

## **DEFINITION OF THE SUBJECT AREA AND THE PROBLEMS OF THE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION THEORY**

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Public administration, also "state and municipal administration", in the interpretation widespread in Ukraine, is a scientific direction that has its own related, but relatively autonomous research areas: state management, i.e. operational and administrative aspects of the functioning of state bodies, including the civil service; analytics of government programs and public policy, including strategic planning, regulatory impact assessment; interaction between the state and citizens (public affairs), including lobbying and business relations with state and municipal bodies (government relations). Public administration, combining the activities of state, municipal, non-governmental (non-profit) organizations, actually represents a public-state system for the implementation of national and local interests and the production of public goods. Of particular importance is the level of feedback, the social level of execution of managerial decisions, where of interest are: 1) interest groups (public funds, trade unions, ethnic, youth and other organizations with specific interests, parliamentary lobbies, etc.); 2) relations directly with citizens (taxation, legislative and law enforcement practice, preparation and implementation of social programs); 3) relationship with commercial enterprises (their legal regulation, public-private partnership, etc.).

Since public administration is not only an administrative but also a political process, its systemic understanding includes the actions of formal and informal factors involved in the process of making and implementing decisions. In the world social science, two main approaches to understanding the place and content of the science of public administration among other social sciences initially existed and continue to be quite widespread. The first approach defines this area of humanitarian knowledge as a systemic combination of concepts and research tools developed by other sciences, necessary to recommend management practices. The second approach, while recognizing the role of other social sciences (political theory, economics, history, sociology, law), nevertheless believes that for about 150 years there has been a relatively young, but increasingly influential independent science, which has its own conceptual apparatus, its own concepts, their theorists, able to offer their recommendations to the practice of public administration. Moreover, this connection with practice is a distinctive feature of the science of public administration, when theoretical and expert knowledge act in close connection and are guided by the specific

needs of state, municipal and public organizations. Typical for this approach is the division of the theoretical area of public administration into general concepts of scientific management (organization theory, theories of motivation, administrative theory) and specific concepts focused specifically on the public sector (theory of bureaucracy, the concept of "new public management", the concept "Smart regulation", the network concept of public administration, the theory of public choice, etc.). However, the selection of the subject of this area of knowledge does not yet solve the general problem of its identification.

Recognizing the very fact of the existence of the science of public administration, some researchers proceed from the so-called "generalist" approach, considering it as a subdiscipline included in the general theoretical field of management (management science). It is argued that management as a general theory of management provides public administration with key concepts for the analysis of organizations and organizational behavior, without which it is impossible to study public administration issues at the micro level (the level of organizations).

Thus, modernity changes the main target, functional, structural principles of building public administration, implementing a paradigmatic shift in understanding its place and mission in the relationship between the state - the market - civil society. The old paradigm includes the bureaucratic model of public administration, the new paradigm includes the models of new public administration and the network. At the same time, in transit countries, the conceptual choice, perhaps, should be more guided by the national model of public administration, which is not an attempt to create a theoretical structure that is adjacent to the bureaucratic, managerial or network models. The national model of public administration is the definition of guidelines for the reform strategy: by means of the implementation of modern theoretical approaches, to develop an adaptive scenario of transformations to the needs of society, on the one hand, taking into account its national and historical characteristics, cultural potential, on the other, including channels for the gradual transplantation of advanced institutions and processes management that have shown their effectiveness in developed countries.

#### **References:**

1. Kupryashin G. L. Public management, 2016.