

METHODOLOGICAL QUERIES OF FORECASTING OF SOCIOCULTURAL DEVELOPMENT¹

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Modern sociocultural progress of beginning of XXIth century trends are the speeds related to the increase and to the scale of cultural and social changes. The world becomes more difficult and dynamic, it acquires absolutely new lines, and the future of humanity becomes more unforeseeable. Intensive development of the global world results in strengthening of dynamism and interdependence of different countries, but also generates the whole aggregate of contradictions. Contradictions deepen between the countries of «gold billion» and poor countries basis of that is a traditional culture; interconfessional and interethnic contradictions, extremism and violence, grow in the world; development of man as a primary purpose of culture is substituted by the aims of civilization that leans against technological activity; scitech oriented western society runs into the problems of threat of nuclear war, ecological and power crisis, poverty and out-of-control demographic increase in countries that develop.

For this reason, forecasting of sociocultural development and mine-out on its basis ideas about the future of humanity acquire a greater value, becoming acquisition of intellectual culture and allow to produce strategies of further motion of society by progress. Meantime becomes obvious, that traditional research paradigms are not able to interpret numerous paradoxes and anomalies lives of man and society, not capable to imagine there both are explanatory charts, and reliable predictions on the future. Today becomes obvious, that principles of determinism do not represent community development in all his variants, that not laid in classic charts that lean against causal link, but mostly based on paradoxical processes that demonstrate judicial intermittent.

In this context a large confidence forecasting of sociocultural development begins to enjoy, including research in area of postnonclassical science, – research future (futures–trading researches), or futurology without that it is today difficult to imagine a modern western intellectual culture. However, the western model of development of society, yet a few years back given out for only correct and meaningful for all humanity, appeared in no way universal. In the modern world a hard competition is opened out in the sphere of models of development of different cultures and civilizations.

Interest in the future in a modern epoch is in actual fact unprecedented, forecasting, or in western terminology is futurology, is presently on the cutting edge of scientific researches, occupying a ponderable place among them. Research of the future sociology, philosophy, cultural science,

¹ Researchork was produced within the framework of research project № 0119U100179 «Development of scientifically-methodical principles and practical tool of evaluation of commercial (market) prospects of commodity innovations»

anthropology and other humanitarian, public and natural disciplines, engage in one or another measure, they meet in the only sphere of knowledge – forecasting, folding the area of interdisciplinary researches.

Modern forecasting of sociocultural development is closely related to progress of science, exactly on its basis the various scenarios of development are created, – it develops the estimation of probability of their realization. Scientific going near the analysis of changes in the past, determination of trends and possible results of changes in present time and construction on this base of alternative scenarios of credible future changes is all can assist approaching of these aims and avoid possible crisis situations [3, p. 72].

Forecasting of sociocultural development, research future develops in the direct of ideas about the active, converting role of human personality, its creative essence and creative mission. Its understanding of man in futurology researches is envisaged in such terms, as making future (what does the future), design of the future (construction of the future), participation redesign (redesign of the future), registration future (forming future).

In the modern world of question about that, the future of humanity will appear that, becomes one of major. Determination of innovative forms and ways of development of culture, technologies, search of world–view principles: options, values, new strategies of activity, all of it takes on the special significance on a background substantial sociocultural changes – contemporaneity.

Forecasting of sociocultural development is the phenomenon of western culture, it is characterized by setting on progress as certain social value, anthropic, where a man appears embodiment of creative activity, prevailing of the historical thinking, that allows to the man to feel «entered» in history with her prospect on the future.

Forecasting of sociocultural development within the limits of theory of public progress became methodological basis of optimistic variants of sociocultural design, where the future began to be thought in the categories of scalingup. This principle was incarnated most full in an industrial theory, where the stages of community development – from agrarian to postindustrial – come forward as the stages of progress. In civilization, evolutional, structure going near a design future, the last is examined as conditioned by logic of natural historical, biosocial, technological for scitech development [1, p. 64].

The new stage in becoming of forecasting of sociocultural development appearance of futurology became in the second half of XXth century, that was conditioned the change of research paradigm, that leans against the laws of indeterminism and presented most brightly within the limits of synergistical, post–modernism, constructivism researches that own considerable heuristic possibilities.

Design future it is related to dominant public ideology or personal authorial ideology that stipulates existence in sociocultural futurology of two levels – scientifically–philosophical and socialideological, that lean against the objective and subject grounds of research. Sociocultural futurology is, foremost, by «ideological manifestation» (as a rule, latent, but sometimes and realized), argumentation of those or other ideologies (this author belongs to the supporters of that), demonstration of them futurism perspective and only in the second turn – actually scientific foresights [3, p. 117].

Futurology as science about the future was formed in that gnosiological and epistemology situations, when the well–proven productivity was of prognostication of modern development as nonlinear, discrete, in a that situation, when western science becomes postnonclassical by the nature. In this connection sociocultural forecasting acquires own methodological validity, methodical vehicle, in other words, institutional within the framework of new paradigm. Calling to the methods of sociocultural forecasting, we mark in a sufficient measure their open character, distinguishing here such from them, as reduction, analysis of the systems, design, interpretation, extrapolation of trend, method of scenarios, method of Delphi and others like that [2].

Basic methodological principle of stowage of prognoses of sociocultural development in the conditions of globalization support becomes on perception of the world structured as single unit – this interpretation overcomes the analytical contrasting global – local, universal – partial. More great popularity and distribution in modern futurology constructivism ideas and theories acquire about possibility of influence on processes and phenomena that expect humanity in a prospect. Thus a constructivism in futurology is closely related both to technologies of management social innovative processes and with becoming of new ethics, new global thinking, world–view of solidarity, tolerance, participation.

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