

THE STATE SYSTEM OF THE UKRAINIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC DURING THE DIRECTORY PERIOD

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The period of the Directory of the Ukrainian People's Republic was a significant time in the Ukrainian legal and political history. The government attempted to establish a democratic state system, but it faced many internal and external difficulties. The Directory of the Ukrainian People's Republic governed Ukraine from late 1918 to 1920, following the fall of the Hetmanate led by Pavlo Skoropadskyi. It was initially composed of five members: Volodymyr Vynnychenko (Chairman), Symon Petliura, Fedir Shvets, Andrii Makarenko, and Opanas Andriievskyi.

The study of the Ukrainian People's Republic's state system remains **relevant** because it helps to understand Ukraine's legal traditions and democratic aspirations. Modern Ukraine still refers to its past in shaping legal norms and governance. The **novelty** of this research lies in analyzing how legal acts adopted during the Directory period influenced the Ukrainian legal thought and comparing them with modern democratic principles.

The legal system of the Ukrainian People's Republic was based on several key acts. The most important was the Declaration of 1918, which declared the establishment of the Directory as the new executive power replacing Hetman Pavlo Skoropadskyi's regime. According to this act, the Directory was a collegial executive body responsible for state administration. Another important document was the Law on the Provisional Supreme Administration and the Order of Legislation in the Ukrainian People's Republic (1920), which established the legislative functions of the Directory and the role of the Labor Congress as the highest representative organ.

The Directory aimed at creating a *parliamentary republic* with democratic governance. However, due to the unstable political situation, including conflicts with the Bolsheviks, White Army, and Polish troops, the government had limited ability to implement stable laws. Despite this, it issued important decrees on land reform, social policy, and military organization. To ensure a broad representation of the Ukrainian population, the Directorate convened the Labor Congress, which functioned as a provisional legislative body. That congress was responsible for endorsing major policies.

Historians and legal scholars have studied the Directory's state system. M. Hrushevskyi analyzed its weaknesses and noted the lack of a strong constitutional framework. S. Shelukhyn, in his works on the Ukrainian constitutional law, discussed the legal aspects of state-building during that period. More recent studies

by modern scholars, such as O. Kopylenko, analyze the legal traditions of the Ukrainian People's Republic.

The Directory period of the Ukrainian People's Republic was a crucial moment in the Ukrainian legal history. The power of that phase left a noticeable mark in the history of Ukraine, especially in aspects of public administration, the legal system and national identity. Although the Directory did not exist for long, that experience remains important for understanding state-building processes and the modern struggle for independence. History is cyclical. Everything is repeated. Unfortunately, again.

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LEGAL AND MEDICAL CRITERIA OF INSANITY: CHARACTERISTICS AND CRIMINAL-AND-LEGAL SIGNIFICANCE

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The theory of the legal protection of insanity has evolved over hundreds of years. Indeed, even the Romans deemed it improper to impose criminal liability on the mentally ill. In the twelfth century, courts in Europe started searching for a definition of insanity to excuse defendants from criminal liability. In 1313, the first insanity defense, known as “the good and evil” test, appeared in English common law. The “good and evil” test embraced the idea that because mentally ill people