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## **Youth Social Policy in the Russian Federation**

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**Abstract:**

*Modern look of youth social policy in the Russian Federation began to take shape in the 90s, when, due to socio-political and administrative reorganization of the society, the state recognized the need to support young people.*

*Youth is one of the most vulnerable social groups. In this article, it is described on methods and systems analysis techniques, summarizing the results accomplished. The key aspects of youth social policy at the federal and regional levels are also presented.*

*It is proved that the youth is now at risk requiring care of the state. Despite more than 20 years of history of formation, youth social policy is just beginning to take shape and to go beyond the boundaries of the federal legislation.*

*The targeted youth programs of social policy are certainly significant, but require not only testing, but also the introduction by the state of the Russian Federation.*

**Keywords:** *Youth Social Policy, Russian Federation, Federal Aspect, Regional Aspect.*

**JEL code:** *I38, J13, J28, K15.*

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## 1. Introduction

At the beginning of the XXIst century, Russia's place social and economic reforms have created many problems: political, social, cultural, etc. (About the statement..., 2016; Adonina *et al.*, 2015; Ivanova, 2014; Markina *et al.*, 2010). These problems have affected both society as a whole and its specific socio-demographic groups — young people. In connection with this important social phenomenon, a youth policy becomes. Youth policy management is faced with a mass of obstacles at all levels of social organization of Russian society, as a result of conceptual installations, even the most advanced intentions, but in practice, the implementation of measures in the field of youth policy is ineffective. Therefore, to find the most effective ways to manage youth policy and it is the most important task facing the modern Russian society. Formation of youth policy, which began in the 90s has the pendulum character, and initiatives to develop institutional and legal framework of youth policy shifted from the federal to the regional level, there was no a well-functioning system. At present, it may be noted positive developments, expressed in the state effort to create a coherent system of social youth policy (Gorina, 2016; Guskova *et al.*, 2016).

## 2. Materials and methods

Decrees and Orders of the Russian Federation were the research material laws in this study. Statistical methods and techniques of research, synthesis, generalization and description were also widely used.

## 3. Results and discussion

### 3.1 The history of the formation of the youth social policy in the Russian Federation

The formation of the state youth policy in the Russian Federation has passed several stages.

Stage I accounts for the period 1987-1991. During this time in Russia, a holistic concept of the state youth policy began to develop; there was an active development of the law on youth. In April 1991, the Law of the USSR "On general principles of the state youth policy". At this stage, priority areas are designated, which are connected with the support of youth initiatives, the development of public associations and youth associations (Message of the Russian President..., 2012). This law guaranteed the provision to a certain set of young citizens the benefits of allocation of land, home loans, furnished houses, funding training. A special place in law is said the norm of the relationship of students and staff of educational institutions. The same rules to all duly registered youth associations were given the right of legislative initiative (formerly, since 1977, it had the right to YCL — Young Communist League).

Stage II of the formation of the state youth policy accounts in 1993. In the new historical conditions the state youth policy has been developed and adopted by the state of the Russian Federation in the educational structure and the federal bodies of executive power of the Russian Federation's Youth Committee.

Stage III accounts in the early 20s. There is a need to revise the concept of youth policy. Youth policy is intended to address the issues of education, youth employment and work, rest and leisure, as well as health, education of children, etc. In the middle of the 2000s it was emerged with the concept of financing.

Stage IV accounts in the late 20s. The problems of youth policy were discussed at a meeting of the State Council (Lukov *et al.*, 2011). Youth policy begun to appear in the system of social support, which is the base for the development of youth support and development mechanisms. It becomes the key for the formation and development of human capital. It is implemented through a system of practical measures undertaken by the Government through the local and regional authorities. Their activities are aimed at improving the quality and standard of life of youth as a social group, and it was funded from the state budget. Thus, the state youth policy is at the stage of its final formation. Its implementation is based on the coordination of the activities of all bodies engaged in social policy, i.e., regulatory, legal, administrative, financial.

### **3.2 Federal state youth policy in the Russian Federation**

The basic document, providing the main directions of the state youth policy in the Russian Federation is provided by the Russian Federation Supreme Council Resolution. Thus, the main objectives of the state youth policy are:

- ✓ the promotion of social, cultural, spiritual and physical development of youth;
- ✓ non-discrimination of young people on the grounds of age;
- ✓ creating conditions for better integration of young people in the socio-economic, political and cultural life of society;
- ✓ empowering opportunities of young person to choose their way of life, achieving personal success;
- ✓ realization of innovative potential of young people in the interests of social development and the development of young people (About creation..., 2009; The resolution of the Supreme Council..., 1993).

In 2009, the Youth Council of the Federal Agency created for Youth Affairs, a consultative collegiate permanent body. It was put into practice on a voluntary basis. Youth Council has the right:

- a) to develop recommendations for implementing youth projects within the priority areas Rosmolodezh activities;
- b) to participate in the expert evaluation of youth projects within the priority areas of Russian youth activities;
- c) to be invited to the meeting of the Youth Council of independent experts and consultants on the issues addressed at these meetings, and to give them training materials;
- d) to participate on behalf of the leaders in the meetings, conferences, committees and working groups on areas of activity;
- e) to meet in the prescribed order with documents that do not require admission to work with them (The provision on department of regional interaction..., 2015).

Since 2004, the modern youth policy is based on principles of partnership of the state and the individual. The state youth policy is the activity of the authorities to establish young man self-realization conditions, social and positive activities of youth organizations and youth initiatives, efforts to create specific legislation guarantees for young people in the legal, economic and other spheres of life. For the realization of the goals of the state youth policy, a range of activities of state authorities and local governments were directed. According to its constituent youth, policy is very heterogeneous. These include issues of social protection, issues of labor and employment, education and training processes, issues of medical prevention activities for young people from the so-called risk groups, and more. Since 2001, throughout the territory of Russia has a program "Patriotic Education of Russian Citizens" funded by the state.

In September 2008, D.A. Medvedev signed a decree "On holding in the Russian Federation Year of Youth", which showed the importance of ongoing government activities. For 2009, it was planned implementation of projects aimed at supporting young people. The main body, which coordinates the management of youth policy, was the Ministry of Physical Culture, Tourism and Youth Policy (Pavlova, 2008). The main goals of the youth policy are indicated with the stabilization of the economic situation, improvement of young people's lives and reducing the number of poor.

The Message of President Vladimir Putin to the Federal Assembly in 2012 says: *"We must act, not by prohibitions and restrictions, and strengthen solid spiritual and moral foundations of society. It is therefore becoming crucial questions of general education, culture and youth policy. These areas - this is not a set of services, but primarily a space for the formation of the moral, harmonious human, responsible citizen of Russia"* (Order of the Government..., 2006). In Russia, strategy in the State youth policy is made understanding of youth as equal subject of the development and implementation of youth policy, the emphasis is on the subjectivity of youth in social and political activities of society (Koryakovtseva, 2009).

Youth policy includes special institutions for the protection of the rights of youth, prevention and treatment programs against domestic violence, juvenile justice, sometimes massive promotion of healthy lifestyles. In the Russian Federation, youth policy promotes the involvement of young people in social practice. State structures are designed to inform young people about the potential of self-development, to support scientific, creative and entrepreneurial activity of young people. Involving young people in different kinds of leisure activities, contribute to the formation of an integrated system to support talented young people with leadership skills and new initiatives.

Youth policy is aimed at patriotic education of youth. Particular attention is given to the legal, cultural and moral values among young people, a culture of peace and the rejection of force for resolving political conflicts in the country, the development of a culture of inter-ethnic relations and tolerance. The UN's principles on the youth policy of "Participation, Development, and Peace" is reflected in the youth policy of the Russian Federation. "Participation" means the involvement of youth in the development and implementation of state policy, "development" is orientation of state programs on the development of human potential, long-term investment in the young generation, the creation of guarantees of its professional development, protection of the family and health. "The World" is a necessary condition for the normal development of the country and society (Blum, 2006).

The Federation Council pays special attention to youth involvement in the legislative process. The upper house of the Federal Assembly is the Youth Parliamentary Assembly. There is enough existing legal base of interactions between youth organizations, youth parliamentary structures with the state. However, in a number of subjects of the Russian Federation, municipalities, youth parliamentary structures do not meet the representativeness of the principles of equality of rights of young citizens, equal access and equal opportunities, which often prevents the effective work of youth parliaments and youth parliamentary structures at the local level. Another problem of realization of the state youth policy in the regions is the lack of interaction of youth parliaments of the Russian Federation, and sometimes-complete lack of such interaction with youth governments. Youth policy contributes to a diverse and timely development of young people, their creativity, self-organization skills, personal fulfillment, and the ability to defend their rights, to participate in the activities of unions. In terms of socio-economic crisis in our country, the level of well-being of the younger generation is often relatively poorer than other population groups.

### **3.3 Approaches to working with young people in the organization**

Zharinova (2013) in the article *"The parliamentary parties of modern Russia: features of youth policy"* analyzes the experience of political parties in the field of youth policy. "Youth Guard of United Russia" is one of the well-known parties. Its ranks include more than 160 thousand people (About creation of Youth council,

2009; Order of the Government..., 2006). Among the approaches in working with young people in the organization are:

- 1) Design approach, is the development and the involvement of youth in the implementation of an attractive action plan aimed at addressing the social, political, technological and other problems;
- 2) Educational approach, is the approach to conduct training events of various formats for the members of the organization;
- 3) Long-term approach, is the demonstration of opportunities of youth inclusion in the reserve with the prospect of a sharp career rise;
- 4) The approach of legitimization and preservation of the existing political system, are all the actions and movements of discourse aimed at supporting the official policy of the President, Prime Minister and the majority party;
- 5) Engaging approach, is the approach through well-known youth media persons in placing interviews with musicians, actors and other celebrities on the organization's website;
- 6) An integrated approach, is the desire to unite under his patronage of the youth organizations of different ideological orientation (for example, a recent initiative to create a youth club at the General Council of the party "United Russia".

In opposition is the youth policy of the Communist Party. Its foundation is the Leninist Komsomol of the Russian Federation (The provision on Analytical department..., 2015; Nomokonov, 2011). Among the approaches to work with young people are identified the following:

- 1) critical-warnings;
- 2) historical and symbolic events (the reference to the achievements of the Soviet period, the recognition of their sample);
- 3) ideology;
- 4) conservative behavior (ideology extends through gatherings, meetings, newspapers and other tested path);
- 5) ideological perspective.

"Fair Russia" is a parliamentary Party of the Russian Federation. Young people are considered as the innovation potential of the country. Social support for young people is seen as a necessary element of the party's program. The leaders of the Liberal Democratic Party suggest that today is the time to broke social "lifts". It is necessary to create the new conditions that the youth has already earned. The party uses the following approaches to the implementation of youth policy:

- 1) the opposition, it is criticism of the pro-Kremlin youth;
- 2) for leader, it is pronounced focus on the figure of the party leader;
- 3) educational, it is holding debates and competition for social projects;
- 4) perspective, it is a demonstration of career opportunities;

5) social is focus on the main problems of young people (education, military service, employment, ability to create a family, etc.), which to some extent isolated from each parliamentary party (The provision on Analytical department..., 2015).

In modern Russia, the most important task is to educate the new generation of young people. This problem becomes more acute due to the fact that in the society a stable idea of national identity has been lost.

#### **4. Conclusion**

Thus, in terms of socio-economic instability in the implementation of youth policy it is met with great difficulties. It requires the formation of a fundamentally new approach. There is a contradiction between the activation of actions of enforcement authorities on the development of youth policy and the absence of significant changes in the position of the overwhelming majority of young Russians, which is the core problem of the effectiveness of the state youth policy.

Youth social policy is a complex dynamic system that reflects the strategic policy of the state and individual regions to ensure socio-economic, political and cultural development of Russia, on the formation of the young people of patriotism and respect for the history and culture of their country, to other nations, on the rights and freedoms of man and citizen. The function of each component of the subsystem youth social policy is subject to the main goal, to create conditions for the free development of personality, the disclosure of individual aptitudes and abilities, as well as the younger generation of preparations for the implementation of socially important social roles. However, key aspects of youth social policy in spite of the statement on the state level are just beginning to take shape and not fully cover the youth as a heterogeneous social group.

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