

# SOCIAL INSTABILITY AS A GLOBAL TREND OF THE MODERN WORLD

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**Abstract:** *The aim of the study is to determine the main indicators of social instability and forms of its manifestation in the modern world. The elements of scientific novelty of this work are that the article comprehensively analyzes the main signs of social instability in global and regional contexts, shows their essential relationship. The research methodology is based on a complex combination of philosophical (dialectical, axiological) and general scientific methods of studying the problem of social instability in the modern world, including synergetic, comparative and concretization methods. Social turbulence has resulted from intensifying geopolitical confrontations and “economic wars” between the world’s leading countries, including the United States and China.*

**Keywords:** *social instability, socio-economic inequality, global inequality, political conflicts, social policy, migration crisis, social security.*

## Introduction

The beginning of the XXI century is characterized by a number of crisis phenomena both at the global and regional levels. Social instability caused by the redistribution of spheres of influence in the world, economic crises, political confrontation, pandemic has affected almost all countries, regardless of their level of socio-economic development. It can be stated that social instability and social turbulence have become trends of our time. In such circumstances, states pay special attention to strategic planning, risk predicting, development of computer and mathematical models for forecasting possible hazards and means of neutralizing them. Obviously, countries are forced to develop new algorithms for sustainable development, considering the ephemerality and riskiness of current trends. The purpose of our study is to determine the basic characteristics of social instability and forms of its manifestation in the modern world. To achieve this goal, we plan to analyze the causes of social instability, the peculiarities of the manifestation of social instability in the global and local dimensions, to identify ways to overcome social contradictions and more.

## Methodology

The methodology of the study of social instability is based on a complex combination of philosophical methods - dialectical, axiological and general scientific methods - synergetic, comparative and concretization method. The dialectical method made it possible to identify the essential characteristics of social instability and to trace the genesis of this phenomenon. The axiological method became the basis for the analysis of social instability in the value context. Due to the application of this method, it was concluded that one of the causes of social conflicts is the lack of agreement in understanding of values between the ruling elite and citizens, in particular the idea of justice. The comparative method was used to compare the forms of social instability in the modern world. The method of concretization became a continuation of the comparative method as a basis for considering the features of social instability in different countries. The epistemological potential of the synergetic

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method has found its manifestation for understanding the transition of the social system from a stable state to an unstable one.

### Literature review

To analyze social instability, we relied on a number of scientific works of general theoretical and applied nature.

In the theoretical and methodological context for the critical analysis of social processes in the modern world, the ideas contained in the following scientific works were used: “Crisis of political leadership or leadership in crisis scenarios?”<sup>1</sup> by J. Villasmil Espinoza, D. Arbelaes-Campillo, M. Rojas-Bahamon, R. Parra Contreras; “Contributions of critical thinking as a form of participation and political deliberation”<sup>2</sup> by D. Arbelaes-Campillo, V. Tatsiy, M. Rojas-Bahamon, O. Danilyan; “Notes for the discussion of the categories of universal citizenship, human rights and globalization”<sup>3</sup> by D. Arbelaes-Campillo, M. Rojas-Bahamon, T. Arbeláez-Encarnación and others.

In turn, the scientific works of O. Rudenko<sup>4</sup>, O. Litvinenko<sup>5</sup> became the basis for defining the concept of “social instability” and forms of its manifestation, in particular “quasi-stability”. Based on the scientific achievements of M. Shevchenko, O. Davydenko<sup>6</sup>, L. Klevchik<sup>7</sup>, we identified the preconditions and main causes of social instability. In turn, the research of E. Libanova<sup>8</sup>, V. Opalko<sup>9</sup>, A. Diton<sup>10</sup>; Y. Meliakova, I. Kovalenko, E. Kalnytskyi, H. Kovalenko<sup>11</sup> were the basis for considering social inequality as one of the basic causes of social instability in the world.

For a comprehensive understanding of global inequality, the scientific works of B. Milanovych<sup>12</sup>, A. Orsini, J.-F. Morin, O. Young<sup>13</sup>, as well as statistics provided by the international organization “Oxfam”<sup>14</sup>, which presents the growth rate of inequality in the world were of particular importance.

In scientific researches of N. Rimashevskaya, V. Galetskyi, A. Ovsyannikov<sup>15</sup>; A. Geddes, E. Guild, J. Van Selm<sup>16</sup>; O. Malinovska<sup>17</sup>; D. Beseda<sup>18</sup> the views on the conflict-generating nature of modern migration processes, which are one of the powerful factors of social instability are presented.

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<sup>1</sup> J.J. Villasmil Espinoza, D.F. Arbeláez-Campillo, M.J. Rojas-Bahamón, & R. Parra Contreras, *Crisis del liderazgo político o liderazgo en escenarios de crisis?* Revista Notas Históricas y Geográficas 2021, 26, p. 269-292.

<sup>2</sup> D. Arbeláez-Campillo, V. Tatsiy, M. Rojas-Bahamón, & O. Danilyan, *Contributions of critical thinking as a form of participation and political deliberation*. Amazonia Investiga 2020, 9(27), p. 5-12.

<sup>3</sup> D.F. Arbeláez-Campillo, M.J. Rojas-Bahamón, & T.F. Arbeláez-Encarnación, *Apuntes para el debate de las categorías ciudadanía universal, derechos humanos y globalización. Notes for the debate of the categories universal citizenship, human rights and globalization*. Cuestiones Políticas 2019, 34(61), p. 139-161.

<sup>4</sup> O. Rudenko, *Models-approaches to the analysis of the concept of “social stability”*. Theory and practice of public administration 1, 2009, p. 1-16. URL: [http://www.dridu.dp.ua/vidavnictvo/2009/2009-01\(1\)/Rudenko.pdf](http://www.dridu.dp.ua/vidavnictvo/2009/2009-01(1)/Rudenko.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> O.V. Lytyvnenko, *Special information operations and propaganda campaigns Spetsialni informatsiini operatsii ta propahandystski kampanii* (Kyiv: VKF “Satsanta”, 2000).

<sup>6</sup> M.M. Shevchenko, O.H. Davydenko, *Concept of “social and political stability”: semantic range of public management content*. Investments: practice and experience 2016, 14, p. 49-54.

<sup>7</sup> L. Klevchik, *Social inequality as a basis of disproportion in society*. Economy and state 2019, 4, p. 48-51.

<sup>8</sup> *Inequality in Ukraine: scale and opportunities for influence*, za red. E.M. Libanovi (Kyiv: Instytut demografii ta sotsialnykh doslidzhen imeni M.V. Ptukhy NAN Ukrainy, 2012).

<sup>9</sup> V.V. Opalko, *Consequences of socio-economic inequality in terms of global instability*. Proceedings of Cherkasy State Technological University, Series: Economic Sciences 2018, 51, p. 41-47.

<sup>10</sup> A. Diton, *The Great Escape. Health, Wealth and the Origin of Inequality*. per. s angl. A. Gus'kova (Moskva: Izd-vo Instituta Gajdara; Fond «Liberal'naja Missija», 2016).

<sup>11</sup> Y. Meliakova, I. Kovalenko, E. Kalnytskyi, H. Kovalenko, *Performativity and self-exploitation: body significance in late capitalist era*. Cogito 2021, 13(4), p. 7-29.

<sup>12</sup> B. Milanovich, *Global Inequality: A New Approach for the Age of Globalization*. per. s angl. D. Shestakova (Moskva: Izd-vo Instituta Gajdara, 2017).

<sup>13</sup> A. Orsini, J.-F. Morin, O. Young, *Regime Complexes: A Buzz, a Boom, or a Boost for Global Governance?* Global Governance 2013, 19, p. 27-39.

<sup>14</sup> OXFAM BRIEFING PAPER. JANUARY, 2017, URL: [https://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/file\\_attachments/bp-economy-for-99-percent-160117-en.pdf](https://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/file_attachments/bp-economy-for-99-percent-160117-en.pdf)

<sup>15</sup> N.M. Rimashevskaja, V.F. Galeckij, A.A. Ovsjannikov. *Population and globalization* (Moskva: Nauka, 2004).

<sup>16</sup> A. Geddes, E. Guild, J. Van Selm. *Immigration and Welfare State. International migration and security: opportunities and challenges* (London and New York: Routledge, 2005).

<sup>17</sup> O.A. Malynovska, *Migration policy: global context and Ukrainian realities, monograph* (Kyiv: NISD, 2018).

<sup>18</sup> D. Beseda, *Migration crisis in the EU and its impact on the security situation in Ukraine*. Entrepreneurship, economy and law 2018, 12, p. 299-303.

The issue of political factors of social instability is represented in the studies of M. Teleshun<sup>1</sup>, A. Liasota<sup>2</sup> and in a scientific work entitled “Status and prospects of social security in Ukraine: expert assessments”<sup>3</sup>. Also, in the works of domestic authors, the mental and cultural-historical prerequisites of social instability on the territory of Ukraine are analyzed, in particular in the study «Historical and cultural-mental origins of legal consciousness of the Ukrainian people»<sup>4</sup>.

A separate block of scientific research is devoted to ways and methods of overcoming social instability, in particular, these are the scientific works of N. Dobreeva, E. Borshchuk, T. Koretskaya<sup>5</sup>; V. Lagutin<sup>6</sup>; O. Rudenko<sup>7</sup> and others.

In the same way, in the review of scientific articles a section for Latin America is taken into account, in accordance with Rodríguez Pérez<sup>8</sup>, et al, objective is to understand how disinformation negatively affects the intangible assets (legitimacy, reputation, and trust) of social & political actors, and institutions. The results highlight that the disinformation contents' key drivers were the violence and punishable acts that affected both social actors and the Public Force, particularly the Esmad and the police. These contents delegitimized and discredited both the reasons for the protest and the function of guaranteeing public order and security. Regarding the disinformation linked to political actors, the leader of the left-side was the most affected due to inaccurate content that polarized and proclaimed extreme positions close to subversion. Finally, we discuss the implications of disinformation and how it affects legitimacy, reputation, and trust. Moreover, disinformation imitates media outlet aesthetics as a necessity of a kind of legitimacy and credibility set of news practice in the eye of the beholder. In the same way, in Chile Godinez & Binder<sup>9</sup>, Social protest takes on new characteristics today, mediated by the use and appropriation of digital technologies. Citizens make use of devices as a central part of the mechanics of the protest, incorporating digital strategies into their repertoire of collective action. One of these uses highlights the centrality of the new screens for the defense of Human Rights, through the recording, publication and spreading the abuses of repressive forces and the montage of fake news through social media. A citizen's capacity to watch over the watcher. Due to its duration and characteristics, the case of the protests that began in October 2019 in Chile is a paradigmatic case from which to study these transformations. In Brazil and Argentina, the paper by Iglesias<sup>10</sup> is located, where he states that he main aim of this paper is to identify social protests that took place in Brazil and Argentina during the first 100 days of the Pandemic known as COVID 19 determining the symbols, slogans, and demands of those who lead the collective action. The identity perspective of collective action and a collection of qualitative information allowed to reconstruct its political trajectory and its dynamics. The argument developed in this paper consists in understanding social protest from the dynamic of social polarization. In fact, despite differences in health strategy and presidential leadership styles, the dynamics of social polarization characteristic of the pre-pandemic era, have persisted in terms of collective actions.

## Results

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<sup>1</sup> S.O. Teleshun, *Human resource management in an unstable institutional environment. world trends and Ukrainian realities*. Bulletin of the National Academy of Public Administration under the President of Ukraine. Series: Public Administration 2019, 1, p. 60-66.

<sup>2</sup> A. Liasota, *Main factors of political instability of transition systems from the position of comparative regionalism*. Visnyk of the Lviv University. Series philosophical and political studies 2018, 19, p. 145-152.

<sup>3</sup> *Status and prospects of social security in Ukraine: expert assessments, monograph*, O. F. Novikova, O. H. Sydorchuk, O. V. Pankova (Lvivskyi rehionalnyi instytut derzhavnoho upravlinnia NADU; NAN Ukrainy, Instytut ekonomiky promyslovosti. Kyiv; Lviv: LRIDU NADU, 2018).

<sup>4</sup> O. G. Danilyan, O. P. Dzeban, Y. Y. Kalynovskyi, Y. A. Hetman, *Historical and cultural-mental origins of legal consciousness of the ukrainian people*. Revista Notas Históricas y Geográficas 2022, № 28, p. 346-360.

<sup>5</sup> N.F. Dobreeva, Ye.M. Borshchuk, T.K. Koretska, *Conceptual bases for social policy formation under current conditions of functioning of the economic system of Ukraine*. Efficiency of public administration 2015, 44 (2), p. 73-79.

<sup>6</sup> V.D. Lahutin, “*Institutional nature of social stability in Ukraine*”. Economic theory and law 1 (32), 2018, p. 23-37.

<sup>7</sup> O.M. Rudenko, *General stability in the context of public administration*. Global world: scientific almanac 2015, 1 (1), p. 28-32.

<sup>8</sup> C. Rodríguez Pérez, L.S. Ortiz Calderón, & J.P. Esquivel Coronado, *Disinformation in Contexts of Social Polarization: Colombia's National Strike (November 21st, 2019)*. Anagramas Rumbos Y Sentidos De La Comunicación 2021, 19(38), p. 129-156.

<sup>9</sup> F. Godinez Galay, & I. Binder, *Las cámaras que nos pusiste van a volver. Redes sociales y denuncia de los abusos de las fuerzas de seguridad en las protestas de Chile 2019-2020*. Revista De La Asociación Española De Investigación De La Comunicación 2021, 8(15), p. 357-387.

<sup>10</sup> E. Iglesias, *Social Protest in Brazil and in Argentina during the First 100 days of COVID 19: the persistence of polarization dynamics*. Espacio Abierto: Cuaderno Venezolano de Sociología 2020, 29(4), p. 70-84.

To fully disclose the problem of social instability, it should be noted that the social subsystem is part of the social system. A social system is a type of social system based on social connections and relationships. The main components of the social system are the relevant areas of society or administration - conscious, political, economic, social and cultural, which, in turn, can be defined as social subsystems that constantly interact with each other<sup>1</sup>.

Accordingly, social instability is not a separate phenomenon and is usually caused by crises in economic, political, cultural and other subsystems of society. That is why in our study the concept of “social instability” will be understood in a broad sense and interpreted as synonymous with the concept of “public instability”.

In our opinion, social (or public) instability should be understood as the imbalance of the basic spheres of society, namely economic, political, legal, spiritual. Such imbalance or conflict in these areas can be low (uncritical for the social system), medium (exacerbation of social contradictions with the possibility of resolving them by institutional and legal methods) and high (when there is a danger of disintegration of the social system).

Social instability of different levels can be a permanent state of those social systems that have a transitive or transformational nature, the existence of which is under the influence of powerful internal and external negative factors.

Describing the above-mentioned state of social formations of unstable type, O. Lytvynenko emphasizes the important fact that under conditions of prolongation of the state of instability in socio-political systems an interesting regularity works. The system adapts to the constant change of the rules of the game, begins to live virtually without rules, more precisely, according to the rules of changing the rules. This state can be called quasi-stable. The phenomenon of quasi-stability is that under conditions of rapid change of the rules of the game at any given time, these rules are stable, i.e. there is an effect of local stability. Moreover, quasi-stability occurs only when the rules of the game are stable at one of the possible levels. These rules may not be universal, informal, unrecognized by the majority, but they are agreed and followed by the main players. Thus, the basis of quasi-stability is a certain social consent (consensus), and because of this – a certain stable base. One can imagine a system that does not have any generally accepted rules of operation at all, but has a generally accepted direction of development and a constant rate of change (a stable first derivative over time). A transitional (post-socialist) society, by the definition proposed above, is fundamentally unstable or, at best, quasi-stable<sup>2</sup>.

Continuing the logic of the above researcher, we note that transitional societies, transformational societies, conflict-generating social systems are in a state of finding the foundations of stable existence, they can “imitate” stability or show it only on certain grounds and only for a short time. That is why, we propose to use such concepts as “quasi-stability”, “sporadic stability”, “short-term stability”, “relative stability”, “formal stability”, “actual stability”, etc. to determine the form of social stability (instability).

In general, according to experts, the prerequisites for social instability are: unstable economy; the split of the political elite in the matter of establishing the rules of the game; imbalance between the functioning power structures; lack of harmony in society; the spread of corruption and other negative phenomena in public authorities<sup>3</sup>.

As a rule, social instability at the global and local levels is caused by various manifestations of social inequality, which have deepened in recent decades.

The basis of social inequality is socio-cultural and resource differences of individuals (groups) – they structure social reality, forming a structural matrix of societies and a certain social order. Inequality is a major factor in social instability: the higher and more diverse the inequality, the higher the risks of social tension and social conflict. The degree of inequality and its social perception largely reflects the civilizational orientations of the population<sup>4</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> O. Rudenko, *Models-approaches to the analysis of the concept of “social stability”*. Theory and practice of public administration 1 (2009): 3, URL: [http://www.dridu.dp.ua/vidavnictvo/2009/2009-01\(1\)/Rudenko.pdf](http://www.dridu.dp.ua/vidavnictvo/2009/2009-01(1)/Rudenko.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> O.V. Lytvynenko, *Special information operations and propaganda campaigns Spetsialni informatsiini operatsii ta propahandystski kampanii* (Kyiv: VKF “Satsanta”, 2000), p. 75.

<sup>3</sup> M.M. Shevchenko, O.H. Davydenko, *Concept of “social and political stability”: semantic range of public management content*. Investments: practice and experience 2016, 14, p. 52.

<sup>4</sup> L. Klevchik, *Social inequality as a basis of disproporation in society*. Economy and state 2019, 4, p. 49.

In a society that seeks to overcome instability, a formal and informal consensus is gradually formed to agree with certain types of inequality, as the complete overcoming of all types of inequality (absolute equality) is impossible and contradicts the competitive nature of social relations. To overcome social instability, it is important to reduce the social distance between the “poles of inequality” (the gap between the poor and the rich, to improve the access of all segments of the population to education, medicine, social services, etc.).

Undoubtedly, the mentality, historical traditions, economic system, legal and political culture of the social community become the basis for the existence of various inequalities that determine social instability now or may cause it in the future.

E. Libanova proposed a classification of forms of social inequality in terms of solving problems of human development, which is as follows: class (differentiation into classes, strata and groups depending on social status, income level, education, etc.); political inequality (lack of equal opportunity to influence political decisions at the level of direct participants in the political process); economic inequality (different levels of material security, income and their social distribution, meeting needs); gender (inequality in guaranteeing and realizing fundamental human rights and freedoms depending on gender); educational (strengthening the social functions of the institute of education, lack of equal access to education through its commercialization); environmental (lack of guarantees of protection against threats of environmental pollution, environmental disasters, etc.); inequality of health security (lack of protection against the risks of disease, inequality in the availability of effective medical care, etc.); cultural inequality (inequality of protection of cultural development from destructive tendencies); information (media involvement, lack of objective channels of information transmission, inequality of access to information)<sup>1</sup>.

In our opinion, the above-mentioned types of inequality in a single manifestation and especially in a complex are a specific background for the formation of various forms of social instability in the modern world.

At the same time, it should be noted that one of the significant causes of social instability is economic inequality, which becomes the basis for the emergence of other conflicting factors, including political and legal.

Inequality on the basis of property affects the inequality of living standards and health, creates discrimination in education and health care, and so on. It is known that the state of health largely depends on access to quality food, that is, above all - on the level of income. In the international context, A. Deaton points out that the redistribution of income from rich to poor countries can improve the average health of the world's population, even if the average income remains unchanged. Inequality increases social tensions, if the level of inequality is significant, excessive (it is clear that in different countries the boundary between normal and excessive levels of inequality is assessed differently), then such social factor as social mobility helps to reduce income inequality. According to P. Sorokin, there is a so-called “saturation limit”, beyond which society can not move without the risk of disaster. As society approaches this mark, reforms aimed at redistributing national income through taxes, changes in the economic and political spheres or other actions to curb the pernicious trend begin<sup>2</sup>.

Many socially responsible politicians, scientists, and public figures are rightly sounding the alarm about the galloping growth of inequality and its consequences. In 2015, the World Economic Forum's annual report called rising income inequality a major challenge for future global development, a component of the broad, complex problem of inequality of opportunity that affects an increasing proportion of the population. The dangers of ignoring the problem of inequality are obvious, the report said. People, especially young people, excluded from the mainstream, eventually feel deprived of their civil rights and more prone to conflict. This, in turn, reduces the sustainability of economic growth, weakens the cohesion and security of society, produces unequal access to public goods, undermines our democracies and destroys our hopes for sustainable development and peaceful societies<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> *Inequality in Ukraine: scale and opportunities for influence*, za red. E.M. Libanovoi (Kyiv: Instytut demohrafii ta sotsialnykh doslidzhen imeni M.V. Ptukhy NAN Ukrainy, 2012), p. 56.

<sup>2</sup> V.V. Opalko, *Consequences of socio-economic inequality in terms of global instability*. Proceedings of Cherkasy State Technological University, Series: Economic Sciences 2018, 51, p. 44.

<sup>3</sup> *Outlook on the Global Agenda*, (2015, WEF), URL: [http://www3.weforum.org/docs/GAC14/WEF\\_GAC14\\_OutlookGlobalAgenda\\_Report.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/GAC14/WEF_GAC14_OutlookGlobalAgenda_Report.pdf)

Socio-economic and political-legal inequality becomes the basis for social instability when citizens consider such inequality unfair. Conversely, when certain forms of inequality are considered natural by ordinary citizens, they will not be the cause of social instability – most citizens consider such inequality fair and do not want to fight for a new legal order.

A. Deaton, analyzing the problem of income inequality and its impact on the economic life of a particular country, notes that the inequality that exists within the country is in some way related to justice: whether all citizens receive an acceptable reward for compliance with their responsibilities, whether they like them or not, pay taxes, obey the law and follow the policies pursued in the country. Philosopher Ronald Dworkin, in turn, wrote that the political community, which has taken control of its citizens and requires them to be trustworthy and abide by the laws in force, must ensure impartial and objective treatment of all citizens. Of course, people may have different views on the fairness of income distribution and the extent to which significant and growing inequality in the United States is fair in itself. This is a key issue for discussing the problem of income inequality and ways to solve it within the country<sup>1</sup>.

Thus, the recognition or non-recognition of various forms of inequality as fair or unfair is related to the social values, traditions and social practices of a particular society. Depending on this, social inequality may or may not become a catalyst for social instability.

Nowadays, the issue of global inequality as an important factor of social instability is widely presented in the scientific literature.

According to experts, global inequality is not only and not so much supranational inequality as a symbiosis of asymmetries in the global dimension that exist in the system of “equality/inequality”; it covers inequality both between and within countries. In the near future, the global world expects another large-scale change in income distribution under the influence of the phenomenon of “dynamic Asia” and especially economic growth in China, India and Southeast Asia. Modern global inequality is characterized by a number of new features. We must emphasize that, for the first time two centuries after the beginning of the industrial revolution, global inequality is not only determined by growing differences between countries. Thus, the trend of reducing the income gap between European and most Asian countries is now clearly visible. At the same time, the global trend is growing inequality within countries. If the trend of economic convergence continues, - says Branko Milanovich, - it will not only reduce global inequality, but also indirectly - it will also consolidate inequality within the country. In the next 50 years, we may find ourselves in a situation that existed in the early nineteenth century, when the lion's share of global inequality was due to differences in income between rich and poor Britons, rich and poor Russians, rich and poor Chinese, rather than the fact that average incomes in the West were higher than average incomes in Asia. Such a world will be familiar to all who have read Karl Marx, and in general to all who are familiar with the classical European literature of the nineteenth century. But we have not yet returned to this world. Our world today is a world in which the place of birth is of great importance, determining, perhaps, up to two-thirds of income for life. Branko Milanovich calls the advantage of those born in rich countries the “rent for citizenship”<sup>2</sup>.

The disproportionate development of the world economy leads to increased social instability in some regions and countries where the level of income and social security of the population is extremely low.

According to the international organization “Oxfam” data, inequality in the world has been growing rapidly in recent years. The 2017 Report noted that 82% of the wealth created in 2017 was received by only 1% of the world's population. The world's top 42 rich people own the same wealth as the 3.7 billion poorest people. At the same time, the incomes of the world's poorest people have not increased. The billionaire boom is not a sign of prosperity, but a symptom of the weakening of economic system, says Oxfam International CEO Winnie Bianima. The available statistics show a reduction in the number of super-rich billionaires in the world, an increase in their wealth and a share of their income as a percentage of GDP. For comparison, back in 2010, the wealth, which was owned by the upper half of

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<sup>1</sup> A. Diton, *The Great Escape. Health, Wealth and the Origin of Inequality*, per. s angl. A. Gus'kova (Moskva: Izd-vo Instituta Gajdara; Fond «Liberal'naja Missija», 2016), p. 292.

<sup>2</sup> B. Milanovich, *Global Inequality: A New Approach for the Age of Globalization*, per. s angl. D. Shestakova (Moskva: Izd-vo Instituta Gajdara, 2017), p. 18-19.

humanity, was concentrated in the hands of 388 people, and in 2015 the same wealth was owned by 62 people, in 2017 by 42 people <sup>1</sup>.

The next conflict-causing factor that causes social instability is the gap between incomes and social prospects of agrarian and technologically developed countries, between rural and urban residents, between certain segments of the population.

In particular, in many countries of the world there is a gap in income and quality of life between the rural and urban population, employed mainly in industry (the so-called “dualism of the economy”). This phenomenon is mainly characteristic of resource-intensive, rapidly developing countries and transition economies. For example, China has been actively supporting the development of industry for three decades, while agriculture with its archaic means of production has lagged far behind. J. Studwell notes that despite the reform of the agricultural sector, including in terms of fiscal policy, the incomes of rural residents differ from the incomes of citizens three times, although the growth rate of the gap and was possible to restrain somehow. The main reason for this situation is the lack of Chinese farmers’ right to land and the arbitrariness of local authorities, which seize land plots for sale to foreign holdings. A similar problem exists in Ukraine: large agricultural holdings are pushing smaller farms out of the market, exacerbating poverty in villages. At the same time, the number of so-called “personal peasant farms”, which are deprived of state support, do not have sufficient working capital for effective economic activity, do not receive those social benefits, including educational, medical, household services that are available to urban residents. Rural underdevelopment is a significant extractive institution of economic development of the country, as it polarizes society in terms of welfare and hinders the restructuring of the national economy in accordance with the requirements of the information society<sup>2</sup>.

Obviously, the low socio-economic potential of certain segments of the population and social groups is the cause of growing social turbulence in the modern world. Dissatisfied with their socio-economic status and legal status, citizens are prone to social protests, illegal actions, and, in extreme cases, terrorist acts. At the same time, they are potential migrants to more prosperous countries, which creates a number of problems with the regulation of migration flows, the adaptation of migrants to new conditions. Undoubtedly, the increase in the number of migrants in the world in recent years is an influential factor in increasing social instability.

According to experts, the reasons for the increase in international migration, as well as changes in their essential characteristics, are primarily the result of globalization. Removing obstacles to free trade, increasing political, economic and social interdependence between states, manifested in the formation of transnational business and the international labour market, internationalization of science, education, information, unprecedented development of communications, were crucial for the dynamics and volume of migration. In the context of globalization, international migration acts both as a provocative moment and as a result of global change<sup>3</sup>.

The intensification of migration processes in the context of our study may be both a consequence of social instability and its cause. Illegal migration is a particular threat to the social stability of states.

Researchers A. Geddes, E. Guild, J. van Selm emphasize the ambivalent nature of migration: on the one hand, it carries an additional burden on all subsystems of society, and on the other, it strengthens the human potential of the country. In particular, they emphasize that the dangers of migration are primarily recorded in host societies, which is generally paradoxical, because immigrants replenish their human and intellectual resources, i.e. the main factors of production, which enhance economic security. Nevertheless, the population sometimes has a negative attitude towards migration because of its cost, i.e. an additional burden on the social assistance system, which is often used by migrants, increasing the burden on education, transport and housing. However, as a result, migrants cover these costs and generate additional income for the host country<sup>4</sup>.

In the context of the impact of migration on social security, the associated criminal and terrorist threats are of particular concern. The first concerns both the increase in street crime, especially in areas

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<sup>1</sup> OXFAM BRIEFING PAPER. JANUARY, 2017, URL: [https://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/file\\_attachments/bp-economy-for-99-percent-160117-en.pdf](https://www.oxfam.org/sites/www.oxfam.org/files/file_attachments/bp-economy-for-99-percent-160117-en.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> V. Adamyk, *Socio-economic inequality in the national and global spotlight: a contemporary view on the issue*. Bulletin of Ternopil National Economic University 2019, 1, p. 108.

<sup>3</sup> N.M. Rimashevskaja, V.F. Galeckij, A.A. Ovsjannikov, *Population and globalization* (Moskva: Nauka, 2004), p. 278.

<sup>4</sup> A. Geddes, E. Guild, J. Van Selm, *Immigration and Welfare State. International migration and security: opportunities and challenges* (London and New York: Routledge, 2005), p. 161.

populated by immigrants, and the large-scale phenomenon of transnational organized crime involved in smuggling and trafficking in human beings. According to a number of studies, the crime rate in cities correlates with the share of foreigners living in them. As of September 2009, in Switzerland 69.7% of prisoners were foreigners (4 thousand people), in Austria – 43.6% (3.6 thousand), in Italy – 37.1% (21.7 thousand), in Germany – 26.3% (19.3 thousand), in France – 19.2% (11.4 thousand), in Great Britain – 13.6% (11.4 thousand). At the same time, it is worth paying attention to the characteristics of crimes committed by foreigners. Mostly, these are violations of migration laws that do not belong to serious crimes. On the other hand, migrants more often than the local population appear in criminal statistics not only as criminals but also as victims: up to six times more often, but in fact even more, because due to the legal and social situation and the attitude of law enforcement towards migrants the significant part of crimes against migrants are not reported (according to European researchers, from 57 to 74% of cases). High rates of crime against migrants are partly due to their concentration in disadvantaged areas. This is partly the result of negative phenomena that often accompany modern migration, such as discrimination, human rights violations, overexploitation, human trafficking<sup>1</sup>.

For comparison with previous data, we present statistics and expert assessment of experts in recent years. As it is known, the peak of migration flows to Europe, primarily related to the war in Syria, falls on the years 2015-2016. In this regard, experts say that the increase in migration flows to EU countries in recent years has led to an increase in crime. Thus, according to the statistics of the Federal Republic of Germany, this growth is 10.4% for the period from 2015 to 2016. In contrast to previous years, in 2017 the policy in this area became stricter: instead of silencing this problem, law enforcement agencies are actively identifying and prosecuting those involved, reports are published in the media indicating the countries of origin of detainees<sup>2</sup>.

In addition to the above factors of social turbulence, a significant factor causing social instability is political confrontation, especially with the use of manipulative technologies that can incite the population to destructive actions.

According to N. Teleshun, in any society there are conflicts of interest of political actors, when each of them seeks to impose the own discourse, to make it dominant in order to change the social, group and individual consciousness. However, modern information and communication technologies make it possible to transfer this confrontation to another level of intensity, scale and efficiency. Constructing the meaning of information is done by programming to support the position of the author. The constructions and meanings that are laid down by the author in the text of messages and allow to make it a mental technology of influencing the human mind in order to program certain behaviour, they become the main. Manipulation technology in itself is not “good” or “bad”. Determinant is the hidden meaning that is embedded in the message and provokes real action. When manipulating the mass consciousness, complex psychological-linguistic, political, cybernetic and other mechanisms of multilevel influence are usually used. The main task of these mechanisms is: to disable the “ratio” (reduce critical thinking), to cause systemic fear and aggression (create a threat), to mobilize citizens around someone or something to solve the problem (offer a way out), to create an environment of circular guarantee or social dependence (fear of public criticism) and use the state of the “Stockholm syndrome” of the hostage as a means of mass support for the implementation of a particular political course or action<sup>3</sup>.

It is obvious that the level of social instability can be provoked artificially by individual political forces with the use of manipulative technologies and to achieve their own interests, rather than public ones. Also, the political aspects of social instability are manifested at the international level.

In general, political and managerial crises, shaky positions of democratic forces, low level of political and legal culture of citizens, etc. have become the causes of social instability in different regions of the world. Thus, political instability in the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America is explained by the expansion of formal political equality in the absence of actual institutional mechanisms for their implementation. Economic and social transformations (increasing literacy and education levels, urbanization and industrialization, expanding the field of media) contribute to social integration; raising

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<sup>1</sup> Malynovska, O.A., *Migration policy: global context and Ukrainian realities*, monograph (Kyiv: NISD, 2018), p. 58.

<sup>2</sup> D. Beseda, *Migration crisis in the EU and its impact on the security situation in Ukraine*. Entrepreneurship, economy and law 2018, 12, p. 300.

<sup>3</sup> S.O. Teleshun, *Human resource management in an unstable institutional environment. world trends and Ukrainian realities*. Bulletin of the National Academy of Public Administration under the President of Ukraine. Series: Public Administration 2019, 1, p. 62.



socio-political consciousness; increasing social, economic and political demands, which leads to the expansion of participants in the political process. These transformational processes weaken traditional social and political institutions. If the process of democratic transition is not gradual, not evolutionary, but because of revolutionary upheavals, then there is a short-term dismantling of traditional institutions (in the absence of the prospect of constructing a new effective institutional architecture). Increasing socio-political activity, which is not congruent with the development of political organization, leads to political instability. In the process of transformation of hybrid or authoritarian political regimes, the implemented strategies of economic development can in some way amortize the factors of instability of the political regime. In other cases, economic programs that fundamentally disrupt the economic life of the country (so-called “shock therapy”) can lead to a socio-economic crisis and a crisis of political, social division, polarization of society. In India in the 50s of the twentieth century there was a very low rate of socio-economic development. However, the effective operation of the Indian National Congress contributed to the achievement of an optimal level of political stability. In Venezuela and Argentina, the pace of socio-economic modernization rated higher than in India, but the political leadership of these countries failed to achieve political stability in their own countries. The political regimes of South Korea and Vietnam, Argentina, Syria, and Indonesia were openly autocratic, so despite the institution of elections, they failed to ensure political stability<sup>1</sup>.

Thus, the significant causes of social instability are socio-economic and political crises, failed attempts to reform the political, legal and economic systems, asynchrony of political and economic transformations, destructive external influence on social processes in a certain state.

Considering Ukraine as an example, experts identified a number of reasons that determine social instability and threaten the country's social security: indifference of government officials to the social needs of the population, lack of balanced interests between government and society; low level of economic development of the country; rising unemployment and poverty in the country; growing level of distrust in society, low level of tolerance and social responsibility; military action in eastern Ukraine, annexation of Crimea; weakness of the national elite; weakness of civil society; growth of social and property stratification; low legal literacy of the population; outflow of human resources outside the country; high conflict potential of society; loss of labour value and employee's value; uncertainty of social policy strategies in the conditions of decentralization; non-regulation of duties and lack of responsibility of national security entities; moral and spiritual degradation of society; underdeveloped social partnership; inefficiency of the state demographic policy<sup>2</sup>.

An analysis of the scientific literature and empirical data has shown that a number of the above causes of social instability are typical of countries in a state of social transformation.

For the states trying to overcome social turbulence, the problem of finding ways out of the crisis is extremely important.

From the point of view of Ukrainian researchers, the strategy of economic development should create the necessary preconditions for solving the most complex and pressing problems of social policy. The main tasks of social policy in this context are: targeted support of socially vulnerable groups; pension reform; ensuring advanced growth of labour costs; orientation of the strategy of economic growth on the creation of new jobs; accelerated development of housing construction, ensuring the availability of housing for different segments of the population; improving the health care system, active demographic policy; increasing the intellectual potential of society, creating equal opportunities for young people in obtaining quality education; strengthening the position of the middle class; eradication of poverty and ensuring dynamic growth of living standards; socialization of structural components of economic policy (investment, price, budget, monetary, tax, etc.); ensuring the conditions for the implementation of social rights and guarantees of the population, as defined by constitutional norms; ensuring social stability and social security in the country<sup>3</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> A. Liasota, *Main factors of political instability of transition systems from the position of comparative regionalism*. Visnyk of the Lviv University. Series philosophical and political studies 2018, 19, p. 146.

<sup>2</sup> *Status and prospects of social security in Ukraine: expert assessments*, monograph, O. F. Novikova, O. H. Sydorshchuk, O. V. Pankova (Lvivskiy rehionalnyi instytut derzhavnogo upravlinnia NADU; NAN Ukrainy, Instytut ekonomiky promyslovosti. Kyiv; Lviv: LRIDU NADU, 2018), p. 32.

<sup>3</sup> N.F. Dobrieva, Ye.M. Borshchuk, T.K. Koretska, *Conceptual bases for social policy formation under current conditions of functioning of the economic system of Ukraine*. Efficiency of public administration 2015, 44 (2), p. 78.

To overcome the crisis in society, it is necessary to take care not only of the socio-economic sphere, but also of the spiritual, which is based on a system of values. It is the dominant social values that determine the nature of citizens' behaviour, their attitude to certain social processes and phenomena.

According to V. Lagutin, in modern Ukraine it is necessary to form new values that can ensure social stability and development. So far, European values (freedom, humanism, equality, solidarity, honesty, dignity of all people, responsibility, fair justice) have not fully matured in the Ukrainian public consciousness. The revolutionary-accelerated transition to a new system of values in these conditions will not give the necessary results, but will only increase resistance to any ethical influences. The morality of society in these conditions can only decrease<sup>1</sup>.

It should be noted that in societies that are being transformed, values can be understood hypertrophied, in particular, freedom to be perceived as permissiveness, equality and solidarity as a remnant of totalitarianism. In this case, value ambivalence or immaturity can be the cause of social instability. Since a person making the choice seeks to fulfill the desires that come into conflict, the inability to do so is subjectively felt by them as a violation of his or her freedom, which can lead to social conflict<sup>2</sup>.

An important component of overcoming social instability is effective (professional) governance at all levels: from state to local government.

O. Rudenko quite rightly states that in the conditions of a transitive society the importance of the correctly chosen model of management especially increases. The basis of public administration should be consensus (ensuring the sustainable development of all subsystems of society on the basis of a common system of values for all subjects of social governance while maintaining a level of sufficient diversity), reflexive (influence on the system of goals, values and norms on the basis of building the structure of management and creating an adequate object, which provides for reflection of the system-forming mechanisms of the management process) and synergetic (effective combination of self-organization mechanisms and mechanisms of public administration to ensure social stability which contributes to intellectual and innovative self-organization of society) management. In fact, public administration acquires the character of a guide, i.e. it supports effective directions of development and directs its efforts to prevent instability and crises. Management is not a way to achieve a certain goal, but determines the mechanisms for implementing the selected scenario of society by neutralizing the violation of resilience and, thus, is a way to direct the processes of self-organization in the desired direction of development<sup>3</sup>.

In our opinion, in the conditions of social turbulence, the subjects of public administration should strengthen cooperation with scientific institutions, pay more attention to forecasting social processes to prevent (minimize) various crises.

### **Conclusions**

Social instability in modern conditions has both global and local character. It is caused, first of all, by uneven economic development of separate regions and countries, which creates a global imbalance in the distribution of various resources. Conflicts determined by socio-economic inequality of countries and regions provoke political, geopolitical and financial crises in individual states. Globalization in its current form is in favour of the so-called "golden billion" and creates a basis for social protests, increased migration flows and intensification of the anti-globalization movement. The pandemic has had a negative impact on social processes in recent years.

Social instability also arises as a result of political crises, ineffective reforms and imbalances in the systems of government. Social turbulence can be provoked artificially by separate political forces, which, using chaos in society, try to come to power, to achieve their narrow party goals by such provocative methods.

Thus, at the present stage of global intensification of social instability there is an urgent need to review the foundations of social policy in individual states, increase efficiency in public administration, create a system for predicting social cataclysms at all levels of human existence.

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<sup>3</sup> O.M. Rudenko, *General stability in the context of public administration*. Global world: scientific almanac 2015, 1 (1), p. 29-30.

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