Value Orientations of Youth Students: Transformation of National Identity and Consciousness in the Conditions of War

OLENA KLYMENKO
Department of Social Expertise, Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, 12 Shovkovychna Street, 01021 Kyiv, Ukraine
Email: klimenkoelens@gmail.com

VALENTINA CHEPAK
Faculty of Sociology, Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, 64 Volodymyrska Street, 01601 Kyiv, Ukraine
Email: valyachepak@gmail.com

GULBARSHIN CHEPURKO
Department of Social Expertise, Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, 12 Shovkovychna Street, 01021 Kyiv, Ukraine
Email: gichepurko@ukr.net

The purpose of the article is to study the value orientations of student youth in the context of the transformation of national identity and national consciousness in the conditions of Russian armed aggression. The empirical basis of the article was formed by the results of the authors’ sociological research ‘Transformation of National Identity and Consciousness Among Student Youth of Ukraine Under the Influence of Russian Military Aggression’, conducted by employees of the Social Expertise Department of the Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, and the secondary analysis of the annual sociological monitoring ‘Ukrainian Society: Public Opinion in Ukraine After 10 Months of War’. The authors empirically confirm the fact of a sharp increase in national consciousness among student youth, who demonstrate a high level of readiness to serve their country, take an active part in public life, and want to be useful to their country during the armed struggle against the aggressor country. In the conclusions, the authors state that in the Ukrainian youth environment among students, a new type of national self-identification is widespread, the basis of which is the interdependence of norms of thinking and ideas about origin.

Keywords: national identity, national consciousness, student youth, behavioural strategies, social interaction
INTRODUCTION

Russia's full-scale offensive or war against Ukraine, which began on 24 February 2022, has been going on for more than a year. The troops of the aggressor country continue to destroy our defenders, erase Ukrainian cities from the map, turning them into ruins, cynically kill the civilian population, and take Ukrainian children to the Russian Federation. Mass bombings damage not only the infrastructure and industrial facilities of our country, they regularly take the lives of ordinary citizens. However, despite the actions of the invaders, Ukrainians continue to believe in victory, thanks to the international support of Ukraine, in particular from the countries of the European Union, and the nation is being consolidated and hardened in the fight against the enemy. According to a sociological survey conducted by the Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (Monitoring 2022), the absolute majority of Ukrainians, 95.7%, are confident in the victory of Ukraine. For the first time in 31 years of independence, our society demonstrates a monolithic unity of opinion and an extremely high level of consolidation, since differences in the perception of the situation are so minimal that they do not allow scientists to distinguish more or less stable trends in regional contradictions, gender and age characteristics of the perception of social reality.

In the context of Russian military aggression and the difficult period of statehood preservation that Ukraine is currently experiencing, it is more important than ever to develop civic-minded, socially significant qualities in young people that they can demonstrate in all types of activities, and, above all, those related to the protection of the state and preservation of national identity.

Young people are an energetic, driving force that plays an important role in the development of society. Studying their worldview, given its crucial role for the future development of society, is an urgent problem. The behaviour of the younger generation is determined primarily by the value hierarchy, which is characterised by the realisation that human actions and perception of reality are determined by the nature of value orientations, the process of which is long and is associated with the peculiarities of socialisation. Scientific research (Dembitskyi 2022; Salnikova, Klymenko 2021) has shown that people's value judgments, choices and guidelines are based on their preferential thinking.

A characteristic feature of this thinking is that it incorporates not only what is proper, but also what is possible and desirable, and is therefore associated with a person's relatively independent, free choice. It is not just about specific desirable phenomena or objects, but about those that are worth desiring. This means that in human life, some values take precedence and become leading in the perception of phenomena and events in the world around us, while others lose their former priority. Thus, under the influence of the realities of life, values are formed and gradually transformed, but crisis situations significantly accelerate this process.

Of particular interest is the examination of the processes of formation of national consciousness and identity among young people, who are in an active phase of socialisation and are forced to experience a fundamental breakdown of youthful stereotypes regarding the attitude to social realities in difficult conditions of war. The formation of new forms of self-awareness and social behaviour among young Ukrainians takes place in crisis conditions, under the influence of the negative factors of the armed conflict. It is relevant for us to study the process of transformation of value orientations of modern student youth, as the most active and most conscious part of this socio-demographic group, through the analysis of its social differentiation, national well-being, and life attitudes.
Therefore, the purpose of the article was to study the value orientations of student youth in the context of the transformation of national identity and national consciousness in the conditions of Russian armed aggression based on the materials of author’s sociological survey.

**THEORETICAL BACKGROUND: THE SCIENTIFIC DISCOURSE ABOUT NATIONAL IDENTITY AND NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS**

The scientific discourse on the study of the problems of national identity and national consciousness has broad interdisciplinary connections based on historical, political, anthropological, psychological and sociological knowledge.

Sociologists I. Wallerstein and E. Balibar (1991), revealing the theory of globalisation, define ethnic groups and nationalities as ‘the product of a complex process – a constant social transformation that combines awareness (ethnic consciousness) and socio-legal definition (ethno-institutions)’. Ethnoinstitutes were considered by scientists as a collection of unwritten rules, norms of behaviour, taboos and symbols, which determines the need to observe social behaviour. Nation formation under such conditions is understood by sociologists not only as a natural process since the formation of an ethnic group is influenced by a large number of factors, but as a secondary, instrumental, constructivist, or institutional means of ethno-social adaptation, which arises as a result of active social interaction. In this regard, it should be noted that the Russian military aggression against the Ukrainian statehood became a consolidating factor that allowed the completion of the process of forming a political nation and the final unification of the ethnocultural space through the creation of a stable national identity.

In the scientific publication ‘Features of Consolidation of the Ukrainian Nation in the Conditions of Decentralization’, Ukrainian sociologists S. Salnikova and O. Klymenko (2021: 330), studying the course of one of the decentralisation reforms of local self-government bodies, stated that the prospects for the formation of a stable national identity of Ukrainian citizens depend on the mutual relations of two ethnic groups – Ukrainians and Russians, this gave the authors the opportunity to predict the conditions for the consolidation of the Ukrainian nation, denying the likelihood of the emergence of separatist tendencies at the local regional level in the conditions of military aggression from the side of the Russian Federation.

Therefore, the methodological basis of our scientific research was the theory of ‘interethnic interaction’, within the framework of which the following two groups of scientific concepts were distinguished:

– cultural, which is based on the opposition of the traditional ethnic community to the processes of erasing cultural boundaries in the conditions of the digital society, as a result of the emergence of the concepts of acculturation and mobilisation;

– structural, which is based on studies of conflictual interethnic interaction, which was reflected in the creation of the concepts of integration and internal colonialism.

Recently, the study of ethnonational processes has undergone a complete renewal at several levels: from the analysis of the formation and development of specific ethnic groups, peoples and nations to a radical revision of the methodology updated by G. Moreno (2018). He suggested that modern scientists move away from traditional approaches in identifying and characterising individual ethnic communities and proceed to a detailed study of their
patterns of interaction with social groups of other ethnic origins (dominance, acculturation, assimilation, resistance, centre from periphery).

Drawing on international experience (Gowricharn 2022; Hobsbawm 1991; Huntington 2004), which has created a solid methodological framework, Ukrainian scholars (Platonov 2019; Rokych 2020; Zaporozhets 2006) have developed their own diagnostic methods for studying value orientations, among other things:

– O. Zaporozhets's (2006) methodology aimed at identifying the level of development of purposeful volitional actions and clarifying the content of moral motives of behaviour;
– M. Rokych's (2020) methodology for studying value orientations;
– K. Platonov's (2019) methodology for creating a modified personality map.

Summing up, we can say that the scientific development of ethnosociology regarding the process of nation formation divides ethnic processes into two main directions of social interaction – ethnic unification (cultural and linguistic rapprochement, levelling of existing differences) and ethnic division (alienation and separation from the basic ethnic group based on any disagreements).

METHODOLOGY
Experience has shown that changes in value priorities at the individual level do not always occur in sync with transformations in politics, economics, and the socio-cultural sphere. The direction, content and pace of these macro changes can be perceived differently by different generations and transform the value hierarchy of these generations along different vectors. In addition, since values are the motivational basis for individual behaviour, the nature of value priorities is determined by the fact that people belong to certain social groups, segments of the population, in our case, young people who are pursuing higher education. In order to objectively describe the transformation of value orientations, it is necessary to conduct ongoing monitoring, based on the results of which objective conclusions, forecasts and recommendations can be reasonably made. Unfortunately, no permanent longitudinal studies on this issue have been conducted since Ukraine's independence. Therefore, in their scientific research, Ukrainian researchers relied on the results of the annual sociological monitoring of the Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

According to the tested methodology, young people were asked to evaluate the importance of a certain list of values for themselves on a five-point scale, where

1 point means ‘not at all important’;
2 points mean ‘rather not important’;
3 points mean ‘it is difficult to say whether it is important or not’;
4 points are ‘rather important’;
5 points are ‘very important’.

The indices of value priorities are calculated as weighted average scores on a five-point scale, with indices in the range:
4.5–5.0 points are attributed to the set of dominant values;
4.0–4.49 points are attributed to subdominant values;
3.0–3.99 points constitute a set of values of medium importance;
1.0–2.99 points represent values of little importance.

Unfortunately, in 2022–2023, due to a number of objective circumstances related to the war, the annual monitoring could not be conducted, so it was replaced by a series of case studies, one of which was the author’s sociological study: ‘Transformation of National
Identity and Consciousness among Student Youth of Ukraine Under the Influence of Russian Military Aggression’, conducted by scientists of the Department of Social Expertise of the Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in September–October 2022. Employees of the department outlined the methodological basis of the study and developed questions for the questionnaire and an explanatory note to it. Taking into account the conditions of martial law, the organisation and conduct of the survey were carried out in compliance with the requirements of security, anonymity, mobility and accessibility. For this purpose, a questionnaire was developed in the form of a Google form, which the participants could fill out at any convenient time from any electronic device that had access to the Internet.

Based on the fact that studentship as an active sociocultural community is characterised by a certain commonality of views, social norms, value systems, instructions and interests, we considered it necessary to, first of all, investigate the perception of today’s realities in the context of nation-building and statehood preservation in the environment of modern university students. In September–October 2022, employees of the Department of Social Expertise of the Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine conducted a sociological survey \( n = 2000 \) among the student youth of Ukraine (except for the occupied territories of the Kharkiv, Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhya and Kherson regions at that time), using the questionnaire method – filling out a Google form upon visiting the Internet platform. A total of 2,000 respondents aged 17 to 25 (49% men and 51% women) were interviewed. The sample population is spontaneous, at the last stage quota selection was carried out according to the main socio-demographic characteristics of the population of Ukraine (gender, age, type of settlement and level of education ‘bachelor’/’master’). To compare the main indicators of the respondents, they are conventionally divided into two age groups: 17–21 years old ‘bachelor students’ (69.7%) and 22–25 years old ‘master’s degree students’ (30.3%). Students of 100 different specialised higher educational institutions, both state and privately owned, took part in the survey. The link to the questionnaires with the accompanying letter was sent to the e-mails of the heads of student associations (professional committees, self-government committees, councils), via social messengers (Facebook) to the heads of universities and their deputies.

Therefore, the empirical base allowed us to comprehensively illuminate the process of structuring national identity among student youth, as well as outline the complex value orientations of modern Ukrainian students.

**EMPIRICAL RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

**Formation of national identity among student youth in the conditions of Russian military aggression**

The problems of the formation of national identity began to interest scientific circles in the middle of the 20th century, when, against the background of the division of the world after the Second World War, multi-ethnic state formations arose. In the 1960s, the concept of identity gained active development in the works of the famous American sociologist E. Erikson (1995), who, in contrast to the ideas of the classical analysis about the antagonism of the individual and society, especially emphasised the adaptive nature of the individual’s behaviour, the central integrative quality of which, in his opinion, identity, which
at the beginning of the 20th century was studied exclusively as an aspect of self-awareness, expressed in the feeling of organic belonging of a person to the historical era, including the forms of interpersonal interactions characteristic of a specific period of society’s life, should have come forward. According to R. Gowricharn (2022), when considering the issues that arise during the formation and development of an ethnos, scientists ignore the way of social interaction between ethnic communities in space, place, scale and environment, which is a mistake because it does not take into account the aspects of latent ethnicity. Even though there are many concepts of nation-building in scientific circulation, however, the active development of society creates conditions for the discovery of new theories and paradigms, the improvement and further development of those that already exist, so today more thorough research of some specific aspects is necessary, variations and reflections that arise in the process of ethnic formation.

The identity of the individual presupposes the presence of harmonious ideas regarding certain ideas, images, values and actions with the dominant types of social interaction in this historical period and, accordingly, models of behaviour that reflect the possibility of a person’s perception of specific conditions of social existence. That is why national identity is considered by E. Erikson (1995: 677) in two aspects. First, it is ‘self-identity’, which, in turn, is formed from two components: ‘organic’ – appearance and natural features, and ‘individual’ – awareness of the peculiarities of social behaviour, the choice of which type is dictated by the realities of modernity. Secondly, it is ‘social identity’, which is also divided into ‘group’ and ‘ethnosocial.’ ‘Group identity’ was considered by E. Erikson (1995: 678) as the inclusion of an individual in different communities, as it is supported by a subjective feeling of inner unity with one’s social environment. In our case, according to the results of the conducted research, it is visible that the military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine became a prerequisite for the formation of stable characteristics of national consciousness among young people. The dynamics of value priorities among young Ukrainians in previous years have demonstrated a subdominant level of values such as national independence and moderate importance of national revival, as detailed in the Table.

Thus, in the system of values of each person, especially a young person who is just starting out on his or her own, one can identify priority/dominant values. This core of values is presented in the form of a certain hierarchy. Unlike traditional methods that reveal a hierarchy of priorities among such values as family, work, friends, hobbies, etc., we sought to identify the basic values of modern youth, understanding them as the basic life meanings – what determines the attitude of a person to the realities of life and determines the main patterns of social behaviour. However, in our opinion, this ability can be formed in a young person only in the process of socialisation, during his adaptation to life in the concrete historical realities of building statehood – the struggle for national independence, statehood, etc. In the process of socialisation, the identity of the individual is ‘tested’ by the realities of his existence and the conditions that change the external world. In the mentioned process, adaptation is an absolutely necessary mechanism of adaptation to the requirements of social interaction of one’s nation, the result of which can be an active understanding of one’s place (social role) in society, one’s goals, aspirations, and relations with others.

In times of war, the meaning of life is the preservation of statehood, the revival of national identity and national consciousness. Comparing the results of the annual monitoring and our study, we found the following dynamics of increasing the value of national revival and preservation of statehood in the hierarchy of priorities of Ukrainian
### Table. Dynamics of value priorities among the youth aged 17–25 of modern Ukraine during the period 2009–2021

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Strong health</td>
<td>4.74</td>
<td>4.74</td>
<td>4.76</td>
<td>4.82</td>
<td>4.85</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Strong family</td>
<td>4.86</td>
<td>4.73</td>
<td>4.71</td>
<td>4.76</td>
<td>4.79</td>
<td>4.77</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Well-being of children</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>4.64</td>
<td>4.55</td>
<td>4.58</td>
<td>4.76</td>
<td>4.91</td>
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<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Material prosperity</td>
<td>4.69</td>
<td>4.55</td>
<td>4.54</td>
<td>4.52</td>
<td>4.13</td>
<td>3.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Ukraine's state independence</td>
<td>3.78</td>
<td>3.96</td>
<td>4.24</td>
<td>4.52</td>
<td>4.57</td>
<td>4.59</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Interesting: work</td>
<td>4.60</td>
<td>4.42</td>
<td>4.36</td>
<td>4.38</td>
<td>4.35</td>
<td>4.31</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Creativity: equal opportunities in society for all</td>
<td>4.24</td>
<td>4.05</td>
<td>4.25</td>
<td>4.33</td>
<td>4.48</td>
<td>4.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Favourable moral-psychological state in society</td>
<td>4.19</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>4.07</td>
<td>4.10</td>
<td>4.31</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Improving the level of education</td>
<td>4.18</td>
<td>4.04</td>
<td>4.08</td>
<td>4.01</td>
<td>3.97</td>
<td>3.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Social recognition</td>
<td>4.30</td>
<td>4.07</td>
<td>4.06</td>
<td>4.02</td>
<td>4.02</td>
<td>3.92</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Democratic development of the country</td>
<td>3.79</td>
<td>3.72</td>
<td>4.05</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td>4.18</td>
<td>3.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>The ability to express opinions on political and other matters without fear for personal freedom</td>
<td>3.68</td>
<td>3.77</td>
<td>4.03</td>
<td>4.11</td>
<td>4.15</td>
<td>4.23</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Absence of significant social stratification</td>
<td>3.57</td>
<td>3.84</td>
<td>4.02</td>
<td>4.06</td>
<td>4.17</td>
<td>4.23</td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>Entrepreneurial initiative</td>
<td>3.75</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>3.81</td>
<td>4.01</td>
<td>4.27</td>
<td>4.32</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>Expanding cultural horizons, engaging in cultural values</td>
<td>3.79</td>
<td>3.74</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>3.89</td>
<td>3.94</td>
<td>4.06</td>
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<td>18.</td>
<td>The ability to criticise and democratically control the decisions of governing structures</td>
<td>3.38</td>
<td>3.54</td>
<td>3.80</td>
<td>4.04</td>
<td>4.04</td>
<td>3.73</td>
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<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>Participation in religious life (regular church attendance and observance of rituals)</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>3.18</td>
<td>3.16</td>
<td>3.05</td>
<td>3.03</td>
<td>3.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>Participation in the activities of political parties and public organisations</td>
<td>2.52</td>
<td>2.88</td>
<td>3.02</td>
<td>2.91</td>
<td>2.90</td>
<td>2.88</td>
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| Priority values (4.5–5) | Values of moderate importance (3–3.99) | Sub-dominant values (4–4.49) | Insignificant values (1–2.99) |

Note: Average weighted scores on a five-point scale in accordance with the approved methodology of the annual sociological monitoring of the Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

Source: Sociological monitoring 2009–2021 by the Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine.

youth (Fig. 1). In our opinion, national identity is perceived by the younger generation as a symbolic means of combining with the Ukrainian nation and distancing itself from the Russian one (consolidation of the commonality of ‘we’ on the basis of total opposition
to negatively significant others – ‘they’). Under such conditions, the national community of ‘we’ arises and exists mainly due to the fierce opposition of the community of ‘them’, which in Ukrainian realities is caused by the conduct of hostilities, massive rocket attacks on the civilian population, and the destruction of the active part of the nation’s representatives. Therefore, the armed struggle against the aggressor country became the foundation of national identity in the Ukrainian society.

For most scientists, national self-awareness is inextricably linked with patriotism and to some extent with elements of nationalism, if understood in a constructive positive sense. For example, in the studies of a number of scientists (Stepyko 2011), patriotism and nationalism are identical concepts, since, in their opinion, the nation and the state are inextricably linked and represent a single entity. Thus, E. Hobsbawm (1991: 90), referring to the work of E. Gellner ‘Nations and Nationalism’ (1983), writes that the principle according to which a nation is formed is when the political and national worldviews in society coincide. At the same time, he notes that the key problem of forming national self-awareness is creating an image of one’s people by absolutising national virtues. The results of the conducted survey give an opportunity to talk about the sharp growth of national consciousness among student youth. At the same time, the criteria by which, according to the respondents, a person can be defined as a patriot are interesting – a person’s knowledge of the history of his country, willingness to serve his country, as well as concern for public life (social activity).
However, it should be noted that the Russian military aggression against the Ukrainian statehood became a consolidating factor that allowed the completion of the process of forming a political nation and the final unification of the ethnocultural space by creating a stable national identity (Klymenko, Vaysman-Sakhniuk 2023). According to the data of the annual all-Ukrainian public opinion poll conducted by the Institute of Sociology of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine from 2000 to 2022, civic identity in Ukraine in general has doubled from 41.0 to 84.6%, respectively (Fig. 2).

Formation of national consciousness among student youth
Ethno-sociological discourse in Ukraine became relevant only in the 21st century, and probably not by chance. In our opinion, the prerequisite for this was the phenomenon of the objective development of the national consciousness of our society, which, at that time, had already moved away from rather abstract and mythologised ideas about the history of the Ukrainian people and began to realise the practical necessity of a correct attitude to one’s history and finding one’s place and roles in it. In addition, sociology itself, as a

**Fig. 2. Dynamics of the civic identity of the population of Ukraine 2000–2023 (in %) (Dembitskyi 2022)*

Source: All-Ukrainian public opinion polls 'Omnibus' 2000–2022.

* The data were obtained as a result of conducting all-Ukrainian public opinion polls 'Omnibus' 2000–2022, by the method of telephone interviews using a computer (computer-assisted telephone interviews, CATI) based on a random sample of mobile phone numbers (with random generation of phone numbers and subsequent statistical weighting) (n = 2000). The survey was conducted with adult (aged 18 and older) citizens of Ukraine who at the time of the survey resided in Ukraine (within the borders controlled by the Ukrainian authorities until 24 February 2022). The sample did not include residents of the territories temporarily not controlled by the Ukrainian authorities until 24 February 2022 (the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the city of Sevastopol, certain districts of Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts), and the survey was not conducted with citizens who left the country after 24 February 2022.
science, has undergone radical changes. Claims were made for the development of theory and methodology, and the issue of studying historical sociology in the context of the study of the genesis of ethnic sociality against the background of the emergence of one's history of the post-Soviet period was brought up to date. The problem of national consciousness is considered by many domestic scientists as a component of historical sociology, which includes other issues that historians deal with. Such a situation, it seems to us, is due to the following circumstances:

– the influence of the tradition of the recent past, when the formation of mass national consciousness was an exclusively state matter and was under the firm control of state institutions;

– the mixing of different rhetorics about the meaning, content and evaluations of the history of our society, in which scientific and academic rhetoric sometimes dissolves in everyday social, civil and political narratives, and therefore loses its methodology;

– the emotional load of the nation-building process (this refers to discussions about such issues as moral responsibility, national pride, patriotism and, strictly speaking, about ‘what to remember and what to forget’ and others).

Considering the state of sociological research on national memory, two blocks of topics can be distinguished. The first is an idea of the current state of conceptualisation of mass national consciousness, and the second is a standard set necessarily present in such scientific investigations. As we have already noted, the category ‘national consciousness’ is more often used in domestic research. Since 2014, many sociological studies have appeared in the Ukrainian scientific discourse, which builds other significant concepts that describe the conditions and factors of the formation of national consciousness, within the framework of existential sociology – describing the peculiarities of Ukrainian nation-building in the extreme conditions of war, considering the important historical knowledge of Ukrainians through the formation of patriotism and public identity. So, let us note that in recent years, not the theoretical and everyday level of social consciousness as such, but the really functioning consciousness, expressed in the positions of specific people who form a specific society, has been studied (Fig. 3).

![Fig. 3. Distribution of respondents’ answers to the question: ‘In your opinion, did the full-scale military aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine (24 February 2022) lead to the consolidation of Ukrainian society and increased patriotic feelings?’ (in %).](image)

Source: based on the results of the authors' sociological survey.
As part of our scientific research, special attention is paid to the evaluative and normative-value content of national consciousness, thanks to which we managed to identify three key aspects of national consciousness of student youth:

– the presence of a certain system of values and symbols, which is inherent to all members of society (struggle for the preservation of statehood and opposition to a common enemy);

– awareness by young people studying of their historical significance and self-realisation through public initiatives (volunteering and charity);

– the interest of student youth in obtaining national history that would be passed down from generation to generation, preservation of historical experience, acquisition of knowledge, symbols and ideas that have already entered the national memory and those that are only at the stage of formation (in the process of institutionalisation).

According to the survey, the main features by which young people define patriotism for themselves are the following: national identity, pride in belonging to their nation and people (62%), love for their home and place of residence (52%), and respect for Ukrainian history, culture, traditions and beliefs (46%).

Having established that for young people – students of higher education, national consciousness is a set of ideas, views, feelings and moods that reflect the perception and evaluation of subjective reality in which the realities of the present and the historical experience of the past in all their diversity are combined, it is necessary to pay attention to its undeniable contextuality. Since it is precisely in the context of the events taking place that the national consciousness:

– firstly, determines the attitude of young people toward the historical past of the people, the country and the state;

– secondly, forms their assessments of current events, in particular, armed aggression and the struggle for the right to independence;

– thirdly, is the basis for the formation of nation-building mechanisms for the next generations (national heroes, legends, myths and symbols of the 21st century – the newest digital society).

CONCLUSIONS

Taking into account the change in the value priorities of young Ukrainians in the context of the rise of national identity and national consciousness in the value hierarchy is extremely important for public policy, as young people are the most active part of the state’s population, whose views determine the future course of Ukraine’s development.

Thus, having analysed the impact of Russia’s full-scale aggression against Ukraine on the formation of the national consciousness of youth, the modern ethnocultural and national-patriotic development of Ukrainian students based on the materials of a sociological survey, we came to the following conclusions:

1. The value orientations of student youth underwent a radical transformation in the context of awareness and perception of Ukrainian national identity and national consciousness in the difficult conditions of the war.

2. The study of the formation of national identity allows talking about its sharp growth among student youth, which is accompanied by an increase in interest in studying the history of the Ukrainian people and readiness to ‘serve their country’, great social activity and indifference to political life.
3. The analysis of the sociological research has established that young people who receive higher education take an active position in protecting the state's interests by preserving independence and national and cultural revival, which have become dominant values in Ukrainian society.

Thus, young people associate their national consciousness primarily with a sense of ‘their own’, namely, their land, their history, their values, their language, their social environment, and in parallel, the issues of pride in the country, the need to preserve statehood and national revival are natural.

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OLENA KLYMENKO, VALENTINA CHEPAK, GULBARSHIN CHEPURKO

Studijuojančio jaunimo vertybinės orientacijos: tautinio tapatumo ir savimonės transformacija karo sąlygomis

Santrauka


Raktažodžiai: tautinis tapatumas, tautinė savimonė, studijuojantis jaunimas, elgesio strategijos, socialinė sąveika