

A COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO THE MANAGEMENT OF PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES IN THE EDUCATION SYSTEM OF UKRAINE: ECONOMIC COMPONENT

Olha Flyarkovska¹, Viktoria Melnychuk², Ryslan Dumenko³

Abstract. The *subject* of the research is the main problems related to the economic consequences of the war, which can affect Ukrainian education in the war and post-war period. *Methodology.* Theoretical and empirical research methods are used, in particular: theoretical analysis and generalisation of psychological practice; development of theoretical approaches and organisational and methodological conditions for improvement of practical activity of specialists of psychological services; surveys; study of methodical and reporting documentation; methods of statistical processing of experimental data. The *purpose* of the article is to determine the factors that can affect the quality of education and economy through aspects of the activity and peculiarities of the functioning of the psychological service in the educational system of Ukraine in the conditions of armed aggression of the Russian Federation. It is noted that the consideration of psychological factors is necessary to substantiate the activity of a psychological service specialist in the educational system of Ukraine, in connection with the complication of working conditions, competent management of the team, support and assistance in the realisation of the creative potential of employees of educational institutions, etc. The issue of creating psychological support for participants in the educational process was raised. It was noted that the provision of psychological support, development and implementation of correctional programmes will help to overcome stress and injuries, contribute to the return of pupils and students to full-time studies and ensure their further successful adaptation. The article presents the experience of pedagogical and methodological provision of psychological support at the all-Ukrainian level at the State Scientific Institution "Institute of Education Content Modernization". It gives recommendations on how to overcome the negative economic consequences of the war and the negative psychological impact on Ukrainian education. The publication describes the aspects of the psychological service in the educational system of Ukraine, in particular, conducting scientific research on the problems of methodology and theory of practical psychology of education, studying the patterns of mental development and formation of the child's personality; development of methods and technologies for the work of practical psychologists and social pedagogues, including professional training and advanced training of specialists; creation of an effective structure of the psychological service of education, which ensures the interaction of all parts of the service on subject and organisational issues. The *results* of the study reflect the state and development of the psychological service in the education system of Ukraine, the analysis of the activities of the psychological service under martial law and the implementation of Article 76 of the Law of Ukraine "On Education". *Conclusion.* Creation of conditions for quality education and support of psychological well-being of all participants of the educational process is a priority task of the psychological service in the educational system of Ukraine. According to the results of the analysis of the work of the psychological service in the educational system of Ukraine, it was determined that the psychological support of learning, psychological and socio-pedagogical support of the participants of the educational process in the conditions of martial law is an essential condition for maintaining and strengthening the mental health of

¹ State Scientific Institution "Institute of Education Content Modernization", Ukraine

E-mail: flyarkovska@ukr.net

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-9461-4035>

² State Scientific Institution "Institute of Education Content Modernization", Ukraine (*corresponding author*)

E-mail: m-viki@ukr.net

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0144-8654>

³ Kyiv National University of Construction and Architecture, Ukraine

E-mail: drainc@ukr.net

ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6980-8038>



future Ukrainian generations. This will contribute not only to the post-war reconstruction of society, but also to the future economic development and stability of Ukraine.

Key words: psychological service, economic consequences of war, professional activity algorithm, unified electronic reporting system, budget programs, recommendations.

JEL Classification: G41, H61

1. Introduction

Ukrainian education faces significant challenges during the war, but at the same time it plays a key role in the reconstruction and development of society. Military actions have resulted in reduced funding for education, damage and destruction of schools and infrastructure, forced displacement of teachers and students, limited access to quality education due to lack of security, etc. The country's economists are already noting that the cost of damage and losses caused by Russian aggression is reaching record levels, and the decline in real gross domestic product in Ukraine is the highest than in most countries that have experienced armed conflicts (Bohdan, 2023).

The amount of funding under separate budget programmes, the main manager of which is the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine, was reduced by 10%. In particular, according to the budget programme 2201160 "Training of personnel of higher education institutions and ensuring the operation of their practice bases" (Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine "On Approval of Passports of Budget Programmes under the CPCEL 20201160, 2201190, 2201280 for 2023"), the amount of funding was reduced by 2.107 billion UAH.

In such cases, there are usually problems with access to education for children and young people, a lack of qualified teaching staff and low levels of academic achievement.

Analysis of the latest research and publications. The problems of the economic and social consequences of the war in Ukraine and the impact of conflicts on the world economy are studied both by domestic researchers H. Zhila, E. Nikolaev, I. Pilyaev, O. Plotnikov, H. Riy, I. Shemelinets and others, and by foreign researchers K. Abay, C. Breisinger, J. Glauber, J. Hacker, A. Hertel-Fernandez, S. Jacob, P. Pierson, K. Thelen and others. The issue of psychological services in the educational system is considered in the works of O. Bezpalko, I. Beh, L. Burlachuk, O. Kyrychuk, V. Kyrychuk, V. Kremen, S. Maksimenko, V. Melnychuk, V. Panok, O. Fliarkovska, A. Furman, I. Tsushko and others.

2. Research on Approaches to Dominants of Human Capital Development and Reproduction

In order to improve the methodological work in the psychological service of the educational system,

a unified electronic reporting system (UERS) and a structure of methodological development (programmes, methods) have been proposed. The methodology of the proposed programme makes it possible to determine and prove the efficiency, effectiveness and economic component of the applied methods. It determines the use of meta-theoretical approaches for the development of the theory of applied psychology.

"Applied psychology as a theoretical basis for the activity of the psychological service. When it comes to the methodological support of the activity of a holistic psychological service as a single coordinated system, different schools, concepts and trends in psychology are ineffective because they do not ensure the unity of approaches, methods and procedures of psychological practice. In the theoretical 'field' of psychology, different theoretical and methodological positions are often incompatible both at the level of the categorical and conceptual apparatus and at the level of individual methods." (Babak, 2016; Bondarenko, Fedko, 2017; Fliarkovska, 2019; Panok, 2013; Melnychuk, 2020)

Therefore, the use of a single electronic reporting system in the activity of a psychological service specialist has its advantages. The peculiarity of the method consists in the application of certain established actions to specific conditions of practical activity. First of all, the UERS is used for the implementation of individual actions (operations). The technology, on the other hand, provides for obtaining a certain final result, which is foreseen in the practical activity of a specialist and gives an opportunity to determine the effectiveness and efficiency of one's own activity and is considered as a separate type of professional activity "work documentation, planning, reporting" (Maksimenko, 2019) is based on the application of an electronic database of technologies.

It should be noted that theoretical and experimental research in pedagogy and psychology throughout its history has always been accompanied by large-scale psychological and pedagogical practice, development of the latest methods and methods of both diagnostic and developmental activities. The search for ways and methods of psychological support in the educational process is developing rapidly. Understanding that educators face many tasks related to the knowledge and experience of the world in the field of psychology.

With the advent of electronic databases and the ability to submit data through the UERS, the statistical forms described above have become outdated and cumbersome to use. A modern approach to data collection in psychological services is the use of the UERS.

Thus, it is possible to formulate the general principles on which this system is based.

The system is a database maintained at the all-Ukrainian level by the State Scientific Institution "Institute of Education Content Modernization" of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine. The UERS covers all educational institutions. The UERS automatically collects the following data through the aggregation of:

- General information about regional training and methodical centres/offices/laboratories of the Psychological Service in the educational system and the Scientific and Methodical Centre of Practical Psychology and Social Work of the Institute of Pedagogical Education of Borys Grinchenko Kyiv University;
- the network of regional, educational and methodological centres/cabinets/laboratories of the psychological service of the education system and methodologists of the psychological service of raion (city) educational and methodological centres/cabinets/laboratories in the current academic year of raion (city) methodological offices of the education department (if any);
- information on the implementation of professional activities by psychological service specialists during martial law;
- the number of social workers in educational institutions;
- the number of practical psychologists in educational institutions;
- the provision of psychological services by specialists using a computer;
- the provision of offices for employees of the psychological service;
- topics of appeals to psychological service workers, etc.

The system enters the data of each specialist of the psychological service of the educational institution. Aggregation is performed automatically. The system automatically generates a large volume of summary statistical reports.

The unified electronic reporting system includes automated data validation procedures to minimise errors. In addition, procedures are in place to allow independent verification of data entered by specialists.

The State Scientific Institution "Institute of Education Content Modernization" of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine has access to the entire database (with the exception of personal and confidential information) through a series of special reports that are automatically compiled.

Psychological service professionals have access to complete information about their educational institutions. They can use this information to perform their monitoring and management functions.

The system is based on a register (data set), with additional procedures to ensure the correctness of the register data. The register is a register of a specialist of the psychological service of an educational institution.

Registers usually include identification data and basic data. Identification data are used to determine the identity of the entity in the database (practical psychologist, social educator, methodologist, responsible person) and rarely change.

The UERS carries out the above procedure at the end of the academic year (usually at the end of June), but based on the number of students on the 1st of September.

It is important to note that in this system the regions have consolidated data from their districts and cities (they do not have access to data from other regions), while the State Scientific Institution "Institute of Education Content Modernization" of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine has consolidated data at the level of institutions, districts, hromadas, regions.

The single electronic reporting system will be introduced in the 2022/2023 academic year. Although this is difficult to achieve due to the current situation, it is still possible. In order to make full use of the possibilities offered by the UERS, the State Scientific Institution "Institute of Education Content Modernization" of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine has started preparations for the necessary changes.

Below are the main steps in this direction:

Review all statistical forms that need to be improved.

The training of psychological service specialists of all levels for work in the UERS started in January, and the recordings of the webinars are available on the website of the State Scientific Institution "Institute of Education Content Modernization" of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine.

The results of this work will increase the effectiveness of the provision of psychological assistance and support, and improve the professional training of future psychological service professionals. Psychological practice. Psychological practice (psychological practice), according to the authors, is a basic category for understanding the essence of applied psychology (Babak, 2016; Gorbenko, Lozova, Patrikeeva, 2020; (Panok, 2013).

The definition of the essence of psychological technology and its substantiation as a methodological unit of applied psychology made it possible to create conditions for the methodological support of psychological practice, in particular, in the activities of the psychological service of the educational system.

On the basis of theoretical ideas about the nature of applied psychology and peculiarities of methodological support of psychological practice, the structure, organizational principles, purpose and tasks of functioning of the psychological service in the educational system were substantiated. Today, psychological services can be considered one of the most important results of the reform of the national education system (Regulation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine "On Psychological Service in the Education System of Ukraine", 2018).

Thus, it was found that in the 2022/2023 academic year, the number of psychological service specialists was 20,413, including: practical psychologists – 13,174, social educators – 6,905, methodologists – 82, the average staffing of educational institutions with psychological service workers was 74%.

The personnel problem is complicated by a number of factors. In particular: unattractive salary conditions, insufficient financing of the educational sector in the regions, the number of specialists in psychological services is not proportional to the number of students seeking education, the staff lists of the departments/administrations of education do not include positions responsible for psychological services in territorial communities, the lack of specialists in rural areas, unfavourable transport connections between cities and towns/villages, which makes it impossible to attract specialists from the city, the absence of specialists with specialised training, the departure of specialists abroad as a result of martial law, the transfer of specialists to other positions.

3. Conclusions

According to the study, the psychological service in the Ukrainian education system has accumulated significant positive experience, which is confirmed by the number of individual and correctional classes and consultations, developed methods, scientific and methodological developments, etc.

However, despite the active work of the psychological service, there are still many unresolved problems, in particular, the system of collecting analytical materials needs to be improved.

In this direction, the overarching task is to formulate new visions of the principles, structure and content of psychological service activities in new conditions on the basis of theoretical analysis of work experience and methodology in the field of applied psychology (Babak, 2016; Bondarenko, Fedko, 2017; Fliarkovska, 2019; Panok, 2013; Melnychuk, 2020).

The availability of complete and reliable information about the activities of a psychological service specialist is a necessary condition for the development and implementation of an educational policy based on the actual data of each institution.

Aware of this problem, the specialists of the State Scientific Institution "Institute of Education Content Modernization" made efforts to create an electronic reporting system. This system will be implemented in the school year 2023/2024.

It is expected that the proposed system will be available for testing, piloting, and then launching at the national level in some time.

Maintaining and verifying the data is a very time-consuming process and meets the needs

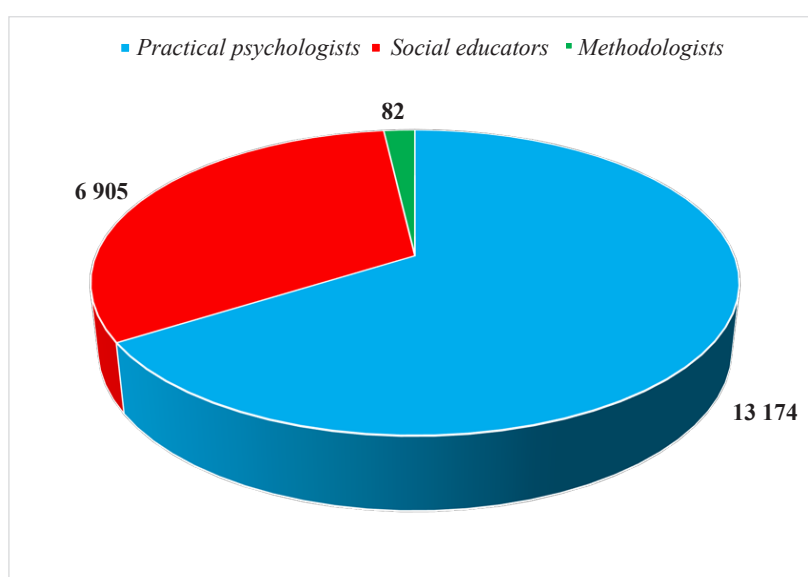


Figure 1. Number of employees of the psychological service 2022/2023

of a paper-based data collection system (with an electronic system, this process will be much faster).

The novelty of this system lies in the multifaceted use of the system: from operational assistance in collecting, storing and preparing data for reports, simplifying and accelerating processes and controlling available data, reducing labour costs to providing timely and diverse information for management activities, which can be used to make high-quality strategic decisions related to human capital.

The study is expected to provide experimental evidence of the effectiveness and economic benefits

of the methods of work of psychological service workers. The main concept underlying the analysis of all types of data is the infinity of methods for manipulating data that do not lose their original meaning. For example, sequential sorting methods can be used.

Therefore, creating conditions for the provision of quality education and preserving the psychological well-being of all participants in the educational process is a priority. This will not only contribute to the recovery of society after the end of the war, but will also create the basis for future economic development and stability.

References:

- Bohdan, T. (2023). Financial and economic consequences of the war. Available at: https://lb.ua/blog/tetiana_bohdan/550614_finansovoekonomichni_naslidki.html (accessed October 12, 2023).
- Order of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine "On Approval of Passports of Budget Programmes under the CPCEL 20201160, 2201190, 2201280 for 2023" No. 173 of 16.02.2023 Available at: <https://mon.gov.ua/storage/app/media/budzhet/2023/02/17/Nakaz-173-16.02.2023.Pro.zatv.pasporta-2201160.na.2023.pdf> (accessed October 12, 2023).
- Babak, K. (2016). Psychological service of the university as a means of psychological support of professional development of students. *Psychology: Reality and Perspectives: coll. Science*, vol. 7, pp. 17–21. (in Ukrainian)
- Bondarenko, A., & Fedko, S. (2017). Socio-cultural competence of a present-day counselor: current prospects and future challenges. *Psycholinguistics: Collection of scientific papers. Hryhorii Skovoroda University in Pereiaslav*, vol. 21(1), 214 p. (in Ukrainian)
- Fliarkovska, O. (2019). Safe school as a transfer of mental health of education getter. *Psychology and Society*, vol. 1, pp. 109–115. (in Ukrainian)
- Panok, V. (2013). Professional Becoming of Practical Psychologists: Experience and Perspectives. *Psychology and Society*, vol. 3, pp. 135–141. (in Ukrainian)
- Melnychuk, V. (2020). Involving adolescents in commercial sex as a social problem. *Sciences of Europe (Praha, Czech Republic)*, vol. 3, no. 51, pp. 51–56.
- Regulation of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine "On Psychological Service in the Education System of Ukraine" (509) (2018, May 22). Available at: <https://zakon.rada.gov.ua/laws/show/z0885-18> (accessed October 12, 2023)
- Maksimenko, S. (2019). Theoretical and methodological principles of psychological science development in the XXI century. *Problems of Modern Psychology*, vol. 1, pp. 7–16. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.26661/2310-4368-2019-1-15-01> (accessed October 12, 2023).
- Gorbenko, S., Lozova, O., & Patrikeeva, O. (2020). Stem project in the system of student youth professional orientation. *Scientific Notes Minor Academy of Sciences of Ukraine*, vol. 18, pp. 75–84. (in Ukrainian)
- Letter of the Ministry of Education and Science of 18.07.2019 No. 1/9-462 "On the Priority Areas of Work of the Psychological Service in the Education System for the Academic Year 2019-2020" (1/9-462) (2019, July 18). Available at: <https://bit.ly/3d4unia> (accessed October 12, 2023).
- Alkalay, S., & Dolev, A. (2019). Public educational psychology services in Israel on the internet. *Israel Journal of Health Policy Research*, 8, 31. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1186/s13584-019-0298-4> (accessed October 12, 2023).
- Jimerson, S. R., Stewart, K., Skokut, M., Cardenas, S., & Malone, H. (2009). How Many School Psychologists are There in Each Country of the World?: International Estimates of School Psychologists and School Psychologist-to-Student Ratios. *School Psychology International*, vol. 30(6), pp. 555–567. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1177/0143034309107077> (accessed October 12, 2023).

Received on: 14th of October, 2023

Accepted on: 29th of November, 2023

Published on: 28th of December, 2023