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NGOS PARTICIPATION IN THE FORMATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF STATE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY WITH THE EU PUBLIC POLICY INSTRUMENTS APPLICATION

(experiment – on the example of own grant project)

The article examines the problems of NGO participation in the formation and implementation of environmental policy both in the theoretical aspect and in the applied field. The history of the EU and the interaction of NGO in the field of environmental policy are analyzed. The consequences of the lack of development of ecological governance in Ukraine as a holistic mechanism have been established. The main problems and conditions of the NGOs institutional development, which will ensure effective activity in the conditions of integration into the EU, are determined. Based on the theoretical developments of the dissertation research, the following public policy tools were tested (as an experiment): Practically oriented – aimed at acquiring new knowledge and skills in collecting environmental data in field conditions, using modern measuring equipment; Environmental journalism – teach the basics of marketing in social networks, introduce types of presentations for different target groups; Environmental public policy on the local level course – development of skills for conducting a creative advocacy campaign with the schoolchildren, youth, the public, scientists, representatives of local self-government bodies, businesses participation. In order to build a competitive NGO activity that will able to participate in the formation and implementation national and global environmental (natural resource) policy, it is necessary to develop the following: NGOs members must be specialized experts in the chosen field of activity; NGO must specialize in the problems of a specific region; to use modern, certified equipment when performing specialized tasks; NGO should implement internal policies, development standards for effective communications with foreign funds, NGOs. Based on the PhD results of theoretical studies and practical results of experiment, recommendations were given to environmental NGO within the framework of their own institutional development to ensure stress resistance to external factors and ensure effective cooperation with international organizations, EU and world institutions.

Key words: NGO, public policy, environmental policy, local policy, EU, institutional development.

Statement of the problem. The process of approximating Ukrainian legislation to European legislation is not limited to the adoption of legislation, regulatory acts in accordance with the Association Agreement, but sets new requirements for fundamental approaches to the formation and implementation of regional environmental policy, guaranteeing a high level of involvement of local NGOs and international charitable organizations/funds, which finance ecologically oriented projects. At the same time, the establishment of effective cooperation between a local NGO and an international charitable donor is crucial in the process of project implementation and institutional development of a local NGO, further expert growth and increasing influence on the process of local policy improvement.

Analysis of recent research and publications. Publications regarding consideration of issues of interaction between NGO and other political actors

in the sphere of environmental policy in different countries were devoted by such ukrainian scientists as O. Lazor, N. Selivanova, L. Yakushenko, D. Zerkalov, P. Fesyanyov, O. Bondar, O. Shapovalova, V. Polyakov, V. Kravtsiv, M. Andrienko, etc. Foreign scientists can include: A. Jordan, Abraham L. Newman, L. Elliott, H. Selin, Stacy D. VanDeveer and other. However, taking into account the specifics of the Ukrainian European integration process, many issues regarding the possibilities and directions of adaptation of the best European practices regarding the implementation of the state environmental policy with the NGOs participation remain insufficiently researched.

Task statement. The purpose of the article is to analyze the NGO participation in the implementation of state environmental policy with the use of EU public policy tools (on the example of our own grant project).

Outline of the main material of the study.

Analyzing the history of the EU and the interaction of NGO with EU institutions and other actors in regional politics, we can note that many studies focus on the elaborately developed EU governance system and ways of adopting and implementing legislation in member states, including the use of various political instruments and principles, norms. This interest stems from the EU's ever-expanding framework for developing, implementing and enforcing overarching environmental policies. Scholars continue to study the processes by which specific policies are formulated, revised and expanded through the ongoing legislative process and the increasingly influential system of civil society engagement with EU institutions [1, p. 17]. The main purpose of civil society in the European Union is the expression of public opinion through civil dialogue, manifested in the form of discussions and debates. Each state determines for itself the most acceptable format of the document, which is the basis for the implementation of the communication policy in practice and is created in accordance with the practice and traditions of the system of legal regulation in the states [2, p. 23]. The European Parliament and the European Council adopted The Seventh Environmental Action Program – is a long-term overall strategy of the EU and its member states in the field of environment and climate change. It was adopted for seven years (from 2014 to 2020) and is the first to establish a long-term vision of environmental policy until 2050. In the scope of our research, we draw attention to one of the priority tasks as the promotion of the activity of the network of experts working in the field of law enforcement and to ensure the exchange of experience and the improvement of access to funding. At the same time, the author's statement that “today's EU is characterized by institutional and political complexity, many impressive achievements and a significant amount of controversy” remains relevant even today [3 p. 67]. NGO expert which are called in by the Commission can be highly influential, they may help to define the problems and come up with suggested solutions, and subsequently influence agenda setting.

At the same time, the issue of environmental governance has been considered in Ukraine for many years in the context of the implementation of the Aarhus Convention, which approves such important issues as access to environmental information, public participation in decision-making on environmental issues, and access to justice. Proper environmental regulation is also on the agenda of the Eastern Partnership, as well as among the obligations of the Association Agree-

ment between Ukraine and the EU [4]. In accordance with Articles 469-470 of the Ukraine-EU Association Agreement, the Civil Society Platform was created in November 2014, consisting of representatives of public organizations, employers' associations, and trade unions from both Ukraine and the EU. The agreement also provides for a change in approaches to relations between trade unions, employers, non-governmental organizations and the state in solving social and economic problems of Ukraine [5, p. 72]. According to NGO experts, “non-governmental organizations can rightfully have the leading function in the provision of social services at the community level” Noted, that in developed democracies, civil society is an equal partner of the state and business in solving social and public problems. At the same time, it is the state that undertakes to create favorable legal conditions for the activity of non-governmental organizations, which properly serves their provision of social services. For example, in the countries of the European Union, 40-60% of the total income of CSOs is state funding, in Germany, non-governmental organizations provide 60% of state-guaranteed social services [6].

At the same time, according to the Monitoring Study of the implementation of the National Strategy for the Development of Civil Society in Ukraine for 2016-2020, there are no regional programs for the development of civil society in some regions, which negatively affects the implementation of the objectives of the state policy document. Also, the ineffectiveness of the performance of the functions assigned to them by the regional coordination councils was determined [7]. Therefore, the process of construction of ecological governance in Ukraine as a complete mechanism is absent. At the same time, the Government of Sweden considers good environmental governance as an important element of its foreign policy work: “good governance has a huge impact on environmental actions and results, and good environmental governance has a cross-sectoral nature, manifests itself at the international, national and sub-national level and includes many stakeholders” [8]. Also, in accordance with the Concept of Ensuring National Stability in Ukraine, a certain redistribution of responsibility is necessary, including the redistribution of certain functions to ensure national, including environmental security on the local level and ensure more active involvement of civil society and individual citizens in the implementation relevant professional tasks [9, p. 112].

As part of the approval of the results of the PhD research “NGO activities in the process of forming and implementing the environmental policy of the

European Union: experience for Ukraine”, the author prepared the grant project “Youth of the Azov region chooses clean water bodies”, which consists of three components: Practically oriented – aimed at acquiring new knowledge and skills in collecting environmental data in field conditions, using modern measuring equipment. We assumed that, together with mentors, students and young people in the field would learn to measure the quality of water bodies in the Azov region of the Zaporizhzhia region, analyze the data obtained and formulate proposals for improving local policy, taking into account the principles of sustainable development and the use of the latest technologies; “Environmental journalism” – teach the basics of marketing in social networks, introduce types of presentations for different target groups; “Environmental public policy on the local level” – development of skills for conducting a creative advocacy campaign with the participation of schoolchildren, youth, the public, scientists, representatives of local self-government bodies, businesses [10, p. 115]. On our opinion, the specified components are relevant for implementation at the local level and, at the same time, have national significance. At the same time, grant for the implementation of the project was received within the framework of the Program of Institutional Development for Non-Governmental Environmental Organizations of the Azov Region, which united four NGO of the region to create a regional cluster of local public organizations in order to increase participation in the process of formation and implementation local environmental policy. The project was financed by the international charitable organization ACTED in the amount of 10 thousand dollars, which has been present in Ukraine since 2015 and focuses its activities on the extraordinary, long-term needs of vulnerable, marginalized groups. Over the past two years, ACTED has expanded its activities to the regions of Kharkiv, Kherson regions and the coast of the Sea of Azov. In 2021, ACTED with a staff of 150 local employees, with the support of international partners, successfully implemented a dozen projects for a total amount of 14 million euros [11].

In the framework of cooperation, in addition to financing the purchase of modern measuring equipment and the direct implementation of the project, an assessment of the NGO potential was carried out, personal recommendations were provided for the institutional growth, (from which grant application was submitted) and the implementation of completely new components of the development of the public organization began, namely: Code of Ethics for NGO; Regulations on prevention of corruption and fraud

in NGO; Regulations on the procedure for approval (authorization) of contracts and financial documents in NGO; Regulations on NGOs document circulation; Recruitment, management and capacity building policy in NGO; Procurement procedure for NGO. On our opinion, the specified development components are mandatory for implementation by NGO that seeks to receive financial support for its own initiatives, to cooperate with international organizations, international charitable foundations, and EU institutions in the implementation of common policies.

Provided that the above conditions are met, in a crisis situation, a local NGO has every chance to institutionally grow into a NGO of nationwide, international influence, or even become an analytical center. As an example, we can cite the previous NGO from which the author submitted a grant application and implemented the project “Youth of Pryazov chooses clean water bodies”, which in a crisis situation for the country became the only NGO that carried out professional environmental monitoring and identification of environmental damage, evidence from military operations on the Pryazov territory, National Parks.

“Environmental monitoring and collecting evidence of war crimes against the environment of the Pryazov region” – example of the foreign supporting Ukrainian NGOs in a crisis period and financing environmental projects with all-Ukrainian and European importance. Obtaining verified data from the state authorities of the mentioned above territories are called into question. Thanks to the developed project, environmental monitoring of water bodies in the territories and objects of the Nature Reserve Fund of the Azov region ensured, and military crimes against the environment of the Azov region, Zaporizhzhia region are professionally recorded. Therefore, with the financial support of the Commission (representing the European Union) and the Public Organization “Initiative Center for the Promotion of Activity and Development of the Public Initiative “Ednannia”, the work of the local environmental and public organization has an all-Ukrainian and international dimension. The Guardian: Dead dolphins: how nature became another casualty of the Ukraine war [12].

A pressure group, or interest group so to say, can take many forms, and they originate with different intentions. Great or small, legislation or Treaty, or an exemption on whatever sort of rule, the incentive isn’t restricted to certain purposes. A substantial literature suggests that NGOs are important actors in shaping the environmental policy agenda at the international as well as the domestic level. Domestic NGOs even bypass the often-constraining domes-

tic structures and organize international influence to counter national governments [13, p. 382-402]. Thus, in our project, using already implemented EU public policy instruments, local NGO actually performs certain functions of state bodies and has institutionalized grown into an analytical center with the perspective working on the topic of “environmental diplomacy” – on the foreign level to present the actual ecological data of environmental monitoring, identification of evidence of war crimes on the territory, objects of the nature reserve fund of Pryazov region, and other regions as well.

Conclusions. Measures to ensure regions and territorial communities sustainability in Ukraine are fragmented and disordered. At the same time, NGO and their regional clusters are able to provide up-to-date information and advisory assistance in the formation and implementation of environmental policy at the local level. Establishing cooperation with international organizations and charitable foundations NGO requires some institutional changes, which will open up opportunities for their own institutional growth and obtaining additional funding for their own projects. Based on the results of a dissertation research on theme «NGO activities in the process of formation and implementation environmental policy of the European Union: experience for Ukraine» a project

application «Pryazov Youth choose clean water» was developed and received funding from an international charity organization in \$ 10,000. In addition, for further cooperation at the international level, internal institutional changes were provided in NGO.

Today, financing of NGO in the field of environmental policy takes place exclusively with the participation of international organizations. In the regions of the East and South of Ukraine, individual NGOs partially perform the functions of state bodies, their regional clusters are able to provide verified environmental data, professional information and advisory assistance in the formation and implementation of environmental policy at the national and European levels.

In order to build a competitive NGO activity that will able to cooperate with international organizations, to participate in the formation of national and global environmental (natural resource) security, it is necessary to develop the following: NGOs members must be specialized experts in the chosen field of activity; NGO must specialize in the problems of a specific region; to use modern, certified equipment when performing specialized tasks; implement internal policies, development standards for NGO.

Thus, NGO will be able to use all available tools of public policy in the formation and implementation of regional, national and EU policies.

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Порєва В.О. УЧАСТЬ ГРОМАДСЬКИХ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЙ В ФОРМУВАННІ ТА РЕАЛІЗАЦІЇ ДЕРЖАВНОЇ ЕКОЛОГІЧНОЇ ПОЛІТИКИ ІЗ ЗАСТОСУВАННЯМ ІНСТРУМЕНТІВ ПУБЛІЧНОЇ ПОЛІТИКИ ЄС (експеримент – на прикладі власного грантового проекту)

У статті досліджено проблематику участі громадських організацій в формуванні та реалізації екологічної політики як в теоретичному аспекті, так і в прикладній сфері. Проаналізовано історію ЄС в контексті взаємодії громадських організацій в сфері екологічної політики. Встановлено наслідки відсутності вибудови екологічного врядування в Україні як цілісного механізму. Визначено основні проблеми та умови інституційного розвитку громадської організації, які забезпечать ефективну діяльність в умовах інтеграції до ЄС. На підставі дисертаційних напрацювань автором було розроблено грантову заявку, отримано кошти на реалізацію проекту від міжнародної благодійної організації, який реалізовано локальною громадською організацією на території України із застосуванням окремих інструментів публічної політики ЄС. З теоретичних напрацювань дисертаційного дослідження протестовано наступні інструменти публічної політики (в якості експеримента): Практично орієнтований – спрямований на набуття нових знань та навичок збору екологічних даних у польових умовах, з використанням сучасного вимірювального обладнання; Екологічна журналістика – навчити основам маркетингу в соціальних мережах, ознайомити з видами презентацій для різних цільових груп; Екологічна публічна політика на місцевому рівні – розвиток навичок проведення креативної адвокаційної кампанії за участю школярів, молоді, громадськість, науковці, представники органів місцевого самоврядування, бізнесу. Для побудови конкурентоспроможної діяльності громадської організації, яка зможе брати участь у формуванні та реалізації національної та глобальної екологічної (природно-ресурсної) політики, необхідно розробити наступне: члени громадської організації мають бути профільними експертами в обраній сфері діяльності; громадська організація має спеціалізуватися на проблемах конкретного регіону; використовувати при виконанні спеціалізованих завдань сучасне, сертифіковане обладнання; громадська організація має впроваджувати ряд внутрішніх політик, розробляти стандарти для ефективної комунікації з іноземними фондами; громадськими організаціями. За результатами теоретичних напрацювань та практичних результатів надано рекомендації громадським організаціям в рамках власного інституційного розвитку для забезпечення стресостійкості до зовнішніх чинників та забезпечити ефективне співробітництво з міжнародними організаціями, інституціями ЄС та світу.

Ключові слова: громадська організація, публічна політика, екологічна політика, місцева політика, ЄС, інституційний розвиток.