CUESTIONES POLÍTICAS

Instituto de Estudios Políticos y Derecho Público "Dr. Humberto J. La Roche"
de la Facultad de Ciencias Jurídicas y Políticas de la Universidad del Zulia
Maracaibo, Venezuela

Vol.40 | *Nº 72*
Enero
Junio
2022

Public policy settlement of social conflicts in the context of national security

Tetiana Shestakovska *
Olena Mykhailovska **
Myroslava Buk ***
Andriy Tabachuk ****
Iryna Tubolets *****

Abstract

Using an analytical methodology, the article examines the connection between social conflicts and national security. The discursive space of the problems of social conflict has been systematized and the reasons that influence the dynamics and duration of social conflict have been determined. Complex systems of social conflict prevention are presented and a model of influence of social conflicts on the national security system of the state is developed. The driving forces of social conflicts and national security indicators are also grouped together. The sequence of conceptualization of the results of the institutionalization of the public management of social conflicts has been announced. The methodology and levels of assessment of the willingness of the authorities of public management of social conflicts for interaction are indicated. It is concluded that, since there is currently no single criterion for assessing the impact of the interaction of public management institutions on the prevention of social conflicts in the context of national security, the study of the capacity for such interaction should be carried out considering conditions of complexity, systemic and convergence.

Keywords: public administration; social conflicts; national security; interaction; context.

* Chernihiv Polytechnic National University, Chernihiv, Ukraine. ORCID ID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-8098-8439

** Chernihiv Polytechnic National University, Chernihiv, Ukraine. ORCID ID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7682-2292

*** Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ukraine. ORCID ID: https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8410-9377

**** Ivan Franko National University of Lviv, Ukraine. ORCID ID: https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0120-2336

***** University of Customs and Finance, Dnipro, Ukraine. ORCID ID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-4930-2427

Solución de políticas públicas de conflictos sociales en el contexto de la seguridad nacional

Resumen

Mediante una metodología analítica, el artículo examina la conexión entre los conflictos sociales y la seguridad nacional. Se ha sistematizado el espacio discursivo de los problemas del conflicto social y se han determinado las razones que influyen en la dinámica y duración del conflicto social. Se presentan los sistemas complejos de prevención de conflictos sociales y se desarrolla un modelo de influencia de los conflictos sociales en el sistema de seguridad nacional del estado. También se agrupan las fuerzas impulsoras de los conflictos sociales y los indicadores de seguridad nacional. Se ha dado a conocer la secuencia de conceptualización de los resultados de la institucionalización de la gestión pública de los conflictos sociales. Se indica la metodología y los niveles de valoración de la disposición de las autoridades de gestión pública de conflictos sociales para la interacción. Se concluye que, dado que en la actualidad no existe un criterio único para evaluar el impacto de la interacción de las instituciones de gestión pública en la prevención de conflictos sociales en el contexto de la seguridad nacional, el estudio de la capacidad para dicha interacción debe realizarse teniendo en cuenta condiciones de complejidad, sistémica y convergencia.

Palabras clave: administración pública; conflictos sociales; seguridad nacional; interacción; contexto.

Introduction

Society is characterized by the growth of conflict, which should be understood as a social crisis due to transformation of the political system, economic relations, geopolitical space, and culture. Complications of human life, inconsistency of existing concepts of national security, strategies, and programs of socio-economic development to the challenges of modern change increase the level of conflict in society (Novak-Kalyayeva *at al.,* 2018). Ontologically, social conflict and national security are closely intertwined. At the same time, an adequate level of national security (protection of society) significantly reduces conflict, primarily minimizing the likelihood of arising antagonistic conflicts in the country, aimed at the mutual destruction of social opponents.

The development of mechanisms for preventing social conflicts in the context of national security should play a key role in the modern system of public administration. That is, an effective system of mechanisms for preventing social conflicts, which is implemented in cooperation with the

public, is one of the most important means of ensuring stability, social peace, and security of the state.

Usually, synchronicity of the conflict course of sociogenesis is manifested through the weakening of the level of protection of vital interests of society and the state from destructive endogenous and exogenous factors (Beglytsia *at al.,* 2021). Conflict itself is a deviation from the normal state of the system, a problem of society, a signal that there is pathology, a threat that is the impetus for radical change (Citrin, 2001).

Systematization of the provisions of scientific schools (structural functionalism, Marxism, microfunctionalism, applied sociology, neo-Weberian sociology) to the analysis of social conflicts has made it possible to identify the following characteristics of conflict: 1) conflict indicates important changes; 2) conflict is commonplace and takes place in everyone's life; 3) conflict is deviation; 4) conflict is inherent in all social relations. Thus, social conflict is an integral part of even the most democratic society. However, civilized democracy is designed to neutralize its risks.

The systematization of the discourse space on the study of social conflicts as an object of public administration and their negative impact on national security is presented in Fig. 1.
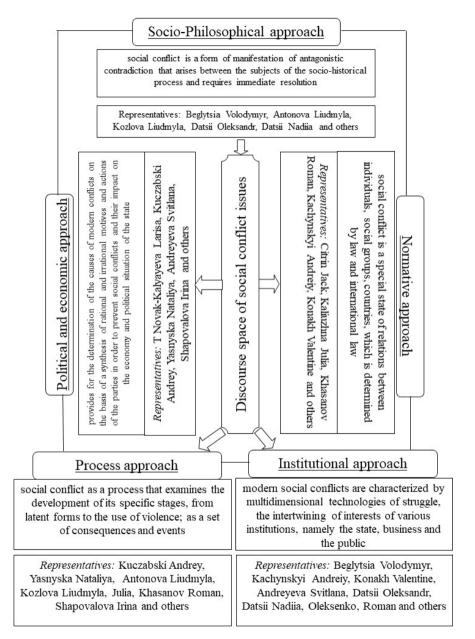
Fig. 1. Generalization of the discourse space of social conflict as an object of public administration.

Source: author's elaboration

The set of reasons that lead to contradictions in the relationship and affect the dynamics and duration of the conflict are presented in Fig.2. If one of the participants (individuals), social groups has a force that significantly exceeds the strength of the enemy, he may begin exacerbating the conflict to intimidate the enemy and prevent possible confrontation.
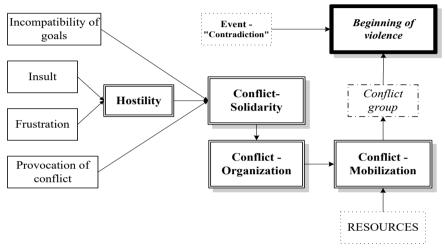

Fig.2. Reasons generating contradictions in relationships and affecting the dynamics and duration of social conflict.

Source: author's elaboration

Social conflict presents its substantive basis through key stages of development. According to the studies of scientists, it is possible to distinguish four stages of such development: pre-conflict, conflict, solution, post-conflict. At the same time, the peculiarity of social conflict is its consideration as a cyclical phenomenon, as it sometimes turns into a cyclical form of development. This occurs when unresolved issues arise within the social process because of some reasons. They form a kind of cycle: pre-conflict situation, aggravation of relations, transformation of values, change of interests, and conflict resolution (Kaliuzhna, 2017).

Thus, in their content, social conflicts play a very important role in the life of society, its functioning and development, and therefore they cannot be considered only as an inevitable evil, as a social pathology that has a destructive effect on society, which can be eliminated in society once and for all. That is, social conflict is quite natural and logical in the public system, defining its destabilizing role, we emphasize while in its content it is always an organizing form of civilization progress.

Studying the world's practical experience, we note that specialists of governmental, intergovernmental, international, and non-governmental organizations take part in the development of social conflict prevention systems. To summarize the results of the study, we have systematized modern systems for preventing social conflicts that are used in the world (Table 1) (Khasanov, 2019).

It is important to emphasize that social conflict management in the context of national security can be assessed in terms of both effectiveness and efficiency. At the same time, scientists do not consider the assessment in terms of the ability of public management institutions (primarily public authorities, local governments, and civil society institutions) to neutralize social conflicts. It should be noted that the question of assessing public management of social conflicts in the context of economic security has never received an unambiguous answer in the literature. This situation is to some extent explained by the complexity of society as a subject and object of public management and its multifaceted nature. Hence the search for a local criterion for assessing the impact of the interaction of public management institutions on the prevention of social conflicts in the context of national security (Peace and Conflict Impact Assessment (PCIA) Handbook, 2013).

Table 1. Comprehensive systems for preventing social conflicts in the world

Governmental systems	Intergovernmental systems	Systems of non-governmental organizations
System of Diagnostics and Prevention of Social Conflicts Systeme d'Alerte Precoce (SAP), The Ministry of the Armed Forces (France)	United Nations Development Program, Conflict Monitoring Systems in individual countries (Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine, Bolivia, Kenya, Ghana). UN, Human Rights Committee, Global Conflict Diagnosis System	FEWER: (Eurasia, Russia)
		FEWER: Africa
		Conflict Diagnosis and Analysis System, Switzerland
		Human Security Program in Sri Lanka
Crisis Prevention System, The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany	European Union: list of unstable countries	The Foundation for Tolerance International (Kyrgyzstan)
	AU: Continental Conflict Diagnosis and Prevention System	West African Conflict Early Warning and Early Response System (Ghana)

List of unstable countries, United States Government, The National Intelligence Council	OSCE, Conflict Prevention System	Ethnological Monitoring Network (Russia)
	SEEAS: Conflict Prevention System in Central Africa	The International Crisis Group (Belgium)

Source: author's elaboration.

1. Objectives

Therefore, the aim of the proposed study is to analyze the transformation and effectiveness of public policy settlement of social conflicts in the context of national security.

2. Materials and methods

In this context, we have a correlation between social conflicts and methods of their resolving based on a systematic understanding of socio-political factors affecting national security (Fig. 3).

As there is currently no single criterion for assessing the impact of interaction of public management institutions on the prevention of social conflicts in the context of national security, the study of the capacity for such interaction should be carried out taking into account conditions of complexity, system city and convergence. Further, it is proposed to consider the method of assessing the readiness of public management of social conflicts to interact. This method allows assessing basic knowledge and skills of the participants of such interaction, which will contribute to obtaining the best results.

The key components of diagnosis should be the theoretical, methodological, and psychological readiness of the institutions of interaction. Diagnostic parameters are a system of knowledge and skills that are assessed on a tribal scale. Each of the diagnostic parameters is estimated by a coefficient (K1, K2, K3), which is calculated by the formula:

$$K_n = \frac{\sum points}{\text{maximum possible number of points}},$$ (1)

where Σ points – total number of points

After calculating the coefficient of each of the blocks, the average coefficient is calculated by the formula:

$$K = \frac{K_1 + K_2 + K_3}{3}$$

,   (2)

MODEL INPUT

Socio-Political factors

military and political instability; encroachment by certain groups and individuals on state sovereignty, rights and freedoms of citizens; the spread of corruption; inefficiency of the public administration system; economic crisis; international terrorism; the effectiveness of existing structures and mechanisms to ensure global stability; the level of financial support for the programs to reform the Military Organization and the defense-industrial complex; level of social protection of citizens; security of information resources; energy security; environmental issues; migration processes and others.

SOCIAL CONFLICTS

Challenge (an integral attribute of the daily interaction of individuals and social groups and does not require an immediate special response to its neutralization)

Threat (can be both one-time and systemic in nature, which is perceived as a dysfunctional impact that can cause significant harm to a state, an individual, and a whole society)

Danger (indicates the real possibility of a critical situation in a state, which calls into question its further development in its previous capacity, threatening the process of existence)

REQUIREMENTS: general public inquiries, expectations, hopes, insistence

SUPPORT: active and passive in the form of political participation of citizens and their associations

NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM
(subsystem of national security public management)

MODEL OUTPUT

SOLUTIONS AND ACTIONS: concepts, doctrines, strategies, proposals, recommendations; personnel, logistical, financial, and other support; conflict resolution, elimination of their consequences; ensuring international and national security; monitoring the state of national security, etc.

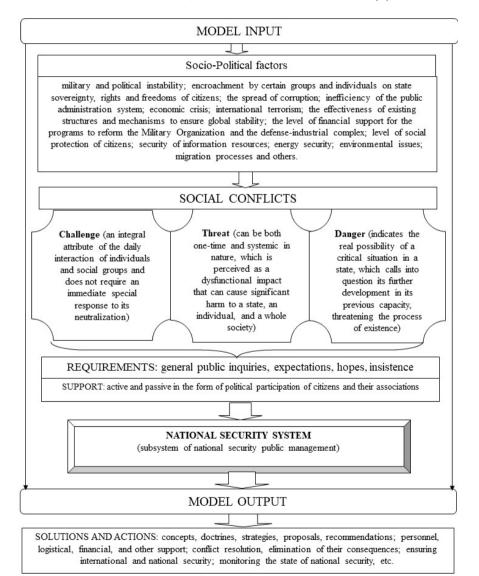**Fig. 3. Model of influence of social conflicts on the system of national security of the state.**

Source: author's elaboration

Based on the value of the average coefficient obtained, it is possible to determine the levels of readiness for the interaction of public management institutions to prevent conflict. If the value of the coefficient is within: 1) 0.8 - 1 points - the level of readiness is optimal; 2) 0.6 - 0.7 points, the level is acceptable; 3) less than 0.6 points - the level is critical. To obtain objective data, such diagnostics requires a long process of monitoring the interaction and accumulation of diagnostic data. It should be noted that not all diagnostic parameters are easy to assess during the observation of the interaction process, so it is advisable at the first stage to conduct an interview with the participants of the interaction on issues that reflect the content of the indicators of this method.

3. Results and discussion

The current environment is characterized by growing uncertainty and instability, caused primarily by the impact of globalization, expanding conflict space, increasing tensions in international relations, destruction of established structures, as well as changes in the nature of information and communication in human society. As a result, it destroys security balance both separate countries and the world as a whole, so an important characteristic of public management is ability to interact within the system to prevent social conflicts and ensure national security. We propose to consider the effectiveness of public management of social conflicts as ability to change in accordance with the needs of civil society.

The use of social conflict as an important factor of national danger is presented by us through a system of factors and indicators (Fig. 4).
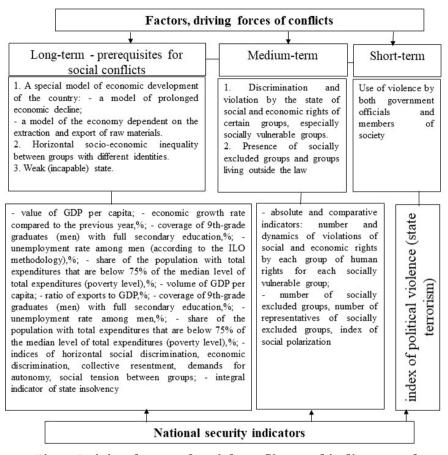
Factors, driving forces of conflicts

Long-term - prerequisites for social conflicts	Medium-term	Short-term
1. A special model of economic development of the country: - a model of prolonged economic decline; - a model of the economy dependent on the extraction and export of raw materials. 2. Horizontal socio-economic inequality between groups with different identities. 3. Weak (incapable) state.	1. Discrimination and violation by the state of social and economic rights of certain groups, especially socially vulnerable groups. 2. Presence of socially excluded groups and groups living outside the law	Use of violence by both government officials and members of society
- value of GDP per capita; - economic growth rate compared to the previous year,%; - coverage of 9th-grade graduates (men) with full secondary education,%; - unemployment rate among men (according to the ILO methodology),%; - share of the population with total expenditures that are below 75% of the median level of total expenditures (poverty level),%; - volume of GDP per capita; - ratio of exports to GDP,%; - coverage of 9th-grade graduates (men) with full secondary education,%; - unemployment rate among men,%; - share of the population with total expenditures that are below 75% of the median level of total expenditures (poverty level),%; - indices of horizontal social discrimination, economic discrimination, collective resentment, demands for autonomy, social tension between groups; - integral indicator of state insolvency	- absolute and comparative indicators: number and dynamics of violations of social and economic rights by each group of human rights for each socially vulnerable group; - number of socially excluded groups, number of representatives of socially excluded groups, index of social polarization	index of political violence (state terrorism)

National security indicators

Fig.4. Driving forces of social conflicts and indicators of national security (Kachynskyi, 2013).

The implementation and protection of human rights must be at the heart of the national security assessment system. After all, first of all, it is a person who has a complex set of individual goals, motives for socio-economic discrimination, opportunities, and expectations, makes decisions about participation in the conflict; secondly, the goal of socio-economic development of the country is not only the absolute growth of indicators but also a fair optimal distribution of growth results among different segments of the population. A person who believes that his or her rights are being violated and that the state has failed to enforce socio-economic rights to ensure them decides to take part in the conflict.

The institutions of public management of social conflicts include representatives of public authorities, local governments, and civil society institutions, which within their powers in the process of social dialogue provide solutions to problems of social conflicts and their management. The objects of social conflict management are the population of the country (Fig. 5) (Decree of the President of Ukraine, 2015; Konakh, 2016).
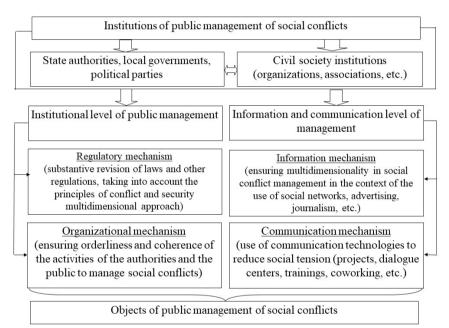

Fig. 5. Conceptualization of the results of institutionalization of public management of social conflicts.

Source: author's elaboration

For more effective prevention / resolution of social conflicts within the system of public management, we propose to use the method of assessing the readiness of institutions of public management of social conflicts for interaction (Table 2).

Tetiana Shestakovska, Olena Mykhailovska, Myroslava Buk, Andriy Tabachuk y Iryna Tubolets
Public policy settlement of social conflicts in the context of national security

406

Table 2. Levels of assessment of readiness of institutions of public management of social conflicts for interaction

Diagnostic blocks	Composition	Parameters	Assessment		
Orientation of readiness	*Content of readiness*	*Indicators for assessment of readiness for interaction*	*Levels*		
			O	D	K
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. Theoretical readiness	1. Knowledge of the theoretical basis of social conflict management	1) knowledge of basic laws of social conflict management; 2) orientation in the purpose and tasks of social conflict management; 3) knowledge of terminology; 4) ability to select the content of communications on the basis of scientific data, facts, concepts, laws. 5) understanding the logic of the process of social conflict management.			
	2. Knowledge of effective communication methods	1) orientation in the diversity of modern methods of communication; 2) understanding the essence of these methods; 3) an idea of the possibilities of using existing methods of communication in the process of social conflict management.			
2. Methodological readiness	1. Knowledge of the content of social conflict management	1) understanding the role of interaction in the system of social conflict management; 2) orientation in strategies, programs, and projects; 3) allocation of knowledge, skills, and abilities that should be formed in the process of social conflict management.			
	2. Knowledge of modern achievements in the field of social conflict management	1) understanding the relationship between the content, forms, and methods of social conflict management; 2) orientation in the diversity and specificity of forms of organization of social conflict management; 3) orientation in innovative forms of organization of social conflict management, their essence, conditions of successful use in practical activity.			

	3. Knowledge of social conflict management tools	1) orientation in diversity, specificity, conditions of application of modern means in the process of interaction, aimed at social conflict management; 2) understanding the roe and functions of social conflict management in terms of activation and development of participants' interests in certain issues.			
3. Psychological readiness	1. Knowledge of the psychological characteristics of the participants of the interaction	1) orientation in the psychological characteristics of the participants of the interaction; 2) understanding the role of psychodiagnostics in achieving the effectiveness / efficiency of interaction; 3) orientation in diagnostic methods for assessing the psychological characteristics of participants in the interaction process.			
	2. Knowledge of the laws of interaction	1) understanding the laws of cognition; 2) orientation in the components of cognition, their essence and logical relationship. 3) understanding the psychological foundations of personality development of different age groups.			
	3. Knowledge of modern technologies of public administration interaction	1) understanding the need for co-ordination of interaction in the process of social conflict management; 2) mastery of techniques for planning, organizing and motivating interaction; 3) orientation in the content of control and analytical activities in the process of interaction.			

Source: author's elaboration

No doubt, the advantage of this method is that it allows assessing various aspects of readiness for the process of interaction in social conflict management; identify weaknesses, which allows offering a specific system of proposals to increase readiness for interaction in social conflict management. The technique can be used in full or in parts (individual blocks), and allows making additional blocks, components, or parameters.

Conclusions

Thus, the effectiveness of public management of social conflicts in the context of national security can be ensured by the appropriate level of interaction of public management institutions, to determine which it is proposed to use a method for assessing the readiness of the institutions of public management of social conflicts to interact, including specific parameters.

The results of the study can be used as a starting point to determine the level of the correlation in the system of public management, aimed at preventing / resolving social conflicts. Thus, public management policy makers can obtain information to assess the effectiveness of the interaction between the institutions of public management and civil society to prevent social conflicts in the context of national security.

Bibliographic References

BEGLYTSIA, Volodymyr; ANTONOVA, Liudmyla; KOZLOVA, Liudmyla; DATSII, Oleksandr; DATSII, Nadiia. 2021. "System of concepts communications of state institutions and society as the basis of national security and socio-economic stability. Financial and Credit Activity" In: Problems of Theory and Practice. Vol. 3, No. 38, pp. 549–556.

CITRIN, Jack. 2001. Conflict-consensus. International encyclopedia of the social and behavioral sciences. Elsevier. London, UK.

DECREE OF THE PRESIDENT OF UKRAINE. 2015. Strategy on May 26, № 287/2015. Available online. In: https://zakon.rada. gov.ua/laws/show/287/2015. Consultation date: 02/09/2021.

KACHYNSKYI, Andreiy. 2013. Indicators of national security: definition and application of their limit values: Monograph. К. NISS. 104 p.

KALIUZHNA, Julia. 2017. "Prevention of social conflicts: information aspect" In: Scientific Bulletin «Gilea». Vol. 22, p. 380-383.

KHASANOV, Roman. 2019. The system of mechanisms for preventing social conflicts in the context of ensuring national security. Collection of scientific works of NAPA «Theory and practice of public administration». Available online. In: http://zbirnyk-nadu.academy.gov.ua/article/view/187160. Consultation date: 02/09/2021.

KONAKH, Valentine. 2016. "Modern tendencies in protection of national interests from the Russian propaganda. Strategic priorities" In: K. NISS. Vol. 1, No. 38, pp. 88-98.

NOVAK-KALYAYEVA, Larisa; KUCZABSKI, Andrey; YASNYSKA, Nataliya; ANDREYEVA, Svitlana; SHAPOVALOVA, Irina. 2018. Changing the paradigm of public governance in the context of the challenges of sustainable development. 32nd International Business Information Management Association Conference. Available online. In: https://repozytorium.bg.ug.edu.pl/info/article/UOGe2d4f0556be4407387ee07eb4148c66a/#.YJLRkLUzZPY. Consultation date: 02/09/2021.

OLEKSENKO, Roman; MALCHEV, Bogdan; VENGER, Olga; SERGIIENKO, Tetiana; GULAC, Olena. 2021. El Fenómeno del votante ucraniano moderno: esencia, peculiaridades y tendencias de su desarrollo. In: Cuestiones Políticas. Vol. 39, No. 71, pp. 417-432.

PEACE AND CONFLICT IMPACT ASSESSMENT (PCIA) Handbook. 2013. Version 4. Available online. In: https://reliefweb.int/report/world/peace-and-conflict-impact-assessment-pcia-handbook-version-4-2013. Consultation date: 02/09/2021.

UNIVERSIDAD DEL ZULIA

CUESTIONES POLÍTICAS

Vol.40 Nº 72

*Esta revista fue editada en formato digital y publicada en enero de 2022, por el **Fondo Editorial Serbiluz, Universidad del Zulia. Maracaibo-Venezuela***