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THE CURRENT STATE OF YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND THE DIRECTIONS OF ITS IMPROVEMENT

Young people are an important part of the modern Ukrainian society, the bearer of the human potential, the determinant of the social and economic progress. However, this category of the population is the most vulnerable and socially insecure. Due to the lack of the sufficient experience, legal and professional knowledge, and often moral unpreparedness to the competition in the labour market, it is difficult to realize their right to work for young people today. Despite the low unemployment rate in Ukraine compared with European levels, youth is a special category in which the problem of the employment has a distinct character and needs permanent state monitoring and the development of the policy of the youth employment as part of the total employment policies in the country.

According to the Law of Ukraine "On Promotion of the Social Development of Youth in Ukraine" under the youth we understand the citizens of Ukraine in age from 14 to 35 years. The category "youth" - a single socio-demographic group that is distinguished by a set of age characteristics, features and social situation caused by other social and psychological factors that define the social system, culture, patterns of socialization, education in a certain society. Young people are a large part of the perspective of the economically active population, which has a great employment potential. Describing the labor market in the demographic aspect, it should be noted that the number of people aged 15-19 in 2015 was 2,287,810 persons (or 5.1% of the population); aged 20-24 years - 3,048,638 people, or 6.7%; aged 25-29 years - 3,792,084 people, or 8.4%; aged 30-34 years - 3,594,186 people, or 8% [3].

According to the State Statistics Service, the number of the economically active population aged 15 to 70 years on average in 2016 was 17.8 million people (in 2015 - 18.0 mln. people), including 16 mln. 55 thousand employed persons and 1 million 767 thousand unemployed. Among the number of people of working age the number of the economically active population were 17.2 million people, including 15.4 million employed and 1.8 million unemployed citizens.

Economic activity among persons aged 15-70 was 61.7%, and among people of working age - 70.6%. The number of employed persons aged 15-70 in 2016 was 16.1 million people, and among people of working age - 15.4 mln. people (in 2015 - respectively 16.3 million. persons and 15.6 million. people). In the structure of the employed population 85.1% are employees, 1.1% - employers, 13.6% - self-employed persons, the rest - unpaid contributing family members [2].

Among the employed population 23.4% (or 3.8 million) were employed in the informal sector of the economy (in 2015 the share of such persons accounted for 26.0%). Among the economic activities the most widespread informal employment was in agriculture, forestry and fisheries (39%), in wholesale and retail trade, repair of motor vehicles (23.1%) and in building (14.1%).

Having examined the proportion of young people occupied in the total number of employed, it can be concluded that the majority of young people is engaged as employees - 85.7%, and only 7% are self-employed. Of course, this situation can be explained by several reasons, including the fact that young people do not have

sufficient knowledge, skills and, most importantly, experience, financial resources, so that in a short time to organize their own business. In addition to quantitative characteristics of the employment we will analyze the qualitative characteristics of the young people occupied. You can see a number of positive points, such as: more than half (56.4%) receive high levels of income; 64.5% of young people have stable employment; 78.3% of young people satisfied with their employment. Negative points are that 60% of young people are working in the informal sector of the economy or in part and part-time work, including one in five is engaged in the informal sector (work in unregistered enterprises) and 80% work in the informal jobs in the formal sector.

The analysis of the youth's unemployment in our country shows that the unemployment rate of the working population by the methodology of ILO for the period of 2010- 2015's in Ukraine increased from 6.8% to 7.5%. In each age group of the youth unemployment is much higher than for the whole working population, it is for young men and women, urban and rural youth. Especially high unemployment is in the youngest age groups 15-24 and over the period increased by 3.2%, for women – by 0.8%, for men – by 4.9%, for the urban population – by 2,8%, for the rural population – by 4.5%. Notably, significantly higher level of the youth unemployment is in urban population versus rural one, and the unemployment rate of young men compared with women.

Assessing the unemployment situation in Ukraine in the youth labour market and compare some parallels with the EU, we can state that in 2015 the figure was 16.6 percent. Higher, than in Ukraine, today the youth unemployment rate is in the USA in 2014 - 43% (in 2013 - 47%); and in the EU in 2014 (average - 22.8%): Greece - 55.3%, Spain - 53.2%. The lowest unemployment rate in comparison with Ukraine in the EU was registered in Germany - 8.1%, Austria - 8.7%, the Netherlands - 9.5% [1].

According to the State Statistics Service of Ukraine the level of the unemployment, defined by the methodology of the International Labor Organization (ILO) among young people aged 25-29 in 2015 was 12.2%. Among those aged 15-24 the figure in the first quarter of 2015 was 22.8% and it was more than two times higher than the figure among all age groups. The high unemployment rate is due to the fact that many of the young people do not have the necessary skills and experience [2].

In 2015 at the state employment service 405.5 thousand people under the age of 35 years had the status of the unemployed. Among the unemployed under the age of 35, registered in the State Employment Service, who had professional experience at the end of June 2015: one in five had worked in wholesale and retail trade, manufacturing industry employed 15.7% of young people; in public administration and defense - 13.0%; financial and insurance activities - 10%, in agriculture, forestry and fishery - 9.2% [3].

To overcome the problem of the unemployment, particularly among young people, the State Employment Service carries out the measures of the active policies to promote employment, providing information, counseling and career guidance services, the creation of a bank of vacancies and job search, assistance for employment of citizens, including by business organization, an organization of the professional training, retraining, training the unemployed, organization and financing of the public works, unemployment benefits.

Solving the problem of overcoming poverty among the working population is expected in the following areas: restoration of the production and stimulation of the economic growth; promoting the employment of the population and the labor market

development; rising the wages and social dialogue as the main factors creating the conditions for the decent work; development of the social insurance system; improving the pension system; reforming the social protection system; the social support for families, children and youth; improving health services; improving the methodological approaches to poverty assessment and monitoring performance.

References:

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