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CIVIL SOCIETY INFLUENCE ON PUBLIC-ADMINISTRATIVE AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS DEMOCRATIZATION

Problem statement. Over the recent years, due to the declared European integration course, the problems of civil society development are among the most actively discussed ones in Ukraine. The interest is quite natural, as civil society formation is inseparable from the formation and development of the legal state, democracy, and market economy – the main values of the EU. In addition, discussion is still underway as to the nature of the civil society phenomenon. Most of researchers agree that it can not be regarded as an intermediate link between the goods and services production sphere and the sphere of public administration, since it naturally penetrates both the sphere of politics and that of the economy. Based on the above, the issue of Ukraine’s organizing the interaction of public authorities, economic entities, and civil society institutions on the democratic principles acquire a special importance.

Recent research and publications analysis. It should be noted that the problems of civil society development and finding its place within the public administration system have been researched by numerous Ukrainian scientists. Among them, the following scholars deserve special mentioning: T. Bielska, N. Beniukh, O. Bilyi, N. Boretska, S. Demchenko, M. Dolishnii, Yu. Galustian, V. Goshovskiyi, S. Kadomtseva, V. Korzhenko, V. Kravchuk, O. Vinnikov, T. Zaiats, H. Zelenko. Yet, the majority of research works discuss the civil society phenomenon merely in terms of creating conditions for its development or external factors’ impact, whereas on completion of its formation stage, the strengthening of its role in democratization of the Ukrainian social relations becomes urgent.

Thus, the paper objective is a theoretical analysis and determining the place of civil society in public-administrative and economic relations and its role in the
process of the relevant spheres democratization.

**The paper main body.** Despite considerable differences in civil society conceptualization, the basics of both classical interpretations and those proposed by modern civil society theorists include a social component. As a result, civil society is currently regarded to be:

- firstly, associations of people where everyone has unalienable rights (a most important of which is the proprietary right), is equal to other society members, and independent in their choice of civil state;
- secondly, public associations of people who united to enjoy their common social, ethnic, religious and other affiliation, or express their political, economic, professional and other interests;
- thirdly, social relations that develop and function on a self-regulating basis or by way of expressing the interest or will of individuals and their associations, which act in a social space free from state legal influence.

A search for new approaches to analyzing the current stage of civil society evolution makes researchers conclude that the subject of the on-going discussions should be viewed from an angle totally different from that of the 19th - early 20th centuries, when the theory in question was determined by the dichotomy of ‘civil society – the state’. Thus, an American researcher E. Arato proposed to replace the state-civil society dichotomy with a model, which included three components: the state, civil society, and economy. The researcher believed that the main task was to guarantee the modern state and economy their autonomy, while protecting civil society from a destructive penetration of rules and demands of the latter two spheres. Analysis of modern approaches to researching the complex processes of civil society’s interaction with different levels of the society, and the civil society’s role in the public administration system has resulted in expediency of using a five-element civil society model, which differentiates between the state, political society, civil society, economic society, and economy. A methodological approach based on the said model allows avoiding a strict choice between the society’s depoliticization, when a political dimension is a state prerogative, depriving civil
society its right to participate in public-political activity, and its over politicization, when all the civil society aspects are regarded as political or subject to politicizing.

Conclusions of the research and prospects for further surveys. Each element of the “state – political society – civil society – economic society – economy” system of relations is critical for other elements’ functioning. As the experience of advanced countries proves, the functioning of the system is most efficient under democratic interaction principles and standards. Speaking of civil society’s impact on economic processes, it is worthwhile to pay attention to the need for introduction of the principle of co-partnership and cooperation development both at individual enterprises and between different economic entities; ensuring a balance of interests between employers and their workers; alleviating the negative influence of globalization on economic processes.

The main task of civil society under globalization lies not in achieving specific objectives, including seizure of power, but rather in democratization of values, norms and institutions, which, in the long run, are introduced into political and administrative culture. Indeed, it is public participation which promotes democratic orientation of the public sphere by forming citizens’ ability for conducting dialogue, articulation and aggregation of their interests, teaching them to be tolerant, independent, and responsible.