

# Iuliia Siekunova

---

## Ways of Formation of the Personality Political Culture in the Ukrainian Society

---

Edukacja - Technika - Informatyka 3/1, 230-234

---

2012

Artykuł został opracowany do udostępnienia w internecie przez Muzeum Historii Polski w ramach prac podejmowanych na rzecz zapewnienia otwartego, powszechnego i trwałego dostępu do polskiego dorobku naukowego i kulturalnego. Artykuł jest umieszczony w kolekcji cyfrowej [bazhum.muzhp.pl](http://bazhum.muzhp.pl), gromadzącej zawartość polskich czasopism humanistycznych i społecznych.

Tekst jest udostępniony do wykorzystania w ramach dozwolonego użytku.

**Iuliia SIEKUNOVA**

National University of Life and Environmental Sciences of Ukraine, Ukraine

## **Ways of Formation of the Personality Political Culture in the Ukrainian Society**

The political culture of citizens holds one of the most important places in formation and establishment of a strong independent, democratic state with robust and effective political, economic and other systems. The researches in political culture make it possible to better understand the patterns of the political process, especially the political consciousness of personality and human behavior in the modern, including the Ukrainian society.

The formation of political culture takes place in the process of political socialization, which in the opinion of the adherents of symbolic interactionism is the result of interpersonal communication, occurs through a common group activity, in which a person gradually identifies itself with a certain party, organization, and begins to respond in accordance with its views and guidelines. Moreover, the decisive role in the socialization of the individual is given to the so-called primary groups (family, children's group etc.) characterized by informal, trusting interpersonal relationships [Капитонов 1996: 43–50].

The concept of political culture now has firmly entered the series of key categories of the political science. This is because the political process with all contingencies, unforeseen events, arising alternative situations inherent to him are subject to internal laws and can not be derived directly from economics or psychology. The research of political culture helps to see the deeper patterns of the political process, especially the political consciousness and human behavior in modern society. The analysis of the problem of political culture makes it possible to understand why the groups of people or whole nations, acting within identical political systems, but brought up with different values and having diverse historical experiences, perceive the same political events in different ways and behave differently in the same political situations.

The development of the concept of political culture requires more in-depth study of the role of personality in the political system, in particular, the intrapersonal mechanisms of its behavior, factors of formation of the political level of individual consciousness, and motivation of political activity. Just as the culture defines and provides certain norms and rules of conduct in all spheres of life, the political culture defines and provides the standards of conduct in the political domain. It forms the guidelines of political behavior, political norms and ideals

providing the unity and cooperation between institutions and organizations that provide coherence and integration to the political domain, just as the national culture provides integrity to the public life in general.

The political analysis involves the leading psychological trends, the conceptual framework of which allow deepening the understanding of basic mechanisms and determinants of formation of the political culture of the individual and to continue the research on this issue already from the political and psychological perspective. The most widely used factors in analysis of social and political phenomena are the main provisions of behaviorism, cognitivism, humanistic psychology and psychoanalysis. These concepts consider the phenomenon of political culture through the analysis of political socialization, since formation, reproduction and development of political culture takes place through learning and support for the person's norms, standards of conduct, political values and landmarks, which allow adapting to the political system. The issue of political culture in Soviet times was solved in terms of the communist education. Material changes in the state, constitutionally declared policy of building a democratic civil society require the formation of a political culture of new modern society, which inevitably requires the research of the national mentality, its transformation and features. Since the source of the nation's political culture is the uniqueness of its national culture as a whole, the totality of culture of the nation is the form of manifestation of its mentality.

Today Ukraine doesn't have a clear Ukrainian national idea that would unite the citizens in the national and state unity. Now the formation and implementation of policies of social harmony and unity of the citizens of Ukraine around the national idea is of great importance for further development of the Ukrainian state. It is a modern national idea which has to become a consolidating factor for the Ukrainian people during this difficult period of development. This was aptly noted by the academician M. Zhulynskyi in his book *Ukraine: Formation of Spiritual Independence*. He writes „There is a general need to develop an integrated system of social values, the conceptual core of which should be its own state national idea” [*Політична...* 1998: 104–105 ].

It is important to note that the history of the modern world gives us an evidence of the fact that the national self-determination has traditionally been a catalyst of social development and progress by means of which the radical socioeconomic and political changes in many countries were introduced. The ignoring of the identity of national culture, national idea, mentality and character of the people often led to uncivilized forms of relations in society. That is why today among a number of the most difficult issues, according to modern scholars (A. Melnychenko, I. Zhadan, I. Sazonov et al.), the issue of formation of high political culture among all citizens of Ukraine, including the Ukrainian youth, remains the most important one.

The research has demonstrated that the political culture and national identity is based on historically formed political mentality, which is a more stable element. The political mentality of the Ukrainian people is quite specific; on the one hand, it reflects its tragic national liberation path for national values and national independence of Ukraine, and on the other hand – its indifference to the fate of its citizens and own country. Therefore, Ukraine is historically characterized by a combination of knightly cossack and passive contemplative type of attitude to social and political processes. Thus, the sociopolitical and socioeconomic level of our society is able to affect our national traditions, values, religion and forms of social development, especially taking into consideration the cultural peculiarities of Ukrainian mentality.

The formation of the Ukrainian political culture appropriate to the civil society provides for updating of political ideology, its release from the dogmatism, illusory and utopian visions, and formation of the modern concept of legal state. It is also necessary to revive the political, social and moral values, especially the ideas of humanism, love of freedom, liberty and dignity, social equality and justice in the minds of the people. The most urgent human qualities to be developed are the respect for people of all nationalities and their languages and traditions, balance and tact in dealing with serious national problems. Certainly, this requires new laws governing the national processes, particularly the required formation of high culture of interethnic communication. This implementation of the best features of political culture in practice is necessary so that the new generation of citizens felt the relationship of such quality, and inherited the best of it, and enriched the traditions with new experiences. In our view, the development of its ways, and mechanism shall involve the scholars, professionals in various fields, media etc.

The analysis showed that the peculiarities of political culture in the modern Ukraine are as follows:

- ideology-oriented thinking, intolerance to any alternative views;
- low competence in managing the state and social affairs;
- legal nihilism;
- inertia of public attitude;
- underdeveloped individualism;
- subordinate attitude to any real center of power.

In our view, it is important to emphasize that at the present stage the processes of formation of a democratic political culture has become an integral part of the national revival of Ukraine. There is a bilateral relationship between the growth of the national and historical consciousness and political culture of the people. The national consciousness, as well as the national character, is largely shaped by the political relations of the past. Long stay under colonial rule resulted in the formation of people's disappointment about the possibility of an

independent Ukraine. The prolonged dominance of totalitarianism has distorted the idea of democracy to such an extent that there is a threat of a new totalitarianism, already put at the service of the national idea. The long-term experience of successful operation of democratic institutions is required so that the national character developed such democracy traits as tolerance, willingness to cooperate with people with different political and ideological views, respect for human rights and minorities.

Thus, a democratic political culture can be developed by forming a real democratic society that allows every citizen to participate freely in the political life, creates appropriate conditions for the development of culture and education, and cares of the spiritual and moral condition of the population.

## Literature

- Граб Б.Б. (2012), *Політична свідомість і політична культура в українському суспільстві // Дні науки філософського факультету*. Матеріали доповідей та виступів Міжнародної наукової конференції (18–19 квітня 2012 року). – К.: Видавничо-поліграфічний центр „Київський університет”. – Ч. 9. – С. 108–110.
- Капитонов Э.А. (1996), *Социология XX века*. – Ростов-на-Дону: Феникс. – 509 с.
- Кравченко Ю.І. (2004), *Політична культура та політична свідомість як детермінанти розвитку демократично-орієнтованої держави // Укр. політ. нація: генеза, стан, перспективи: Монографія / За заг. ред. В.С. Крисаченка*. – К.: НІСД. – С. 323.
- Краєзнавство: науково-методичний та практичний аспекти // Матеріали II Всеукраїнської науково-практичної конференції (15–16 червня 2011 р., Суми)*. – Сумський обласний інститут післядипломної педагогічної освіти. – Суми РВВ СОІППО. – 164 с.
- Малий етнополітологічний словник (2005) / О.В. Антонюк, В.І. Волобуєв, М.Ф. Головатий та ін.* – К.: МАУП. – С. 143.
- Політична культура демократичного суспільства: стан і перспективи в Україні // Матеріали Всеукраїнської науково-практичної конференції (26–27 лютого 1998 р.)*. – К.: Гнозис. – 226 с.
- Проскуріна О.О. (2001), *Формування політичної культури українського суспільства: проблеми та перспективи розвитку: Автореф. дис. ...канд. політ. наук*. – К. – 25 с.
- Сірук М. (2006), *Невикористані шанси. Канадський рецепт процвітання, або чого треба вчитися Україні // День*. – 9 груд.

## Abstract

The author of the article has attempted to analyze the ways of formation of the personality political culture in Ukrainian society.

**Key words:** political culture, personality, political consciousness, Ukrainian society, national idea, mentality.

## **Sposoby kształtowania się osobowości w kulturze politycznej w społeczeństwie ukraińskim**

### **Streszczenie**

Autor artykułu podjął próbę analizy sposobów kształtowania się osobowości w kulturze politycznej w społeczeństwie ukraińskim.

**Słowa kluczowe:** kultura polityczna, osobowości, świadomość polityczna, społeczeństwo ukraińskie, idea narodowa, mentalność.