UDC 330. 342.146 (477)

УДК 330. 342.146 (477)

K. V. Hnedina, Candidate of Economic Sciences

**К. В. Гнедіна,** к. е. н.

# THE SOCIAL DIMENSION OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT OF UKRAINE

**Urgency of the research.** The identification of threats to sustainability and definition of measures of their overcoming play an important role in the transition of Ukraine to the model of sustainable development.

**Target setting.** In order to determine the ways of assurance of social sustainability it is reasonable to investigate the social dimension of the development of Ukraine at the modern stage.

Actual scientific researches and issues analysis. The investigations of sustainable development are carried out by a wide range of scientists, among them: E. Griessler, A. Colantonio, B. Littig, S. McKenzie.

Uninvestigated parts of general matters defining. Despite the numerous researches in the field of sustainable development, the social component of sustainable development of Ukraine is underinvestigated.

The research objective. The aim of the article is to investigate the essence of the category "social sustainability", to define the threats to social sustainability and to determine the strategic directions of socially-oriented development of Ukraine.

The statement of basic materials. The essence of the social sustainability is investigated in the article. The review of the results of the assessment of social sustainability, which are presented by international analytical organizations, is performed. The main strategic directions of socially-oriented development of Ukraine are defined.

**Conclusions.** The definition of national paradigm of sustainable development with taking into account social, cultural, economic and other peculiarities of the country and step-bystep implementation of sustainability principles in all spheres of human activity are important prerequisites for improvement of social wellbeing of the population and formation of socially-oriented market economy in Ukraine.

**Keywords:** sustainable development; social sustainability; social wellbeing.

## СОЦІАЛЬНИЙ ВИМІР СТАЛОГО РОЗВИТКУ УКРАЇНИ

**Актуальність теми дослідження.** Ідентифікація загроз сталості та окреслення заходів щодо їх подолання відіграють важливу роль у переході України до моделі сталого розвитку.

Постановка проблеми. Для визначення шляхів забезпечення соціальної сталості доцільним є дослідження соціальних аспектів розвитку України на сучасному етапі.

Аналіз останніх досліджень і публікацій. Дослідженням сталого розвитку присвячені наукові праці широкого кола вчених, серед них: Е. Грайслер, А. Колантоніо, Б. Літтіг, С.Маккензі.

Виділення недосліджених частин загальної проблеми. Незважаючи на численні дослідження у сфері сталого розвитку, недостатньо дослідженою залишається соціальна складова сталого розвитку України.

Постановка завдання. Метою статті є дослідження сутності категорії "соціальна сталість", визначення загроз соціальній сталості та стратегічних напрямів соціально орієнтованого розвитку України.

Виклад основного матеріалу. У статті досліджено сутність соціальної сталості. Здійснено огляд результатів оцінювання соціальної сталості, представлених міжнародними аналітичними організаціями. Визначено основні стратегічні напрями соціально орієнтованого розвитку України.

Висновки. Формування національної парадигми сталого розвитку з урахуванням соціальних, культурних, економічних та інших особливостей країни та покрокова імплементація принципів сталості в усі сфери діяльності людини є важливими передумовами підвищення соціального благополуччя населення та розбудови соціально орієнтованої ринкової економіки в Україні.

**Ключові слова:** сталий розвиток; соціальна сталість; соціальне благополуччя.

**DOI:** 10.25140/2410-9576-2017-1-2(10)-127-135

**Urgency of the research.** Economic decline in the country, increase of unemployment level, reduction of population, deterioration in life quality are the main indicators of insufficient level of efficiency of socio-economic processes in Ukraine. These tendencies determine the necessity of realization of complex of measures to ensure the economic, ecologically-balanced, socially-oriented development of Ukraine.

According to the conditions of the Ukraine–European Union Association Agreement Ukraine took the vector of socially-oriented and ecologically-balanced development and declared this choice in Sustainable Development Strategy "Ukraine-2020" (hereinafter referred to as "Strategy"), which was approved at the beginning of 2015. The purpose of the Strategy is the implementation of European life standards and achievement by the country the world leading positions. The Strategy foresees the improvement of social welfare of citizens, in particular: the assurance of safety of human life and health,

safety of vulnerable groups, access to the qualitative drinking water and safe food, environmental improvement etc. [1].

Thus, the determination of the motion path of the country to the sustainable development and formation of the strategy show that the first steps to the implementation of sustainable development conception were made. At the same time the threats to sustainability remain intractable and the ways of practical realization of sustainable development conception require identification and specification. It determines the urgency of scientific research on this topic.

Target setting. At the end of the twentieth century, in the period of integration into the global economic space and transformation of the national economy – refocusing to the market basis, Ukraine faced with the task to adapt to new challenges and to form the preconditions for the country's transition to a sustainable development model. In conditions of acceleration of integration processes there are no doubts concerning the necessity of implementation of sustainable development conception in Ukraine and transition of the country to a new model of civilization development. That's why the understanding of new realities and needs at all management levels, change of priorities, determination of long-term perspectives for the future in order to support not only the economic stability of the country, but also its ecological safety and social wellbeing are of great importance. The transition to a model of sustainable development and achievement of high social standards are prerequisites for further European integration of Ukraine.

Actual scientific researches and issues analysis. Social aspects of sustainable development are investigated by a wide range of foreign scientists, among them: G. Bramley, A. Colantonio, N. Dempsey, E. Griessler, B. Littig, S. McKenzie, M. Polese, S. Power, R. Stren, S. Vallance. The essence of the social sustainability and methods of its assessment are defined in the research work of these authors.

The problems of implementation of the sustainable development model in Ukraine in modern conditions are in the sphere of interest of national scientists, members of public authorities, non-governmental organizations and business sector. Investigations of social, ecological, economic aspects of sustainable development as modern paradigm of social development are carried out by such scientist, as: O. Amosha, V. Bodrov, I. Bystriakov, M. Khvesyk, O. Novikova, Zh. Poplavska, V. Poplavskyi, O. Zghurovsyi, whose scientific works are devoted to the definition of ways of assurance of sustainable development in Ukraine.

**Uninvestigated parts of general matters defining**. Despite the numerous researches in the field of theoretical aspects of sustainable development conception and its practical realization, the social component of sustainable development is underinvestigated, which determines the urgency of the research work.

**The research objective.** The aim of the article is to investigate the essence of the category "social sustainability", to define the threats to social sustainability and to determine the strategic directions of socially-oriented development of Ukraine.

The statement of basic materials. Sustainable development is a complex definition, which include three main components: ecological, social and economic sustainability. The key idea of the conception is the necessity to assure the balance of the components of socio-ecological-economic system and harmony of human values with laws of biosphere. According to the "Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future" "sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" [2, p. 41].

Sustainable development of Ukraine can be defined as harmonious, balanced, comprehensive development of the country, which is characterized by economic growth, assurance of ecological safety, guaranteeing of social wellbeing and is focused on supporting the high life quality of the citizens, preservation of moral, cultural values and social heritage, ensuring of environmental friendliness and rational use of natural resources for the benefit of present and future generations [3].

The development of the territory should be considered from economic and social points of view, because there is a dialectical connection between economic and social spheres, which are two sides of social development [4]. The scientists V. Bodrov, V. Husiev and V. Martynenko note, that there are specific requirements to the character and growth rate of the national economy in modern conditions, in particular: assurance of its social orientation and the most effective use of human, production, scientific and technical, natural potentials of the country together with their development [5]. Thus, the guaranteeing of social wellbeing and assurance of human development are important preconditions for increasing the competitiveness of the national economy and further integration of Ukraine into the world economic system.

It in turn determines the necessity of investigation of social component of sustainable development, review of indicators for its assessment and definition of threats to the social sustainability with the aim to identify the main directions of socially-oriented development of Ukraine.

The essence of social sustainability is investigated by numerous foreign and national scientists. There are different points of view to the essence of this category among foreign researchers (Tab. 1).

Review of definitions of the category "social sustainability"\*

Table 1

Review of definitions of the category social sustainability	
The essence of social component of sustainable development: "social sustainability"	Author, year of publi- cation, source
"development (and/or growth) that is compatible with harmonious evolution of civil society, fostering an environment conducive to the compatible cohabitation of culturally and socially diverse groups while at the same time encouraging social integration, with improvements in the quality of life for all segments of the population."	Mario Polése, Richard Stren, 2000 [6, p. 15-16]
"Social sustainability is: a life-enhancing condition within communities, and a process within communities that can achieve that condition"	Stephen McKenzie, 2004 [7, p. 12]
"Social sustainability is a quality of societies. It signifies the nature-society relationships, mediated by work, as well as relationships within the society. Social sustainability is given, if work within a society and the related institutional arrangements  - satisfy an extended set of human needs  - are shaped in a way that nature and its reproductive capabilities are preserved over a long period of time and the normative claims of social justice, human dignity and participation are fulfilled"	Beate Littig, Erich Griessler, 2005 [8, p. 72]
"social sustainability concerns how individuals, communities and societies live with each other and set out to achieve the objectives of development models, which they have chosen for themselves taking also into account the physical boundaries of their places and planet earth as a whole";  "social sustainability blends traditional social policy areas and principles such as equity and health, with issues concerning participation, needs, social capital, the economy, the environment, and more recently, with the notions of happiness, well being and quality of life"	Andrea Colantonio 2009 [9]
"social sustainability" should be seen as comprising two main dimensions.  - Social equity, with particular reference (in the context of urban form) to access to services and opportunities  - sustainability of community, comprising a number of subdimensions"	Glen Bramley, Nico- la Dempsey, Sinead Power Caroline Brown, David Watkins 2009 p. [10, p. 2126]
The authors defined three types of social sustainability: "development sustainability" which addresses poverty and inequity; 'bridge sustainability' with its concerns about changes in behaviour so as to achieve bio-physical environmental goals; and 'maintenance sustainability' which refers to the preservation of sociocultural patterns and practices in the context of social and economic change"  * Source: based on [6,11]	Vallance Suzanne, Harvey C. Perkins, Jennifer E. Dixon 2011 p.[11, p. 345]

\* Source: based on [6-11]

The review of the investigations of foreign scientists, devoted to the category "social sustainability", indicates that there are different approaches to definition of the term. But it is possible to note, that social sustainability refers to the:

- improvement of life quality and satisfaction of a wide range of human needs;
- development based on the principles of social justice and equability;
- assurance of harmonious coexistence between humans and environment;
- saving of cultural and moral values in the society;
- formation and development of civil society and social integration.

According to the points of view of such scientists, as M. Zghurovskyi, T. Matoryna, D. Prylutskyi, D. Abroskina, the social component of sustainable development conception is focused on human development, keeping of stability of social and cultural systems, reduction of the number of social conflicts [12]. Scientists Zh. Poplavska ta V.Poplavskyi define social sustainability as social policy, in particular social insurance and point up the importance of the issue of guarantees, which are should be provided by the state [13].

In order to identify the problems and determine the directions of socially-oriented development of Ukraine it is necessary to evaluate the level of social sustainability. The international organizations investigate the social aspects of the sustainable development in different countries, form the methodology of social sustainability assessment and perform the results of the estimation. Thus, the analysis of social dimension of the development of Ukraine can be carried out on the basis of indicators of social wellbeing, which are estimated by international analytical organizations.

The three dimensions of sustainable development (human wellbeing, environmental wellbeing and economic wellbeing) are assessed by Sustainable Society Foundation (SSF) in 154 countries. According to estimation results, performed by this organization in 2016, Ukraine took the 36<sup>th</sup> place by the level of human wellbeing among 154 countries of the world [14], the indicator was estimated in 8 scores (on a 10-point scale) [15] (Tab. 2). The highest levels of human wellbeing belonged to Finland (the 1<sup>st</sup> place), Germany (the 2<sup>nd</sup> place) and Netherlands (the 3<sup>rd</sup> place), the lowest level - to Chad (154<sup>th</sup> ranking place) [14]. There are 9 indicators of human wellbeing in compliance with calculation methodology of the SSF: sufficient food, sufficient to drink, safe sanitation, education, healthy life, gender equality, income distribution, population growth, good governance.

The results of the assessment of human wellbeing in Ukraine in 2016 by Sustainable Society Foundation (Tab. 2) indicate the high level of satisfaction of basic needs of citizens: the indicators "sufficient food", "sufficient to drink" and "safe sanitation" are estimated on 10 score, 9,6 score and 9,6 score on a 10-point scale [15]. The level of education enrolment is also high (the indicator "education" is estimated on 9,6 score [15]), at the same time the level of the quality of the education is insufficient [16].

The indicator "income distribution", which is measured by the ratio of income of the richest 10% to the poorest 10% people in a country, is assessed on 9,7 score (on a 10-point scale) [15]. The high score (score 8,5 [15]) got the indicator "population growth". It should be mentioned, that the number of population in the country declines each year, but this trend refers to the assurance of social sustainability in terms of sustainable development conception.

The lowest score belongs to the indicator "good governance" (3,4 score in 2016 [15]), which is measured by the sum of the six Worldwide Governance Indicators (voice and accountability, political stability and absence of violence, government effectiveness, regulatory quality, rule of law, control of corruption [17]). According to "Worldwide Governance Indicators" Ukraine took low ranking places among all countries in the world in 2015 by the level of "political stability and absence of violence" (percentile rank - 6), "control of corruption" (percentile rank - 15), "rule of law" (percentile rank - 23)\*<sup>1</sup> [17].



Percentile rank (0-100): 0 corresponds to lowest rank and 100 corresponds to highest rank [17]

Table 2

## ЕКОНОМІКА ТА УПРАВЛІННЯ НАЦІОНАЛЬНИМ ГОСПОДАРСТВОМ

The results of the assessment of human wellbeing in Ukraine by Sustainable Society Foundation in 2006-2016\*

by Sustamable S	ociety i c	unuation	1 111 2000-	2010				
Indicators	Years							
Indicators	2006	2008	2010	2012	2014	2016		
Human wellbeing								
- Score	7,8	7,9	8,0	8,1	8,1	8,0		
- Ranking place	33	31	27	31	30	36		
Indicators of Human wellbeing (Score)								
	I Basic N	eeds	•					
Sufficient Food (Number of undernour- ished people in % of total population)	10,0	10,0	10,0	10,0	10,0	10,0		
2. Sufficient to Drink (Number of people in % of total population, with sustainable access to an improved water source)	9,7	9,7	9,7	9,7	9,7	9,6		
3. Safe Sanitation (Number of people in % of total population, with sustainable access to improved sanitation)	9,5	9,5	9,5	9,6	9,6	9,6		
II Persor	nal Develop	ment & He	ealth					
4. Education (Gross enrolment ratio for primary, secondary & tertiary education, combined)	8,9	9,2	9,3	9,4	9,5	9,6		
5. Healthy Life (Life expectancy at birth in number of healthy life years)	6,7	6,8	7,0	7,2	7,3	7,4		
6. Gender Equality (Gender Gap Index)	6,8	6,9	6,9	6,9	6,9	7,0		
III Well-balanced Society								
7. Income Distribution (Ratio of income of the richest 10% to the poorest 10% people in a country)	8,2	8,1	9,2	9,8	9,8	9,7		
8. Population Growth (5-years change in total population size, % of total population)	9,3	9,1	8,9	8,7	8,5	8,5		
Good Governance (Sum of the six Worldwide Governance Indicators)  *Source: based on data of Sustainable Society Foundation  **Source: based on data of Sustainable Sustainable Society Foundation  **Source: based on data of Sust	3,8	4,2	4,1	3,9	3,9	3,4		

<sup>\*</sup>Source: based on data of Sustainable Society Foundation [14; 15]

The indicators of social development in different countries of the world are measured by the World Bank. Changes in indicators of socio-economic development of Ukraine in 2011-2014 are presented in Table 3.

The GINI index, which characterizes the level of income inequality, amounted to 24,1% [18] in 2014 in Ukraine. At the same time, inequality in wealth distribution in Ukraine is higher. According to the data of "Global Wealth Databook" (Credit Suisse Report) the indicator Wealth GINI amounted to 91,9 % in 2014 [19, p. 105], the total wealth of the country was estimated at 85 USD bn [19, p. 92], share in world wealth – 0,0 % [19, p. 92]. Poverty headcount ratio at national poverty lines amounted to 8,6 % in 2014 [18]. Thus, one of the key problems of socio-economic development of Ukraine is inequality in income and wealth distribution. Social and economic components of sustainable development are interrelated: insufficient level of effectiveness of national economic system affects the level of social wellbeing.

The socio-economic development of Ukraine comes with the increment of unemployment. According to the data of World Bank the unemployment rate in Ukraine amounted to 7,7 % in 2014 (in particular, female - 6.5%, male - 8.9%) [18] (Tab. 3). In addition to it, there is a demographic problem in Ukraine: number of population decreases each year, the death rate exceeds the birth rate. In addition to it, health expenditures grow down (Tab. 3).

Table 3 Changes in indicators of socio-economic development of Ukraine in 2011-2014\*

Changes in indicators of socio-economic development of oktaine in 2011-2014					
Indicators	Years				
maioators	2011	2012	2013	2014	
GINI index (World Bank estimate)	24,6	24,7	24,6	24,1	
Poverty headcount ratio at national poverty	7,8	9,0	8,3	8,6	
lines (% of population)					
Labor force total, thousands	23119,15	23103,78	23134,53	23089,48	
Labor force participation rate, female (% of	52,70	53,00	53,20	53,50	
female population ages 15+)					
Labor force participation rate, male (% of	66,40	66,60	66,90	67,10	
male population ages 15+) (modeled ILO					
estimate)					
Unemployment, total (% of total labor force)	7,9	7,5	7,2	7,7	
(modeled ILO estimate)					
Unemployment, female (% of female labor	6,80	6,40	6,1	6,5	
force) (modeled ILO estimate)					
Unemployment, male (% of male labor	8,90	8,50	8,2	8,9	
force) (modeled ILO estimate)	·				
Population growth (annual %)	-0,4	-0,2	-0,2	-0,3	
Life expectancy at birth, total (years)	71	71	71	71	
Birth rate, crude (per 1,000 people)	11	11	11	11	
Death rate, crude (per 1,000 people)	15	15	15	15	
Health expenditure, total (% of GDP)	7,0	7,5	7,7	7,1	
**Common beautiful and the Month Devil (40)	.,0	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		,,,	

<sup>\*</sup>Source: based on data of the World Bank [18]

There are another indexes and indicators, which are calculated by international analytical organizations and describe the main tendencies of social development in different countries of the world. One of the international indicators of social development is Human Development Index, which is measured by such indicators, as: life expectancy at birth, mean years of schooling and expected years of schooling, GNI per capita, and is performed in Human Development Report of United Nations Development Programme [20]. According to the data of the report Ukraine took the 81<sup>st</sup> ranking place among 188 countries by the level of human development in 2014 (HDI amounted to 0,747) and belonged to the group of countries with high human development [20]. The highest values of HDI belonged to Norway (0,944; the 1<sup>st</sup> ranking place), Australia (0,935; the 2<sup>nd</sup> ranking place) and Switzerland (0,930; the 3<sup>rd</sup> ranking place), the lowest – to Eritrea (0,391; 186<sup>th</sup> ranking place), Central African Republic (0,350; 187<sup>th</sup> ranking place) and Niger (0,348; 188<sup>th</sup> ranking place) [20].

By the level of prosperity, measured by Legatum Institute, Ukraine took the 107<sup>th</sup> place among 149 countries in 2016 [21]. In particular, the country took the 128<sup>th</sup> place by the level of sub-index "governance" (which measures a country's performance in three areas: effective governance, democracy and political participation, rule of law), the 134<sup>th</sup> place – by the level of national security and personal safety (sub-index "safety and security", the 135<sup>th</sup> place – by the level of sub-index "social capital" (which measures the strength of personal relationships, social network support, social norms, and civic participation in a country). According to the data of analytical organization Ukraine took better ranking place (the 45<sup>th</sup> among 149 countries) by the level of the sub-index "education", which takes into account access to education, quality of education, and human capital) [21].

The Social Progress Index, which is performed by Social Progress Imperative, amounted to 66,43 in Ukraine in 2016. The country ranked the 63<sup>rd</sup> position by the level of social progress in 2016 (tier: lower middle) [22] (Tab.4).

Ukraine took very low ranking places by such components of the Social Progress Index, as: "health and wellness" (score 45,27; the 127<sup>th</sup> ranking place), "ecosystem sustainability" (score 44,44; the 118<sup>th</sup> ranking place), "personal freedom and choice" (score 49,82; the 106<sup>th</sup> ranking place), "personal

safety" (score 61,05; 101<sup>st</sup> ranking place). At the same time higher scores referred to the components: "access to basic knowledge" (score 96, 97; the 28<sup>th</sup> ranking place), "access to advanced education" (score 64,47; the 31<sup>st</sup> ranking place), "nutrition and basic medical care" (score 97,99; the 44<sup>th</sup> ranking place) [22].

The Social Progress Index and its components in 2016: Ukraine\*

Table 4

		gi occ midox and no co			
	•	Social Progress Index:	66,43 (63 <sup>ra</sup> )		•
		Components	3		
	I Basic Human Needs: II Foundations of Wellbeing: 64,29 81,23 (61 <sup>st</sup> ) (92 <sup>nd</sup> )		III Opportunity: 53,78 (54 <sup>th</sup> )		
Nutrition and Basic Medical Care	97,99 (44 <sup>th</sup> )	Access to Basic Knowledge	96,97 (28 <sup>th</sup> )	Access to Advanced Education	64,47 (31 <sup>st</sup> )
Water and Sanitation)	89,04 (60 <sup>th</sup> )	Access to Information and Communications	70,49 (72 <sup>nd</sup> )	Personal Rights	57,43 (67 <sup>th</sup> )
Shelter	76,84 (59 <sup>th</sup> )	Health and Wellness	45,27 (127 <sup>th</sup> )	Personal Freedom and Choice	49,82 (106 <sup>th</sup> )
Personal Safety	61,05 (101 <sup>st</sup> )	Ecosystem Sustaina- bility	44,44 (118 <sup>th</sup> )	Tolerance and Inclusion	43,38 (86 <sup>th</sup> )

\*Source: based on data of the Social Progress Imperative [22]

Therefore, the review of the indexes of social wellbeing indicates that there are a number of problems of social development in Ukraine, among them: income inequality, high level of unemployment, population decline, health care problem and others. The overcoming of threats to social sustainability and transition to the sustainable development model play a great role in assurance of social wellbeing in Ukraine in modern conditions. The measures of institutional regulation and support, coordination of actions of members of governmental authorities, business sector, civil society institutions and involvement of a wide range of citizens are important for the assurance of effectiveness of these processes.

**Conclusions.** The carried out research of the social dimension of sustainable development leads to the following conclusions:

- 1. Social sustainability is an essential component of sustainable development and is a complex category, which covers the socio-economic, socio-ecological, socio-cultural, socio-institutional dimensions. Social sustainability provides the formation of appropriate conditions for the development of human potential, in particular: guarantee of social interests' protection, observance of the principles of social equality and justice in society, growth of social wellbeing and reduction of social stratification level, preservation and growth of social capital.
- 2. The results of the investigation of social aspects of the development of Ukraine reflect that there are a number of threats to social sustainability in modern conditions. Thus, social policy in Ukraine should be focused on: overcoming of negative social consequences (which are caused primarily by the lack of stability in economic sphere), reduction of social strain in the society and formation of appropriate conditions for the human development with taking into account the modern realities.
- 3. The main strategic directions of socially-oriented development of Ukraine are: reduction of social stratification, increment of the level of employment of the population, lowering of morbidity and mortality rates, growth of life expectancy, the further development of educational system, preservation of moral and cultural values, assurance of gender equality. In view of the negative impact of the environment on human health, the increment of the stability of ecosystem plays a great role in social sustainability assurance.
- 4. The definition of national paradigm of sustainable development with taking into account social, cultural, economic and other peculiarities of the country and step-by-step implementation of sustainability principles in all spheres of human activity are important prerequisites for improvement of social wellbeing and formation of socially-oriented market economy in Ukraine. Any of components of sus-

tainable development shouldn't be priority at practical implementation of the conception. Because three main components of sustainable development are closely interrelated: the level of social wellbeing depends on the levels of economic stability in the country and environmental safety. That is why the consistency of social, economic and environmental components of development should be the prerogative of national policies and development programs.

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Received for publication 12.03.2017

#### Бібліографічний опис для цитування:

Hnedina, K. V. The social dimension of sustainable development of Ukraine / K. V. Hnedina // Науковий вісник Полісся. – 2017. - № 2 (10). Ч. 1. – С. 127-135.

