

## POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC ASPECTS OF THE QUALITY OF LIFE

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**Key words and phrases:** concept of life; economic aspects of the quality of life; economic development of the country.

**Abstract:** Problems of economic development and society growth are considered, political and economic aspects of the quality of life are analyzed.

The process of orientation to the quality of goods and service which started in XX century was transformed to the process of creating the quality systems for all aspects of life of the society. Viability and competitiveness of the countries in the world market was checked by the quality factor. In Russia 1990s were the period of formation shift, which had regressive character in many respects. On the one hand, the country returned to the way of the capitalist development; its forms compared to the world economy current state have historical analogies far back in the past: Russia entered the stage of initial accumulation of the capital – the phase of development which Europe went through in XVII–XIX centuries, America – at the turn of the XX-th centuries, and the majority of developing countries – in 1940–1960-s. On the other hand, the features of present-day world economy put Russia, which was strongly weakened by revolutionary processes of the beginning of 1990 both economically, and politically, in the position of developing countries. Today the quality of education, public health services as well as the quality of the national institutions and the legal basis of their functioning, i.e. everything that makes quality of life and the state, causes concern [1].

The complicated economic situation in the country can be overcome on the basis of the development of the coordinated strategy of the majority of businesses which determine the conditions and the direction of social and economic development with regard for both economic and social factors, including the one of the society survival in the period of system economic crisis.

Historical experience shows that in many countries the recovery from the crisis began with the attention to quality. By means of the state policy directed

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to quality, large-scale crises in post-war Japan and Germany were overcome. The crisis situations which occurred in the late eighties – the beginning of 1990s forced many countries like Sweden, the USA, and England to focus on quality as a unique means helping the national economy to resist the influence of competitors. Having studied the world experience of struggle against crises, it is possible to find out a common feature in actions on national economy rescue: Almost always and everywhere, where the success was reached, orientation to quality of life was observed. Almost always and everywhere reformers considered national traditions and features of economy of the country, national character of the people, historical experience and supported its economic and legal mechanism [3]. Such mechanism should define priorities in the field of social and economic management and provide high quality of life of the majority of the population of the country.

The quality of life is a complicated system of interrelation and interaction of the most significant factors having both positive and negative influence on the result, and characterizing the process of maintenance and improvement of the quality of life. At the same time the concept of the quality of life has a long history, and throughout many decades it has excited and occupied the minds of progressive mankind: philosophers, economists, sociologists, political scientists, biologists, ecologists, etc. The principles of achieving high quality have been known for a long time. Although the aspiration to perfection and improvement of the surrounding world is not always distinctly understood, it has always been a real-life need of many people. The degree of satisfaction of this need can be neither zero, nor absolute. In this connection it is possible to assert that quality is a constant human need. Quality has always been a single and unique objective of a human being. A person suffers from poor quality and gets satisfaction from high quality achieved both at work and in private life, where he doesn't receive and doesn't expect to receive means to provide his living.

This tendency is inherent in the nature of a man: a human body regulates physiological condition so that the quality of this condition is extremely good. When the organism achieves this, the person is healthy. The person also makes efforts to increase of degree of satisfaction of his physical and social needs, in other words, the conformity of the degree to certain requirements i.e. quality. But not everyone can improve the quality of life. According to R. Sperry, the paradox of today's position is that practically everything that provides the best life and mankind prosperity for a short-term period, accelerates and aggravates its final falling, and leads to its disappearance [4]. Human factors are becoming the key to the solution of the dilemma. In fact, the requirements are aimed at the improvement of the quality of life, while the satisfaction of these requirements as a result leads to deterioration of this quality.

The result of all efforts of a person is the quality of life, which is a more complicated concept than “quality”. Let's look at the scientists' interpretation of the concept of life [2].

Life is the greatest value of human existence. Any person wants to live according to his inner world. A well-known ancient formula “the person is a measure of all things” in modern conditions gets new sounding “a spiritually developed person understanding his true essence, is a measure of the quality of life”. The modern world faces a choice: either to follow a sensible and

reasonable way of evolution determined by the quality of life, or to have a consumer-based approach to life, which manifests itself in animal-like attitude to the nature and himself.

Mathematician A.A. Lyapunov in the middle of the XX-th century wrote: life can be described as characterize as highly stable condition of matter using the information coded by separate molecules for the development of reactions. Today such understanding of life i.e. as the phenomenon connected with the processing of the information is considered as a standard. Therefore the quality of life is interconnected with the quality of information processing [5].

The Russian philosopher of the XIX century, V.S. Solovev, formulated the concept “life”, as a way of existence in which the variety of parts and the forms of the given whole are closely connected by the unity which is inside this whole, rather than introduced from the outside. The meaning of life is determined by the fact that both the unity of parts and the expediency of movements have the internal basis in the human being so that external influences can encourage and motivate to live but not be the only source of life. This understanding of life is very similar to cybernetic approach in spite of the fact that scientists of those times didn't know anything about the role of the information connecting parts of the whole into a single whole [6].

The Russian philosopher of the beginning of the XX century, P.A. Florensky, the priest, the graduate of physical and mathematical faculty of Moscow University had a different approach: “I don't know whether there is the truth or not. But I feel that I cannot without it. And I know that it means a lot to me: it is mind, kindness, power, life and happiness” [7].

There are various approaches to the definition of the quality of life. Some scientists focus on its physical, social and political conditions of human existence. Others concentrate on the meaning and importance of life. Having said this, it is possible to come to a conclusion that the quality of life is a set of individual characteristics corresponding to the requirements. As a rule, life requirements of different people vary. They include not only the requirements of the society, the way of life, but also the requirements of the nature, its laws which inevitably influence human life.

The latest studies suggest that the economic category “the quality of life of the population” can be defined as “a set of characteristics of living conditions of the population generated in mass consciousness”.

The problems of economic development of the society, its economic growth has always been of great interest and had the central place in the present-day science and practice. This results from the fact that the economic growth is one of the components of the economic development of the countries, regions, and the main objective of the society. Today the improvement of well-being of the population is under constant attention of the Government of Russian Federation, and local authorities. The human right for the quality of life is stated in the legal documents of Russian Federation.

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## **Политический и экономический аспекты качества жизни**

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**Ключевые слова и фразы:** понятие жизни; экономические аспекты качества жизни; экономическое развитие страны.

**Аннотация:** Рассмотрены проблемы экономического развития и роста общества, проанализированы политический и экономический аспекты качества жизни.

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