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FEATURES OF THE FORMATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE POLICY ENSURING THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF TERRITORIAL COMMUNITIES IN THE CONDITIONS OF MARTIAL LAW IN UKRAINE

The article defines the peculiarities of the formation and implementation of the state policy of ensuring the economic development of territorial communities in Ukraine. An assessment of the effectiveness of the state policy of ensuring the economic development of territorial communities in Ukraine was carried out. The problems and contradictions of the formation and implementation of the state policy of ensuring the economic development of territorial communities in Ukraine in modern conditions are identified. The ways of increasing the effectiveness of the state policy of ensuring the economic development of territorial communities in the conditions of martial law in Ukraine are considered.

Key words: state administration, mechanisms of state administration, state policy, territorial communities, economic development of territorial communities, development of regions, decentralization, martial law.

Problem setting. According to the Constitution of Ukraine (Article 132), the territorial system of Ukraine is based on the principles of unity and integrity of the state territory, a combination of centralization and decentralization in the exercise of state power, balance and socio-economic development of regions, taking into account their historical, economic, ecological, geographical and demographic features, ethnic and cultural traditions [3].

At the same time, the Constitution of Ukraine (Article 140) provides for the existence of local self-government, which is the right of a territorial community - residents of a village or a voluntary association of residents of several villages, towns and cities into a rural community - to independently resolve issues of local importance within the limits of the Constitution and laws of Ukraine [3].

In modern conditions, it is extremely important to ensure the necessary level of economic development of regions and social stability in society, and therefore the issue of formation and implementation of the state policy of ensuring the economic development of territorial communities in the conditions of martial law in Ukraine acquire special relevance.

Recent research and publications analysis. Such scientists and managers as O. Azarkhina, V. Kuzmin, L. Potravka, H. Susiak, K. Fisun and others have devoted their publications to the study of the specifics of the formation and implementation of the state policy of regional development and economic development of territorial communities [1; 4; 8; 12].

However, many questions regarding the peculiarities of the formation and implementation of the state policy of ensuring the economic development of territorial communities in the conditions of martial law in Ukraine remain insufficiently researched.

Paper objective. The purpose of the article is to determine the peculiarities of the formation and implementation of the state policy of ensuring the economic development of territorial communities in the conditions of martial law in Ukraine.

Paper main body. The main goal of the state policy of economic development of territorial communities is to provide quality services for citizens, to create comfortable living conditions for them, which cannot be achieved without the active participation of local self-government, which is a key link in assessing community needs, planning and implementing relevant projects for its development.

The central body of executive power, the activity of which is directed and coordinated by the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine with regard to ensuring the development of territorial communities, is the Ministry of Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine, whose area of responsibility and main functions are designed to ensure the formation and implementation of the specified state policy:

- in the field of road, rail, sea and inland water transport, provision of postal services, as well as ensures the formation and implementation of state policy in the field of air transport and use of Ukrainian airspace, tourism and resorts (except for the implementation of state supervision (control) in tourism and resorts), multimodal transportation, protection of critical infrastructure in the sectors for which it is responsible, development, construction, reconstruction and modernization of the infrastructure of aviation, railway, sea and inland water transport, road management, navigation and hydrographic support of shipping, merchant shipping, with issues of safety in aviation, road transport of general use, urban electric, railway, sea and inland water transport, as well as state supervision (control) of safety in aviation, road transport of general use, urban electric, railway, sea and inland water transport;
- in the field of development, construction, reconstruction, repair, arrangement and modernization of crossing points across the state border, their maintenance and operation;
- in the field of development of local self-government, territorial organization of power and administrative-territorial system, housing policy;
- in the field of improvement of settlements, housing and communal services, household waste management;
- in the field of construction, urban planning, spatial planning of territories and architecture;
- in the field of technical regulation in construction, pricing in construction;
- in the field of restoration of regions, territories and infrastructure affected by the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine;
- in the field of architectural and construction control and supervision;
- in the field of control of housing and communal services;
- in the field of energy efficiency of buildings [6].

The Ministry of Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine is guided in its activities by the Constitution and laws of Ukraine, decrees of the President of Ukraine and resolutions of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted in accordance with the Constitution and laws of Ukraine, acts of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, other acts of legislation [7].

The subjects of the formation and implementation of the state policy for the economic development of territorial communities include: the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, the President of Ukraine, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, the Ministry of Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine, the Committee for the Organization of State Power, Local Self-Government, Regional Development and Urban Planning, specialized associations, representatives of

International Technical Assistance projects and non-governmental organizations, territorial communities, international partners, scientists, experts on these issues, etc.

An important component of state regional policy and sustainable development of territorial communities in Ukraine is the decentralization of power and further development of the territorial organization of power. Hence the need for a clear division of powers of state authorities and local self-government at all levels, which requires the introduction of appropriate changes in legislation and strategic documents. That is why, for quite a long time, the implementation of the decentralization reform has been continuing in Ukraine at the level of ministries and departments in close cooperation with the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, local self-government bodies and the public.

So, for example, the urban planning reform, which was developed in accordance with the principles of decentralization, provides local self-government bodies with real tools to control construction and combat illegal construction. In particular, it is about the implementation of construction monitoring, the possibility of urban planning control, the possibility of demolishing illegal objects by the decision of local self-government bodies without a court decision. The specified reform also encourages more systematic engagement with urban planning documentation, which is especially important in the context of the reconstruction of territorial communities affected by the war [11].

In order to create the necessary conditions for the effective work of local authorities and to deepen the decentralization processes in Ukraine, the format of Reform Support Offices is being introduced as independent expert teams that will be able to provide professional assistance to communities and improve the quality of their work in accordance with modern world standards [1].

The reform support offices will provide consultation and technical support to local self-government bodies in matters of anti-corruption policy, investment project management, work with digital tools, and will also become a transparent platform for regions to communicate with potential donors and take into account the best global experience. It is also important that the format of the Reform Support Offices is clear and proven for Ukraine's international partners, therefore negotiations are currently underway at the level of ministries and agencies with various countries regarding their active involvement in the specified project [1].

In our opinion, the introduction of Reform Support Offices at the level of local self-government bodies in Ukraine will provide territorial communities with direct access to the best global practices and standards in the field of local self-government, including issues of ensuring sustainable economic development.

It should be noted that the decentralization reforms in our country are actively supported by the Council of Europe, which works together with Ukraine on their development and implementation.

Currently, the implementation of the Roadmap for good democratic governance in Ukraine in the area of local self-government, which was developed based on the results of the high-level dialogue "Good democratic governance in Ukraine: achievements, challenges and the way forward in the post-war period", held at the headquarters of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg in November 2022. The road map defines the key tasks of the decentralization reform regarding changes in the system of public administration at the local level, because Ukrainian society needs transparent, accountable and strong local self-government, which is ready to take responsibility for solving community problems [5].

For this purpose, a number of legislative initiatives were developed and adopted, which strengthen the institutional capacity of territorial communities and establish new legal and organizational principles of service in local self-government bodies.

It is, in particular, about the Law of Ukraine "On Service in Local Self-Government Bodies", which will ensure professional promotion and political impartiality of officials of local self-government bodies. Thus, the specified law defines the principles, legal and organizational principles of ensuring public, professional, politically impartial, effective service in local self-government bodies, which functions in the interests (common interests) of territorial communities, as well as the conditions and procedure for the realization by citizens of Ukraine of the right to equal access to the service in local self-government bodies [2].

As well as draft law No. 4298 On Amendments to the Law of Ukraine "On Local State Administrations" and some other legislative acts of Ukraine on reforming the territorial organization of executive power in Ukraine, which will allow, within the limits of the current Constitution, to ensure the reformation of local state administrations into prefecture-type bodies [5].

The specified Roadmap for good democratic governance in Ukraine in the area of local self-government provides answers to the questions of how to implement European integration reforms in the specified area, how to introduce European standards in local self-government, how to ensure sustainable economic development of territorial communities, etc.

Of course, in the conditions of Russian military aggression against Ukraine and the state of martial law introduced in the country, the state policy of regional development needs appropriate adjustment and consideration of existing challenges and threats.

Therefore, in order to take into account the challenges of today and the urgent tasks of European integration, orientation to the real needs of regions and territorial communities (restoration of infrastructure taking into account security requirements, barrier-freeness and the interests of people, in particular, and vulnerable population groups, etc.), the State Strategy was updated in 2024 of regional development for 2021-2027. This was an important step in the approximation of state regional policy to the key policy of the European Union - cohesion policy.

Changes to the State Strategy for Regional Development are the result of the joint work of all stakeholders - local and regional authorities, associations of local self-government bodies, the expert community and civil society, and further steps to implement the updated strategy should be focused on the following areas:

- creation of appropriate conditions - safe, economic, social, which will give a signal to our citizens that they are waiting for them at home, in Ukraine;
- reintegration of veterans and families, as this is a cross-cutting task of all spheres, which directly affects national security and economic development;
- further development of the institutional and financial capacity of local self-government bodies - the government closest to the people, capable of promptly responding to their needs;
- synchronization of regional development policy and other industry (sectoral) policies [10].

In addition, in 2023, the Ministry of Development of Communities, Territories and Infrastructure of Ukraine proposed a Roadmap for the implementation of the reform of local self-government, territorial organization of power and administrative-territorial system, which defines the main goals and objectives of the implementation of the reform for the period of

martial law and for the period after its abolition martial law in the country.

The main tasks of the reform of local self-government, territorial organization of power and administrative-territorial system for the period of martial law are defined as:

- reformatting of local state administrations into prefecture-type bodies;
- improving the activities of local self-government bodies and military administrations under martial law conditions;
- improvement of the administrative and territorial system;
- strengthening the financial capacity of local self-government bodies;
- involvement of residents in making local management decisions;
- strengthening the capacity of local self-government bodies, in particular in terms of project management, digitalization, anti-corruption and strategic planning;
- promoting the development of partnerships and the development of inter-municipal cooperation;
- introduction of local statistics [9].

These tasks are based on the achievements of the high-level dialogue "Good democratic governance in Ukraine: achievements, challenges and the way forward in the post-war period" and the work done by the Ministry of Development of Communities and Territories of Ukraine together with key stakeholders [9] - subjects of the formation and implementation of state economic policy development of territorial communities.

It should be noted that despite the overall success of decentralization reforms and ensuring the sustainable development of regions and territorial communities in Ukraine, there are a number of systemic unresolved problems and contradictions. In particular, there is no effective and independent mechanism for monitoring the constitutionality and legality of decisions of local self-government bodies at the legislative level. The answer to this can be the introduction in Ukraine of the institute of prefects, which will serve to strengthen the legality of local decisions. Another direction is the improvement of service in local self-government bodies and its harmonization with the provisions of the civil service, that is, it is about creating tools to protect the interests of employees at the level of local self-government [11].

In addition, the problematic issues of the further implementation of reforms in the sphere of ensuring the economic development of territorial communities remain: the distribution of tax on the income of individuals; tools of state regional policy that affect the territorial system; architecture of planning documents; local finance, etc.

Therefore, the further unification of the mechanisms of the state policy of economic development of territorial communities should take place in the following directions: improving the financial stability of communities by granting the right to rural and settlement communities to borrow and providing local self-government bodies with additional powers in terms of administering local taxes and fees; building effective horizontal relations between the central government and local self-government; increasing the role of the public in decision-making at the local level in terms of citizens' ability to influence which development project will be implemented in their community; continuation of decentralization and local public administration reforms.

Therefore, the reform of local self-government and territorial organization of power should contribute to the formation of an efficient and closest institution of power in a democratic society - local self-government. The mentioned reform should open opportunities for the development of communities and consolidate the whole of Ukraine - despite russian

military aggression, constant shelling and hostilities, local self-government bodies should demonstrate their resilience and ability to quickly respond to crisis situations, properly ensure the livelihood of communities and provide the population with appropriate services quality.

Conclusions of the research and perspective of further development in this direction. Thus, ensuring the necessary level of economic development of communities can be achieved only on the basis of coordinated actions of state authorities, local self-government, public organizations, businesses, enterprises, organizations and society as a whole. In addition, in the modern conditions of improving state policy, ensuring the economic development of territorial communities is a necessary prerequisite for the further socio-economic development of Ukraine in the conditions of martial law and post-war reconstruction of our state, which will be the subject of further scientific research.

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