

PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION IN UKRAINE'S POST-WAR RECOVERY

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Annotation. The article examines the challenges of Ukraine's post-war recovery, a complex process encompassing social, economic, infrastructural, and cultural dimensions. The successful implementation of this task depends on effective public administration, which ensures strategic planning and coordination among state, international, and civil institutions. Special attention is given to infrastructure restoration, financial management, integration of internally displaced persons, veterans, and the maintenance of social stability. Key components include economic development, innovation adoption, environmental safety, reintegration of liberated territories, and the preservation of cultural heritage. Emphasis is placed on the need for transparency, digitalization, and integration into European structures.

Key words: military aggression; infrastructure restoration; public governance and administration; social stability; citizen support.

1. Formulation of the problem.

The war in Ukraine has resulted in extensive destruction of residential and social infrastructure, economic degradation, and losses in the cultural and human capital sectors. The country's post-war recovery process represents a complex and multifaceted challenge requiring efficient public administration as the foundation for developing a long-term state development strategy. The success of this process largely depends on the capacity of state institutions to ensure strategic planning, coordinate the efforts of all stakeholders, secure international assistance, and implement effective oversight of its allocation.

A critical task is the creation of a recovery plan that accounts for the extent of the damage, regional specificities, and the needs of citizens. Inclusivity in decision-making, involving local self-government bodies, civil society, and international partners, can become a significant factor in achieving success. At the same time, financial, social, and economic issues related to reconstruction must be addressed, including creating favorable conditions for small and medium-sized enterprises, fostering innovation, and promoting environmentally sustainable development.

Significant challenges also arise in the reintegration of temporarily occupied territories, support for internally displaced persons, and ensuring social cohesion. The state must simultaneously address the consequences of information warfare, counter disinformation, and rebuild citizens' trust.

Thus, the challenge lies in identifying effective instruments and strategies for public administration capable of delivering comprehensive, transparent, and sustainable recovery for Ukraine after the war.

2. The state of elaboration of the problem.

The issue of Ukraine's recovery in the post-war period presents a relatively new challenge for the state. However, many scholars have already explored this topic. Among those who have studied this issue are Moroz Yu., Tverdokhlib Yu., Derkachenko Ya., Andriienko A., Tolyupa S., Parkhomenko I., Shtanenko S. and others.

3. The aim of the article is to investigate and identifying the main directions for reconstruction the state in the post-war period through various economic, legal, and managerial instruments. These instruments will enable the country to restore the process of improving the population's well-being and strengthening public governance institutions.

4. Presentation of the main material.

Ukraine's post-war recovery is a multidimensional process encompassing social, economic, infrastructural, and cultural aspects. The success of this process largely depends on the effectiveness of public administration, which must ensure strategic planning, coordination among state, international, and civil institutions, as well as the implementation of management decisions aimed at rebuilding the state.

Public administration plays a key role in forming a long-term vision for the country's development and fostering social cohesion during the post-war recovery phase [1].

One of the most critical areas of public administration after the war is strategic planning for infrastructure recovery. Military actions have caused extensive destruction to residential buildings, transportation networks, energy infrastructure, and socially significant facilities such as hospitals, schools, and cultural institutions. The task of public administration is to develop a priority recovery plan that considers regional specificities, the extent of the damage, and the needs of local communities.

Particular attention should be paid to the inclusivity of such a plan. Involving local governments, civil society, and expert organizations in its development will help create a more effective and adaptive recovery model.

The financial aspect plays a pivotal role in Ukraine's recovery process. Mobilizing internal and external resources, including international aid, loans, and investments, requires transparent management and accountability. In this context, public administration must implement cost control mechanisms that minimize corruption risks and ensure the efficient use of every hryvnia. The adoption of digital instruments, such as platforms for monitoring project implementation and fund usage, will strengthen trust among international partners and citizens.

A fundamental component of post-war recovery is ensuring social stability and supporting citizens. Public administration must address the needs of internally displaced persons, war veterans, and those who have lost their homes and livelihoods. Social assistance, rehabilitation, and integration programs into new communities are vital elements of post-war policy. Particular attention should be given to access to quality healthcare, education, employment opportunities, and psychological support.

Economic recovery represents another critical area requiring a strategic approach. Public administration must create conditions for attracting investors, stimulating entrepreneurship, and developing key economic sectors. Developing a national economic recovery program based on principles of sustainability, environmental responsibility, and innovation is a key task. For example, investments in "green energy" could serve both economic and environmental goals by reducing dependence on imported energy resources. Additionally, tax incentives for small and medium-sized businesses, which traditionally form the backbone of Ukraine's economy, should be introduced.

Managing international aid is a vital component of post-war recovery. After the war, Ukraine can rely on support from partner countries, international organizations, and funds. At the same time, public administration must ensure the rational distribution of this aid. Cooperation with donors must be transparent and accountable, with all resources utilized in alignment with the needs of citizens. This presents an opportunity for Ukraine to integrate best practices from international experience and establish new management mechanisms tailored to contemporary challenges.

Another critical aspect of post-war recovery is the development of democracy and the strengthening of public governance institutions. The war has brought not only destruction but also new lessons to be considered in reforming civil service. A key task is to enhance the professionalism of personnel, reduce bureaucratic burdens, and implement e-governance. State institutions must operate transparently, accountably, and with citizen interests at the forefront. Strengthening the legal framework of public administration, ensuring the rule of law, and preventing discrimination in access to public services are particularly important.

Information policy in the post-war period also requires special attention [2]. Strengthening information security, combating disinformation, and ensuring citizens' access to truthful information are important tasks for government authorities [3].

Furthermore, the development of the national information space should be supported by stimulating the creation of independent media and platforms for civil dialogue [4].

The post-war reconstruction of Ukraine also involves integrating the country into European and global structures. This process requires harmonizing legislation, implementing European standards in governance and economics, and developing partnerships with international organizations. Public administration should form the foundation for building long-term cooperation mechanisms that will facilitate Ukraine's integration into the global space.

Thus, public administration in the process of Ukraine's post-war recovery is a complex and multifaceted task that requires strategic vision, professional approach, and effective implementation of management decisions. The success of this process depends on cooperation between all sectors of society, support from the international community, and consistent execution of the set tasks. The reconstruction of the country will not only be a physical process but also an important stage in strengthening national identity, building a democratic state, and shaping Ukraine's future.

Post-war reconstruction of Ukraine also requires addressing environmental issues that have arisen as a result of the war. Large-scale destruction of infrastructure, soil and water contamination, destruction of natural landscapes and green spaces present significant challenges to ecological sustainability. Public administration must take into account the environmental component in the recovery process. For example, the restoration of damaged areas should be carried out in accordance with the principles of environmentally safe construction, the creation of protected natural areas, and the implementation of land reclamation measures. Additionally, it is essential to ensure monitoring and control of the ecological consequences of recovery activities.

Innovation and technology also play a vital role in the recovery process. The implementation of modern technologies in public administration will not only increase the efficiency of project implementation but also create new opportunities for economic growth.

In particular, the use of artificial intelligence technologies, process automation, and big data analysis can become the foundation for building "smart" cities and regions [5]. These technologies allow for the optimization of management decisions, ensure transparency of processes, and promote citizens' involvement in decision-making.

Another key aspect is cultural recovery, as the war has caused significant losses to Ukraine's cultural heritage. Destroyed architectural monuments, damaged museums, and archives require attention from both the state and the international community. Public administration must support the restoration of cultural sites and promote the development of artistic initiatives and programs that contribute to preserving national identity. Cultural diplomacy can become an essential instrument in promoting Ukraine on the international stage and attracting additional resources for recovery.

Youth and education play a crucial role in the post-war recovery process. The war interrupted educational processes, destroyed educational institutions, and forced many children and students to flee abroad. Public administration must create conditions for the return of youth to Ukraine, ensure quality education, and integrate modern educational standards. Investments in education, scholarship programs for students, and the reconstruction of schools and universities are vital elements in forming a new generation capable of developing the country in the future.

An equally important issue is the reintegration of temporarily occupied territories after their liberation. Public administration must ensure the fair and safe return of these territories under Ukraine's control. This includes the creation of special programs for social, economic, and political reintegration, restoring law and order, and rebuilding infrastructure, as well as working with local communities to overcome the effects of propaganda and disillusionment. Reintegration must be based on the principles of democracy, the rule of law, and the protection of human rights.

It is impossible to overlook the issue of psychological rehabilitation for the population that has experienced the traumatic effects of war. Organizing psychological support centers, training social workers, and creating support networks are crucial tasks for public administration. Special attention must be given to war veterans, who require not only physical rehabilitation but also assistance with social adaptation and employment.

Equally important is the creation of a communication system between the government and citizens during the recovery process. Public administration must ensure the transparency of its actions, inform the population about the progress of recovery projects, and involve citizens in decision-making. The use of e-government and social media can become an effective instrument for building trust between the government and society.

Thus, public administration in the post-war recovery process of Ukraine covers a wide range of tasks that require a comprehensive approach, strategic planning, and effective implementation. The success of this process depends on the interaction between the state, civil society, the international community, and the business sector. The reconstruction of Ukraine will not only be a technical and economic challenge but also an opportunity to form a modern, innovative, and democratic state that meets the needs of its people and takes its rightful place on the international stage.

5. Conclusions.

The war in Ukraine has posed enormous challenges, requiring the state to adopt effective approaches to recovery. Large-scale infrastructure destruction, economic losses, the devastation of cultural heritage, and social upheaval have become realities that demand comprehensive solutions. Public administration plays a key role in developing recovery strategies, coordinating interstate and international efforts, ensuring inclusivity in decision-making, and ensuring the transparent use of resources. Of particular importance is the integration of innovation, environmentally sustainable development, support for civil society, and international cooperation.

Key tasks include the reintegration of temporarily occupied territories, addressing environmental issues, and ensuring social stability. Rehabilitation programs, psychological support, housing reconstruction, business development, and education are laying the foundation for new opportunities. At the same time, the restoration of cultural heritage and the strengthening of democratic institutions are critical for preserving national identity.

This period is not only a test for Ukraine but also an opportunity to build a modern, innovative, and democratic state. The successful overcoming of challenges depends on the cooperation of citizens, the government, and the international community, as well as on maintaining unity in the pursuit of a peaceful and prosperous future.

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