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CLASSIFICATION OF CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION ACTORS

On the basis of summarizing the current research methodology, concepts and theories, author's approach to the classification of actors of cross-border cooperation is formulated. This research can be applied to analyze the effects of international life and become a methodological basis for sociological research in the field of cross-border cooperation.

Keywords: *actor, cross-border cooperation, the state, civil society, international organizations, region.*

Despite the large number of publications on the subject of cross-border cooperation as a form of international cooperation and its impact on the political and social life of states and some of their regions, methodology and tools of such research are not sufficiently developed in modern domestic science. In particular, this applies to the classification of actors of cross-border cooperation. From the perspective of Ukrainian researcher V.I. Honin, building a model of international relations involves distinguishing typological differences of components of this multidimensional system, defining the nature of a number of structures that integrate it into wholeness, and considering their inherent mechanisms of interaction of subjects [6].

Therefore, the purpose of this paper is to determine basic definition of cross-border cooperation actors and their characteristics in order to clarify methodological design of social research in this area.

Famous French sociologist A. Touraine makes distinction between the concepts of “actor”, “subject” and “agent”. He emphasizes that “... to be a subject means to want to become an actor, that is to change one’s environment instead of remaining completely dependent on it” [7]. In international relations theory is also often used the term “player”, borrowed from intercommunicative sociology, supporters of which often give it an advantage over other terms to describe the actors included in the extensive network of global interdependence. Therefore, in literature are quite commonly used such terms as “game” (“game space”) and “stakes” (“stake” meaning a consent of “player” with the terms and rules of the game, and most importantly, his willingness to take risks in a situation of uncertainty in order to achieve his goals). Herewith, the terms “player” and “actor” are often used interchangeably. “The Game Space” - wrote the famous French sociologist - is “a set of options, in which various actors, in accordance with how they position themselves in the moment, on the basis of objectively existing options generate strategies that prompt them to make stakes” [7]. As for the most widespread in international relations theory term “international actor”, it refers to any actor who takes an active part in international processes. However, as noted A. Touraine, if the basic characteristic of a subject is his desire not “to be a pawn in the system”, the actor’s characteristic is his ability to act and actively change the environment. One of the main distinctions between the concepts of an actor and a subject is that the actor correlates to the strategy. Second distinction is that it is not related to intersubjectivity. Finally, the third distinction is that it is associated with the search for identity.

If we are to proceed to classification of cross-border cooperation actors, we can distinguish the following levels and their types.

1. National level (governmental institutions).

Conceptually, the process of regionalization takes place mostly at the national level and helps to strengthen sub-national relations, whilst the process of European integration takes place at the supranational level. However, these two processes are interrelated and at present time to some extent are in agreement, such as in achieving consensus, which provides adequate compensation to the interests of individual

participants, and is manifested in the convergence of agreements in the formation of the Common Economic, monetary union, as the needs of redistribution are also defined by regional policy [4].

It is the state that has a key role in the establishment and continuous improvement of conceptual frameworks, institutional mechanisms for the implementation of regional policy, as well as local implementation of programs and projects, because it represents national interests.

Commonality of legal framework, uniform prices and tariffs, free flow of goods and capital within a country are factors conducive to the spread of horizontal integration of reproduction processes on the basis of regional cooperation. Lack of administrative levers of influence on production and marketing orientation of enterprises, reinforces the importance of market control levers management of counterparties choice. Interregional cooperation relies on personal contacts of partners due to economic needs, aimed at establishing and deepening economic, social, scientific, technical, environmental, cultural and other relations between the regions [2]. Interregional cooperation is a tool for solving internal regional problems not based on competition to attract centralized financial resources, obtain budget subsidies and subventions or regional tax preferences, but on the efficient use of resources of the region. This reduces the burden on the state budget to address the issues of local, regional development.

2. International Organizations.

The modern theory of international relations have long departed from the interpretation of nation states as the only actors on the international scene. The very nation-state in the modern interpretation is a jurisdiction over a territory, political and administrative apparatus, and the state does not recognize any constitutional power higher than its own. [9] However, as some researchers note, although the concept of sovereignty and independence are often used as synonyms, there is still a difference between them. Sovereignty is primarily a legal concept, while independence is more of a political issue. Some scientists rush to draw conclusions about the decline of the role of states in the international arena, and about the reverse process of increasing impact and importance of non-state actors. Objective processes caused

the formation of new theories that seek to explain the new reality, in particular the theory of representatives of transnationalism - “complex interdependence” - R. Cohen and J. Nye.

If we use standard classification, all non-state actors can be classified into two categories: international intergovernmental organization (IGO) (non-state actors created by nation-states) and international non-governmental organization (NGO) (non-state actors created by a group of persons, business or other social agents). [8] IGO - is a voluntary association of sovereign states, formed to implement many of the purposes for which the states wish to cooperate within the formal structure, but which they can not implement themselves. Particularly active in creating IGO are stronger states wishing to protect their interests. IGO can be classified by an extent (global and regional) and functions (political, economic, social and environmental). IGO kind of complement national state and play an important role in providing funds for cooperation between political entities. Influence of IGO depends on the ability of member governments to use their own reserves and powers.

Non-governmental organizations are institutions that are formed by non-state actors, or at least one party of these organizations is not a state. There are many types of non-governmental organizations, including transnational organizations, those organized by the government, regulated by the government, business, civil society organizations, advocacy, and supposedly anti-governmental organizations. Their number is constantly increasing, and their impact on international politics is growing. NGOs, in turn, can be classified using the approach of M. Ataman who defines:

1) Multinationals (large corporations with branches and internal hierarchy that operate simultaneously in many countries);

2) National and ethnic movements (in areas that integrate many ethnic communities in one country, (which is relevant to the Carpathian region) ;

3) Epistemic communities (experts and scientists involved in the development of public policy and providing technical expertise to enhance international cooperation);

4) Religious and humanitarian organizations (Council of Europe, European Commission on Human Rights, Green Peace, Amnesty International and others);

5) Terrorist groups and structures engaged in illegal smuggling (of people, drugs, weapons, etc.) [8].

Thus, non-state actors of international relations play an important role in foreign policy and in decision-making of nation-states and significantly affect their foreign policy behavior, with the potential of lobby not only in domestic but also in international politics.

3. Regional institutional level.

Effective administrative structure not only at national but also at regional and local levels is a crucial condition for success of public-private partnerships. In the context of balanced sustainable development particularly important in the regional dimension is community sector (because it performs a social function), which has a significant proportion and acts as a multiplier of economic development and provider of jobs.

Economic growth and demographic changes both affect the communal needs for quality, quantity and allocation of resources.

Local and regional development has an impact on economic development and the labor market. Cross-border cooperation can ensure economic potential growth through information sharing and joint development projects in such areas as:

- Improvement of tourism infrastructure, development and implementation of joint projects;
- Development of rural space: development of agriculture and forestry, environmental protection, restoration of villages, development of crafts, services, tourism, sales of goods.
- Development of professional regional marketing;
- Development of cross-border regional planning as a basis for solving problems of cross-border infrastructure development and optimal use of public funds;
- Strengthening entrepreneurship, small and medium enterprises, supporting local employment initiatives;

- Adaptation of the labor market;
- Fundraising for education, culture, health [5, p. 315-316];

4. Civil Society.

Civil society is a complex and contradictory phenomenon. On the one hand, it is a historically changeable phenomenon that defies reductionist explanation, on the other hand - a process in which can be distinguished stable tendency towards the emancipation of man and transformation of patrial to citizen based on sustainable struggle for freedom and inviolability of human rights. Civil society unfolds under the conditions of circumstantial and acquired freedom. But most significant is the existential freedom of human self-determination, because it is most closely related to creative ethic of responsibility.

R. Dahrendorf defined three main features of civil society. The first feature he believed to be the diversity of its components, i.e. maximal polystructuring. Second is the existence of many autonomous organizations and institutions. Third is a specific “spirit” of the society, which he defined as civic consciousness [1].

Complementarity (or subsidiarity) is registered at the level of cooperation efforts, abilities and skills in social interactions and expressed in synergy or social order based on the manifestation of individual and group freedom of action. Component institution of complementarity is that it is performed in responsibility, that creates field of social and ethical interaction [3].

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На основании обобщения методологии существующих исследовательских концептов, теорий и подходов определена основная классификация актеров трансграничного взаимодействия, которая может служить моделью для анализа явлений международной жизни и быть методологической основой при проведении социологических исследований в области трансграничного сотрудничества.

Ключевые слова: актер, трансграничное сотрудничество, государство, гражданское общество, международные организации, регион.

On the basis of summary of existing research methodology concepts, theories and approaches defined the basic classification of cross-border cooperation of actors that can serve as a model for analyzing the phenomena of international life and be the methodology of sociological research in the field of cross-border cooperation.

Keywords: actor, cross-border cooperation, the government, civil society, international organizations, region.