

## **E-DEMOCRACY. POSSIBILITY OF USING IN UKRAINE**

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Electronic democracy is any democratic political system in which computers and computer networks are used to carry out the most important functions of the democratic process, such as disseminating information and communication, uniting the interests of citizens and making decisions (through consultation and voting). In many Western studies, the main goal of e-democracy is to raise the level of political participation. Analysis of the role of the Internet as a guarantor of democracy is one of the most promising directions in political theory. Modern information technologies are not only the form of the implementation of democratic procedures, but also the essence of the development of social processes. The classical concept of democracy proceeds from the postulate: democracy is based on the common interest of the majority of citizens, forming their common will. Nevertheless, in the postindustrial society the former forms of solidarity are disintegrating, giving rise to some forms of pluralization of positions and interests. The differentiation of representations, principles, values, norms of behavior, fragmenting civil society, prevents achieving the degree of agreement necessary for the democratic management of society. The end of XX century marked the transition from "a policy of interests and goals" to "a policy of values." Modern political science proceeds from the premise that "old politics" is "party politics", parties of the old type, based on class criteria, on the interests of social groups, division of the party spectrum into "left" and "right" is gradually disappearing. New social movements and new social practices come to their place, including in the system of representation, the "participation democracy" is spreading, again the task of expanding the application of "direct democracy" was on the agenda. An important role in this process is played by the Internet. The key question in assessing the role of information technology for democracy is how much government and civil society will learn to use the opportunities provided by new channels of information and communication to promote and strengthen the basic representative institutions that unite citizens and the state. With this consideration, the opportunities for public participation created through new technologies are certainly important, but the Internet is capable of generating information, enhancing transparency, openness of activities and responsibility of national and international authorities, as well as strengthening channels for interactive communication between citizens and intermediary institutions. These are special functions, and the Internet implements some of them better than any other means. In particular, the Internet could provide more appropriate means for engaging minority parties in political campaigns than traditional mass media (newspapers, radio, television); to provide a broader one-time access to information for journalists to official documents and current legislative initiatives

and proposals. Rapid dissemination of the Internet provides the opportunity for rapid access of an unlimited number of people to the texts of draft laws at the stage of their preliminary development, as well as to the maximum volume of non-classified analytical information. By reducing the costs of receiving and transmitting information, a group of people who have the opportunity to participate in the development and adoption of politically significant decisions, significantly increases - potentially to the level of the entire politically active population. As a result, the prerequisites are created for a gradual reduction in the acute perceived inequality of political opportunities for citizens of formally democratic states, predetermined by inequality in the distribution of property and income. Nevertheless, it would be completely unreasonable to leave the problems associated with the dangers and risks of e-democracy without scientific analysis, in particular the danger of manipulating voting and election data due to a lack of sufficient data protection, the danger of dividing society into those who own information, (digital division), and as a consequence, infringement of the principle of choice democracy, there is also the danger of propaganda of criminal and extremist groups and their influence, especially on young people. The debate on e-democracy has shifted in recent years towards discussing e-government projects. In the Ukrainian case, e-government means, first and foremost, increasing the effectiveness of state control over citizens in the areas of tax collection, combating crime, etc. The Western approach implies, in addition to facilitating communication, strengthening citizens' control over the government, which is primarily due to the introduction public performance indicators of the latter. It is important to note that if informatization is rapidly developing "at the top" without penetrating into society, it deprives citizens of the opportunity to monitor the activities of state structures, to check them, which means that not only does the state make it more transparent, but it can also strengthen the government's monopoly on information. Electronically "from above" will thus give the ruling elite additional opportunities for manipulating society and individuals. The greatest prospects in Ukraine have the process of using Internet technologies to further expand the existing system of representative democracy and the development of "e-democratization" processes. Its main purpose is to use the Internet to increase the access of voters and media representatives to lawmaking, reduce the costs of forming associations and associations of voters, improve the effectiveness of feedback between voters and their representatives in the legislature. For Ukraine, the problem of the "new despotism", that is, sophisticated refined forms of manipulating society with the help of modern communication technologies, mass culture, and the political process is also topical. "New despotism" does not resort to open violence, suppression of individual rights. The structure of liberal democracy is preserved, but its content (the function of civil will) is emasculated. Thus, B. Barber points out that "new technologies can become a dangerous conductor of tyranny ...", and thus "new despotism" is able to bring people's lives beyond the framework of political life. Technology, therefore, can change the methods of regulation, but does not change their essence, and the dependence of the

emergence of information openness as a consequence of the electrification of relations between citizens and state institutions can not be called direct. The introduction of "e-democracy" is not able to make the police state more open, but it allows to improve the system of expression of will and increase the political participation of each member of society in cases of healthy functioning of a particular political system.

### **References**

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## **KHARKIV AS HISTORICAL PLATFORM FOR ‘SMALL CITIZEN’ SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE FORMATION**

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In different historical epochs the attitude towards the child was not the same. Economic growth and development of scientific thought in the world influenced the awareness of the child as a separate social and age category in the second half of the 19th – beginning of the 20th centuries. The value of children's life increased, so the problem of high infant mortality became one of the basic concerns for medicine. The public and city government of Kharkiv also realized the importance of ensuring the special needs of small citizens, which became the necessary impetus to the formation of social infrastructure for children in the second half of the 19th – early 20th centuries.

The social infrastructure for children included children's hospitals, social care, educational institutions as well as circuses, theaters, toys and children's clothing stores. The purpose of the research is to identify the most and least developed areas of social infrastructure for children in Kharkiv. Comparative analysis, cartographic and statistical methods constituted the main methodology applied in the study.

Orphanages and educational institutions made up the only institutions for children in the late 18th – first half of the 19th centuries. While there was one orphanage for children within the first half of the 19th century in Kharkiv, at the end of the 19th century there were as many as 21 institutions. It should be pointed out that formation of a network of pre-school institutions in Kharkiv began in 1889.

The sphere of public education in Kharkiv was one of the most developed across the whole Russian Empire. In the city there were 111 primary schools and