,1%

The percentage of sand, silt and clay particles in bottom samples for each section is shown in figure 5. On the abscissa axis, the target number is marked, on the ordinate axis – the content of the particle class as a percentage.

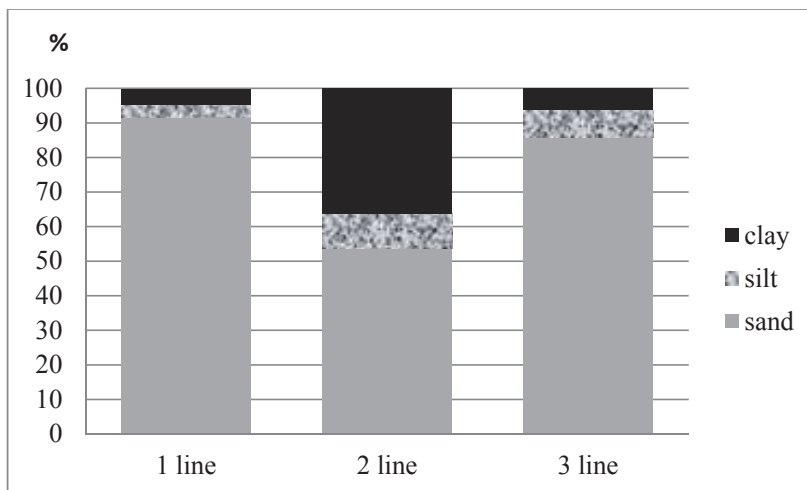


Figure 5. The ratio of sand, silt and clay particles in the samples of bottom sediments of the river Hodza

### Discussion

The results of laboratory analysis can be traced to the variability of granulometric composition of bottom sediments as the length of R. Hodza and its cross riverbed profile. The bottom sediments of the river as a whole are characterized by a predominance of sand particles, which make up, on average, 77.1% of the sample volume [1–3; 15]. Among them, as a rule, particles of medium-grained fraction (0.5–0.25 mm) dominate, the content of which in the samples ranges from 17.0 to 56.2%. In the second place in terms of content in the samples are pelitic particles (average content of 15.7%) with a predominance of 0.01–0.002 mm (10.6%). The proportion of siltstones in samples is relatively small and averages 7.1% [17; 18]. In the cross-section of the riverbed, the presence of larger-grained sediments in the Central kernel part of the river can be traced in all sections, which is associated with a higher flow rate in this zone. The asymmetric distribution of particle size classes in samples from sections 2 and 3 is due to different modes of sedimentation on opposite banks of the river (alluvial and suballuvial banks) when the channel bends.

According to E.P. Yanin [19; 20], the background alluvium of small rivers in the Moscow region is mainly multi-grained sand with an admixture of pebbles and gravel with a small content of silt and clay particles of dimension [19, p. 36, table 15].

For example, the granulometric composition of the background alluvium of the Pakhra river near Podolsk (Moscow region) is characterized by the following composition: coarse sand (2–1mm) – 3%, coarse sand (1–0.25 mm) – 29.8%, fine sand (0.25–0.1 mm) – 43.1%, large siltstone (0.1–0.01 mm) – 23.2%, fine siltstone (0.01–0.005 mm) – 0.5%, clay (<0.005 mm) – 0.4%, physical clay (<0.01 mm) – 0.9% background alluvium is characterized by a good sorting of its Constituent grains.

The sediments of the Hodza river differ in this respect by a relatively small proportion of large siltstones (on average 4.2%) and a significant admixture of clay particles. The low content of silt particles may be due to the specifics of eroded deposits, which are moraine boulder loams and sandy loams of the Dnieper glaciation (Q2gl) [4]. The increased content of clay material in the bottom sediments of the Hodza river and their appearance indicates the process of accumulation of man-made silts. Technogenic silts are dark gray or black deposits of various densities, plastic, sticky, with an unpleasant smell (fecal, chemical, hydrogen sulfide), oily or greasy to the touch. Silts can have a corrosive effect on human skin and rubber. Churning of man-made silts is accompanied by the release of hydrogen sulfide and the appearance of oily films and rainbow streaks on the water surface. According to E.P. Yanin [20] technogenic silts are characterized by an increased content of clay particles (10–32%), which determines their main physical properties: connectivity, plasticity, stickiness, adsorption and desorption properties, the ability to retain moisture and chemicals. According to GOST 25100-2011 [8], background alluvium is considered to be unbound, and technogenic silt is considered to be bound soils that are poorly sorted sandy, small-scale and large-scale alluvial silts. The granulometric composition of silts preserves the characteristics of sewage sludge generated at urban treatment facilities, which are the main source of technogenic sedimentary material for rivers in densely populated areas. As you move away from the source of pollution, silt content decreases in silt and pelites, which corresponds to the General scheme of sedimentary material transfer by permanent watercourses. Technogenic silts have increased resistance to erosion, form various forms of riverbed relief, affect the sedimentation regime and the dynamics of the riverbed. This type of sediment, due to its good absorbent properties, is a favorable environment for the accumulation of major pollutants, in particular, heavy metals [18–20].

The granulometric composition of technogenic silts on the example of the Pakhra river after Podolsk (9 km after the Cherny river) according to E.P. Yanin [19] is characterized by the following percentage composition of particles in size: coarse sand (2–1mm) – 0.5%, coarse sand

(1–0.25 mm) – 28.3%, fine sand (0.25–0.1 mm) – 30.2%, large silt (0.1–0.01 mm) – 28.8%, fine silt (0.01–0.005 mm) – 7.6%, clay (<0.005 mm) – 4.6%, physical clay (<0.01 mm) – 12.2%.

Silt accumulation is facilitated by the flat profile of the riverbed, the presence of meanders, the regulation of flow by hydraulic structures, thickets of water plants and the low speed of the river flow in the summer.

When sampling bottom samples, man-made silts were found in line 2, located near the village of Subbotino (Fig. 3). The material of these samples has an increased content of clay particles (from 20.2 to 46.3%). Deposits of technogenic silts of black color with a loose, flake-like top layer and an unpleasant hydrogen sulfide smell line the riverbed with a solid layer from 5 to 15 cm thick. The layer Thickness increases from the Central to the edge parts of the channel profile, which is reflected in the change in the content of clay particles from samples of this section. Intermittent dark silt with a thickness of 0.5–1 cm was observed on the coastal shoal, which corresponds to the technogenic silts of the channel part in terms of organoleptic properties. It should be noted the presence of a layer of silt in the Central part of the riverbed, which indicates an uncharacteristic mode of precipitation transfer. It is associated with the resistance of silts to erosion and the low speed of the river flow due to the presence of a large number of hydraulic structures.

In section 3, there is an increase in the percentage of sand particles in bottom samples compared to section 2. This is due, according to the author, with additional receipts of this fraction of the sand quarry, located on the right Bank of the river between the village Subbotino and summer village of Mirny, near a railway embankment, where the development of the sand was directly in floodplains. In section 3, the presence of man-made silts in the form of separate lenticular clusters with a thickness of 5–10 cm on the lowered sections of the river bottom was also noted. The number of clay particles in the range 3, however, is greater than in the range 1. This may be due to the proximity of the river mouth, or to the admixture of observed man-made deposits.

The main source of man-made silt in the riverbed of the Hodza river is industrial and household effluents of the city of Elektrostal, which is noted as one of the leading industrial cities in the Moscow region. The volume of waste water from the industrial enterprises of Elektrostal entering the nearby Hodza and Vohonka rivers is more than 4146,94 thousand m<sup>3</sup> [21]. Treatment plants only clean up 11% of discharges. A large share of discharges falls on municipal enterprises (45%), the share of industrial enterprises does not exceed 23%. However, industrial enterprises are the main source of heavy metals entering river basins. Technogenic silts are a favorable environment for the absorption and accumulation of heavy metals: iron, copper, zinc, lead, and cadmium. The results of laboratory studies of water samples of the river Hodza in 2018 [21] is set excessive concentrations of iron content (0.8 mg/l to 30.5 mg/l). However, the increased iron content is typical for the waters of rivers in the forest zone of the Moscow region, where swamp landscapes with a reducing chemical environment prevail and cannot characterize the degree of anthropogenic water pollution with this chemical element. It should be noted that man-made silts, unlike flowing river waters, have the ability to accumulate and Deposit heavy metals. The dynamics of accumulation of these pollutants in the bottom sediments of the Hodza river requires a separate study.

**Conclusion.** In the course of this work, the granulometric composition of the bottom sediments of the small Hodza river was studied along three sections evenly distributed from the source to the mouth. The results of the research have shown an increased content of clay particles in the middle and lower reaches of the river along sections 2 and 3. Deposits of man-made silts were found in these areas, the chemical composition of which requires further study. The change in the granulometric composition of the bottom sediments of the Hodza river from the source to the mouth indicates a significant share in these sediments of municipal and industrial effluents of the city of Elektrostal. The accumulation of man-

made silt in the riverbed of the Hodza river and the content of pollutants in water and bottom sediments is a priority for environmental monitoring in the vicinity of the cities of Elektrostal and Pavlovsky Posad.

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