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# APPROACHES TO THE FORMATION OF CIVIL-PATRIOTIC POSITION OF FUTURE OFFICERS

Abstract. The aim of the article is to analyze the essence of the civic and patriotic position of future officers and to outline approaches to its formation. The following research methods are used: a comprehensive comparative analysis of psychological, pedagogical and methodological literature on the research problem; interpretation of basic concepts; generalization, prognostic analysis to identify ways to ensure the effectiveness of promoting the formation of patriotic characteristics through different methods. In order to identify the essence of the civic and patriotic position of future officers, the concepts of «citizenship» and «patriotism» are considered. It is established that the origins of civic and patriotic education are contained in the peculiarities of social development at different stages of history. The importance of patriotism grows in those historical periods when the objective tendencies of development of a society are accompanied by increasing tension of forces of its citizens. Patriotism is a creative act of spiritual self-determination. This is a conscious civic position - a special focus on self-realization and social behavior of the citizen. Traditional approaches to the interpretation of patriotism among scholars and practitioners are presented. The article states that the Program of patriotic upbringing of children and students comprises the love for the Motherland of a Ukrainian patriot combined with faith in it. It is defined that the axiological approach as important one for studying the formation of the civic and patriotic position of future officers. Patriotism is a complex quality of a person that has a specific historical, socio-political, national character. Without national characteristics, patriotism becomes abstract-bureaucratic, most official. We defined the structure of patriotism, which consists of: a factor in choosing a military profession; the criterion of professional suitability; social responsibility for the protection of the interests of the Motherland and the peoples inhabiting it. The article states that it is necessary to have the appropriate knowledge and skills, as well as demanding, critical attitude to their own patriotic knowledge and skills. The criteria of patriotism are love, loyalty and service to the Motherland, concern for the integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine, care for its constant development on the path of democratic national revival, promotion of harmonization of state, social and personal interests in everyday life. The educational environment of a higher military educational institution should promote the formation of these characteristics through the use of various forms and methods. The civic and patriotic position of future officers is manifested in loyalty to military duty, in selfless devoted service to the Motherland. A set of approaches to its solution is proposed: axiological, personality-oriented, historical, culturological.

**Key words:** civic-patriotic position; citizenship; patriotism; civic-patriotic education; civic values; methods of education; future officers.

**Introduction.** At the present stage of the development of the society, much attention is paid to the education of moral qualities of future soldiers. The urgency of forming their civic and patriotic position is due to the objective necessity of the current socioeconomic situation and military-political situation in the country, because the readiness of young people to defend the interests of Ukraine, to present themselves as citizens and patriots, to have a positive attitude to the Armed Forces and services in them.

Considerable attention is paid to civic and patriotic education in the works of Ukrainian scholars (I.Bekh, M.Boryshevsky, M.Dushek [2], S.Goncharenko [1], P.Ignatenko [3], Y.Kamenyuk [5], O.Kobernik, V.Kuz [6], O.Palamarchuk, O.St`opina [9], Y.Syavavko [10], Y.Yivzhenko [4] etc.). The comprehensive analysis of scholars' point on view is provided in the research methodologys.

However, the research on the formation of civic and patriotic position of future officers is almost unexplored.

The purpose of the article is to analyze the essence of the civic and patriotic position of future officers and to outline approaches to its formation. **Research methods** used: comprehensive comparative analysis of psychological, pedagogical and methodological literature on the research problem; interpretation of basic concepts; generalization, prognostic analysis to identify ways to ensure the effectiveness of promoting the formation of patriotic characteristics through different methods.

**Research Methodology.** In revealing the essence of the civic-patriotic position of future officers, considerable attention is paid to the concepts of «citizenship» and «patriotism».

The multidimensionality of the concept of «citizenship» determines the different positions of scientists on its understanding. Citizenship is defined as the state of consciousness of an individual, the informal attitude of the citizen to the state, emphasizing that if citizenship is granted, then citizenship is nurtured [2, p.183]. Citizenship encompasses internal freedom and respect for state power, a sense of self-esteem and a culture of interethnic communication [3, p. 16].

Y.Yevzhenko defined the feeling of citizenship as a set of emotions of an individual, which fixes the patriotic attitude to the state, its needs and norms of public life, to its symbols, culture, language, history, which is reflected in public actions, aimed at vital interests and human rights, and affects the change of the social environment, in accordance with current social problems [4, p.114].

S.Honcharenko noted that citizenship is an integrative quality that allows an individual to feel legally, socially, morally and politically capable. The main elements of citizenship include moral and legal culture, which is expressed in a sense of self-worth, inner freedom, discipline, respect and trust in other citizens

and in public authorities, able to perform their duties, in a harmonious combination of patriotic, national and international feelings [5, p.75].

There have traditionally been different approaches to the interpretation of patriotism among scholars and practitioners. The dictionary Ukrainian Pedagogic Dictionary by *S*. Goncharenko states that patriotism is love for the Motherland, devotion to it, readiness to serve its interests, to make self-sacrifice. Patriotism is manifested in practical activities aimed at the comprehensive development of the country, the protection of its interests. The education of patriotism begins with the education of love for the native language, culture of the people and its traditions, respect for family relics associated with labor and military aspects of life of ancestors, close relatives, countrymen [1, p.244].

The Program of patriotic upbringing of children and students states that the love for the Motherland of a Ukrainian patriot is combined with faith in it, in its avocation, a wonderful future that will surely happen. A true patriot, guided by the living experience and heroic past of the people, believes that a person will cope with his or her historical trials and come out of them stronger and more spiritual. However, a conscious patriot sees not only the spiritual beauty of people, but also their weaknesses, mistakes and imperfections, understands that there are dark, difficult pages in the history of the Motherland. Loving your people does not mean flattering them or hiding your weaknesses from them, but honestly and courageously exposing them and fighting them. This is a manifestation of civic courage. National pride should not degenerate into complacency [8].

Patriotism is a complex and multifaceted concept, one of the most important components of an individual and social lifestyle. At the personal level, patriotism is a priority stable characteristic of a person, which is manifested in the consciousness, moral ideals and values, in real behavior and actions. This is a normal moral state of human life. It is manifested not only in unusual situations, but in the daily performance of work by an individual, which benefits for both people and society. Thus, the subject – the bearer of patriotism – is the person himself. Thanks to her creative work, love, devotion, a sense of patriotism is developed [8, p.3–34].

Patriotism is one of the most significant, unchanging values that is inherent in all spheres of society and the state, expresses the attitude of an individual to the homeland and characterizes the highest level of its development in the process of activity for the benefit of the Motherland [10, p.160]. The feeling of patriotism is still the highest moral value and the most convincing content of military service in the Armed Forces, the service in other structures of the defence and security sector of the state, which should be attractive, prestigious, competitive in the labor market [5, p.227].

Patriotism is a creative act of spiritual selfdetermination. This is a conscious civic position – a special focus on self-realization and social behavior of the citizen. In the event of a threat to national security, patriotism is manifested in the readiness to serve Ukraine, to stand up for it, in the recognition of the priority of public and state interests over personal ones. This understanding is fundamental to understanding the essence of this phenomenon in the context of building an independent state [7, p.31-32]. The criteria of patriotism are love, loyalty and service to the Motherland, concern for the integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine, care for its constant development on the path of democratic national revival, promotion of harmonization of state, social and personal interests in everyday life. Therefore, the *axiological approach* is important for studying the formation of the civic and patriotic position of future officers. Patriotism is a complex quality of a person that has a specific historical, socio-political, national character. Without national characteristics, patriotism becomes abstract-bureaucratic, official [6].

**Results.** At the personal level, a patriot is characterized by such traits as a stable worldview, moral ideals, compliance with norms of behavior. At the public level, patriotism can be understood as the desire to strengthen the importance of their state, increase its authority in the world community, protect its sovereignty and integrity. A patriot loves his homeland not because it gives him some benefits and privileges over other nations, but because it is the homeland.

O.Stepina defined the structure of patriotism, which consists of the following components:

1) spiritual and moral (sense of love for the Motherland, moral responsibility for it, a sense of spiritual connection with their people);

2) cognitive (comprehensive knowledge of history and culture of the Motherland, patriotic consciousness);

3) value (the need for internalization of the system of spiritual, moral and cultural national and universal values, among which patriotism occupies a proper place);

4) activity (readiness to act for the benefit of the country, to defend its interests, to protect them, etc.);

5) identification: ethnic self-identification (tolerant attitude to representatives of other nations on the basis of positive ethnic self-identification); national identification (national dignity, sense of belonging to the nation, positive attitude towards compatriots); citizenship (need for proper performance of civic duties) [9].

Patriotism harmoniously combines the best national traditions of the Ukrainian people with devotion to the Motherland and readiness to defend it. In this context, it is reasonable to think that patriotism is a professional quality of the military people. It is part of the structure of their personal qualities, therefore the development of patriotism is not limited to educational activities, but contains special models of systems, social and pedagogical mechanisms, technologies, values, theoretical principles and material resources. For the military people, patriotism, in addition to the above mentioned, is:

a) a factor in choosing a military profession;

b) the criterion of professional suitability;

c) social responsibility for the protection of the interests of the Motherland and the peoples inhabiting it.

All these qualities and personality traits interact closely with each other. Weakening of the effectiveness of one of the elements of this system leads to the weakening of the entire system of patriotic qualities and to failures in this system. Thus, patriotism is not just a «feeling», «devotion to ideals» or «activity aimed at serving the interests of their Motherland.» The spirit of patriotism is a universal moral ethos. It underlies any national military system, otherwise, it has no value.

Patriotism is a socio-historical phenomenon and is the factor that determines the social essence of mankind. After all, each person, and even the social group has its own specific interests, and this determines its understanding of patriotism [5, p.224].

The origins of civic and patriotic education are contained in the peculiarities of social development at different stages of history. The importance of patriotism grows in those historical periods when the objective tendencies of development of a society are accompanied by increasing tension of forces of its citizens. For centuries, patriotism has played an important integrative function, uniting peoples (nations) and states in the fight

against external aggression. Therefore, historical and culturological approaches are important for the study of the formation of the civic and patriotic position of future officers.

In our opinion, the civic and patriotic position of future officers is identification with a citizen of the state in which he lives and protects, acceptance of civic (democratic) values, fulfillment of civic and professional duties, personal self-development (intellectual, physical), realization of civil rights (participation in public activities), concern for security and development of the country. It is important to consider the civic and patriotic position not only through the prism of fulfillment of norms and responsibilities, but also as an opportunity to exercise rights as a citizen of a democratic society.

An important international document for defining a civic and patriotic position is the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education (Recommendation CM / Rec (2010) 7, adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 11 May 2010 by 47 Council of Europe member states) [11]. The concept of education for democratic citizenship means education, training, awareness-raising, information, practices and activities aimed at the transfer of knowledge, development of skills and understanding and the formation of their attitudes and behavior that will allow greater use of democratic rights and responsibilities in society and to protect them, to value diversity and to play an active role in democratic life, in order to uphold and protect democracy and the rule of law. The document states that education for democratic citizenship focuses on democratic rights, responsibilities and active participation in the social, political, social, economic, legal and cultural spheres of society. The Charter obliges Member States to include education for democratic citizenship and human rights education in formal education curricula at pre-primary, primary and secondary school levels, as well as in general and vocational education and training. Member States should also continue to support, review and update the content of education for democratic citizenship and human rights education in these curricula to ensure their relevance and contribute to the sustainable development of the field.

An active civic and patriotic position of future officers involves the formation of their own hierarchy of values, the ability to defend their rights, beliefs, awareness of their responsibilities, tolerance of other people's views, guided in the manifestation of social and civic activities by democratic principles. The formation of civic and patriotic position is facilitated by social experience, which consists of practical skills of participation in public life and the level of development of civic and patriotic qualities of an individual.

Criteria for the formation of civic and patriotic position are: civic and patriotic responsibility, civic and patriotic competence, civic and patriotic qualities and values, civic and patriotic activity, the ability to social interaction. Indicators of the formation of civic and patriotic position of future officers are the implementation of acquired civic knowledge, their own rights, freedoms and responsibilities; initiative; ability to self-actualization and leadership; ability to make independent choices and decisions; motivated official activity

**Discussion.** Thus, based on the analysis of modern scientific research, we note that the civic and patriotic position of future officers is manifested in loyalty to military duty, in selfless dedicated service to the Motherland. Given the view that patriotism at the level of being is a complex integrative quality of personality, which consists of components that express emotional, intellectual and activity spheres, we note that the process of formation of patriotism contains a set of knowledge about the Motherland, a sense of love for it and active work aimed at its prosperity. In order to carry out the will of the nation by someone's activity, one desire or conviction alone is not enough. It is necessary to have the appropriate knowledge and skills, as well as demanding, critical attitude to their own patriotic knowledge and skills. The educational environment of a higher military educational institution should promote the formation of these characteristics through the use of various forms and methods. Therefore, a personality-oriented approach is important for studying the formation of the civic and patriotic position of future officers. A set of approaches to its solution is proposed: axiological, historical, culturological approaches.

**Conclusions.** The essence of the civic and patriotic position of future officers is established on the basis of the analysis of the concepts of «citizenship» and «patriotism». It is established that the origins of civic and patriotic education are contained in the peculiarities of social development at different stages of history. The importance of patriotism grows in those historical periods when the objective tendencies of development of a society are accompanied by increasing tension of citizens' strenghth. The civic and patriotic position of future officers is manifested in loyalty to military duty, in selfless devoted service to the Motherland. A set of approaches to its solution is proposed: axiological, personality-oriented, historical, culturological.

**Prospects for further research.** A further direction of scientific research on this issue is seen in the construction of a model of formation of civic and patriotic position of future officers.

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## ПІДХОДИ ДО ФОРМУВАННЯ ГРОМАДЯНСЬКО-ПАТРІОТИЧНОЇ ПОЗИЦІЇ МАЙБУТНІХ ОФІЦЕРІВ

Анотація. Метою статті є запропонувати комплекс підходів щодо її вирішення: аксіологічний, особистісно орієнтований, історичний, культурологічний. Використовуються наступні методи дослідження: комплексний порівняльний аналіз психолого-педагогічної та методичної літератури з проблеми дослідження; інтерпретація основних понять; узагальнення, прогностичний аналіз тощо. З метою виявлення сутності громадянсько-патріотичної позиції майбутніх офіцерів розглянуто поняття «громадянськості» та «патріотизму». Встановлено, що витоки громадянсько-патріотичного виховання містяться в особливостях суспільного розвитку на різних етапах історії. Значення патріотизму зростає у ті історичні періоди, коли об'єктивні тенденції розвитку суспільства супроводжуються підвищенням напруження сил його громадян. Патріотизм є творчим актом духовного самовизначення особистості. Це свідома громадянська позиція – особлива спрямованість самореалізації і соціальної поведінки громадянина. Критеріями патріотизму є любов, вірність і служіння Батьківщині, турбота про забезпечення цілісності і суверенітету України, піклування про її постійний розвиток на шляху демократичного національного відродження, сприяння гармонізації державних, суспільних та особистісних інтересів у повсякденному житті. Освітнє середовище вищого військового навчального закладу має сприяти формуванню цих характеристик через використання різноманітних форм і методів. Громадянсько-патріотична позиція майбутніх офіцерів виявляється у вірності військовому обов'язку, у самовідданій службі Батьківщині.

Ключові слова: громадянсько-патріотична позиція; громадянськість; патріотизм; громадянсько-патріотичне виховання; громадянські цінності; методи виховання; майбутні офіцери.