

HONORING WAR VETERANS AS A COMPONENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC FUNCTION OF THE STATE: ADMINISTRATIVE-LEGAL ASPECT

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Abstract. The article examines the issue of honoring war veterans as an important element of the implementation of the socio-economic function of the state in the conditions of a special period. The authors analyse the administrative-legal mechanisms that ensure the preservation of historical memory, the dignified treatment of the defenders of the state, and the guarantees of their social protection. The emphasis is on the institutional support of the state policy of honoring veterans through the activities of central and local executive bodies, local self-government bodies, as well as interaction with public associations. The functions of the state in the organisation of commemorative events, the provision of ritual services, the support of the families of fallen soldiers, the creation of memorial objects and the establishment of symbolic spaces are revealed. The challenges of implementing effective administrative procedures in this area are outlined, including fragmentation of the regulatory field, limited funding and a lack of systematicity. Proposed ways of improving administrative and legal regulation aim to strengthen state support for veterans and their social integration, as well as strengthening national identity in conditions of martial law and post-war reconstruction. The *subject* of the article is the administrative and legal mechanisms for implementing the socio-economic functions of the state in conditions of a special period. *Research methodology.* Various methods are used when studying the honouring of war veterans as an important element of the state's socio-economic function in special circumstances. These methods allow for a comprehensive consideration of the legal, social, economic and managerial aspects of this area, and include: the method of dialectical materialism; the method of abstraction; the methods of analysis and synthesis; the functional method; the method of system analysis; the synergistic method; the comparative law method; the method of interpretation and hermeneutics; the dogmatic method; and the statistical method. The *purpose* of the article is to reveal the principles of honoring war veterans as an important element of the implementation of the socio-economic function of the state in the conditions of a special period. *Conclusions.* The act of honouring war veterans within the context of a designated period represents a pivotal facet in the execution of the socio-economic function of the state. This phenomenon possesses a multifaceted significance, encompassing moral, legal and social dimensions. Firstly, it is an expression of profound respect for the military duty, sacrifice and courage demonstrated by those who defended the state. Secondly, commemoration possesses a practical dimension, as it is closely related to the system of social protection of war veterans. The present study sets out to explore the shortcomings of honouring war veterans as a means of implementing the socio-economic function of the state during a special period. The study identifies five key shortcomings: first, the formality of approaches; second, the fragmentation of legal regulation; third, insufficient funding; fourth, uneven regional provision; and fifth, weak integration into modern social processes. In order to solve these problems, the authors propose the following: 1) to regulate commemoration as an element of social policy at the legislative level. Including a separate article or even a section in the Law of Ukraine "On Status of War Veterans and Guarantees of Their Social Protection" on the commemoration policy, with clear indicators

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of its implementation; 2) to introduce targeted funding programmes for commemorative events, including commemoration, support for the families of the victims, and memorial initiatives, at the level of the state and local budgets; 3) to integrate the commemoration with other events; 4) to develop partnerships with the public sector; 5) c to create a unified national Register of Heroes, interactive maps and applications that would promote the stories of veterans and strengthen the nation's identity.

Keywords: state, state functions, administrative and legal regulation, economic aspects of state regulation of funeral services, social standards of state regulation, funeral business, commemoration, reintegration of war veterans, state veteran policy, social protection of veterans.

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Introduction

The importance of scientific research in honouring war veterans as a crucial component of the state's socio-economic function during a period of significant transformation in Ukraine is twofold. Firstly, it is imperative to understand the profound societal shifts occurring in the context of ongoing armed aggression. Secondly, it is essential to formulate an effective response to the social challenges posed by the processes of demobilisation, reintegration, and the provision of support to war veterans. In the context of a special period, the state is obligated not only to ensure defence capability, but also to guarantee the dignified treatment of persons who, at the cost of their own health and lives, defended the independence and sovereignty of Ukraine. The act of honouring veterans must not be regarded as a purely symbolic gesture; rather, it is a multifaceted phenomenon that encompasses significant social, legal and economic dimensions. This complex of actions is collectively implemented as an integral component of state social policy.

The scientific relevance of this research stems from the need to improve legal regulation in this area, to eliminate fragmentation between different forms of commemoration (memorial, cultural, material), to ensure sustainable financing of measures to support veterans and their families, and to integrate Ukrainian approaches to commemoration with international practices. In light of the escalating veteran population and the mounting public clamour for social justice, the establishment of historical memory and the glorification of heroism, scientific research in this domain is imperative for the formulation of efficacious state policy that can effectively address contemporary challenges and foster national cohesion and stability.

1. Research Methodology

1.1. Scientific Analysis of Works on the Research Topic

The issue of implementing the socio-economic functions of the state in a special period, particularly in terms of administrative and legal regulation of

honouring war veterans as an important element of implementing the socio-economic function of the state in a special period, is the subject of active scientific discussion, especially in view of the challenges associated with the war in Ukraine. In the context of domestic jurisprudence, there has been a notable advancement in the direction of research into the transformation of state functions in circumstances such as states of emergency, military operations, or large-scale social crises.

N. Azmuk (2023) investigated the issues of socio-economic and educational reintegration of veterans into the labour market. In contrast, Kresina (2016) studied the relevance of research and implementation of the reintegration process as a component of state ethno-national policy.

K. A. Nizheiko and K. V. Kovalivska (2024) conducted a study of the international experience and features of the reintegration of veterans into civilian life in Ukraine.

A. Basmanova and I. Hryshchenko (2023) conducted a study on the reintegration of veterans, participants in hostilities, and their family members into civilian life at the level of hromadas.

S. Kleimenova's research focused on the legal nature of ritual services. It has been established that ritual services have their own history of development, which is associated with a change in people's perception of death and their attitude towards it. Firstly, it is important to note that ritual services are based on specific rituals from various cultures. Concurrently, there exist alternative burial methods, including burial and cremation. Consequently, the selection of a set of ritual services is contingent upon the chosen burial method. Ritual services are to be found within the system of types of services. In Ukraine, the regulatory framework governing the provision of funeral services is enshrined in the Law of Ukraine "On Burial and Funeral Affairs", in addition to by-laws that delineate the operational procedures for funeral services and the associated tariffs (Kleimenova, 2019).

O. V. Nedaikhib (2017) emphasised in his works that enhancing the material base, state regulation and support in such an area of human activity as the

ritual business are of paramount importance not only from an economic point of view, but also for the development of the socio-psychological, spiritual and moral foundations of society.

M. A. Mykhailichenko, in the course of his research into military burials, has drawn attention to the fact that the regulatory legal acts which determine the activities of the burial of the dead and regulate military memorial work in Ukraine leave a number of unresolved issues regarding the identification, restoration, preservation and maintenance of military burials in proper condition. The author posited that these issues can be resolved through the implementation of a distinct legal framework pertaining to military burials. It should clearly define the following: 1) the concepts of "military burials", "military cemeteries", "military plots in civilian cemeteries"; 2) the range of persons whose burials are considered military; 3) the procedure for burial (reburial) of these persons; 4) the procedure for identifying and restoring lost military graves; 5) requirements for the improvement of military cemeteries; 6) the powers of state bodies and local governments to identify, restore, preserve, maintain and protect military graves; 7) responsibility for violating this law. Simultaneously, it is recommended to draw upon the experience of countries in which such legislation is currently in effect, notably the Federal Republic of Germany, the Republic of Poland, the Republic of Estonia, the Republic of Tajikistan, and Georgia (Mykhailichenko, 2021).

Johnson M. and Lee K. (2020) investigated the economic aspects of the ritual industry: market analysis and trends.

Dison Sp Franco, Jordana Georgin, Luis Angel Villarreal Campo, Maria Arango Mayoral, Jose Orozco Goenaga, Carolina Moreno Fruto, Alcindo Neckel, Marcos Leandro Oliveira, Claudette Gindry Ramos have paid attention in their works to the issue of environmental pollution caused by cemeteries and cremations (Dison Sp Franco, Georgin, Villarreal Campo, Arango Mayoral, Orozco Goenaga, Moreno Fruto, Neckel, Oliveira, Ramos, 2022).

In their works, D. S. Komarnytskyi, R. S. Tutykalo and L. M. Sylenko (2025) revealed the role and content of the socio-economic functions of the state in the field of funeral affairs.

However, the field of domestic legal science has yet to undertake a systematic examination of the nexus between the reintegration of veterans, ritual services and public administration within the overarching framework of a unified concept of the implementation of the socio-economic function of the state. The question of constructing an effective model of administrative and legal regulation that would take into account the peculiarities of a particular period, modern managerial challenges and the need for

a comprehensive approach to social policy remains unresolved.

Consequently, the subject under investigation necessitates additional scientific advancement, comprehensive examination of prevailing legislation, institutional practice, and the analysis of international experience in pertinent domains.

1.2. Methodological Features of the Research

In the context of examining the administrative and legal mechanisms for implementing the socio-economic functions of the state during a period of crisis, particular attention is given to the reintegration of war veterans and the provision of ritual services. To this end, a range of methods are employed to ensure a comprehensive consideration of the legal, social, economic and managerial aspects of this area.

– The dialectical materialism method facilitates the analysis of the administrative and legal mechanisms that facilitate the implementation of the socio-economic functions of the state in periods of crisis. This is achieved by identifying and analysing the contradictions between the needs of society (particularly those of war veterans and the families of the deceased) and the capabilities of the state apparatus. Additionally, it enables the assessment of the dynamics of the development of legal regulation in the context of a changing socio-economic reality. This approach facilitates the documentation of prevailing challenges in the domain of veteran reintegration and the provision of ritual services. Moreover, it underscores the imperative for substantial reforms within the legal system, drawing upon the principles of social development, the interconnection between the fundamental structure (economy) and the overarching framework (law), and the perpetual evolution and transformation of public administration in alignment with societal expectations.

– In the study of administrative and legal mechanisms for the implementation of the state's socio-economic functions in special circumstances, the method of abstraction allows to move away from the secondary features of specific legal situations and focus on identifying the general, stable patterns of public administration mechanisms in the areas of reintegrating war veterans and providing ritual services. This method facilitates the conceptualisation of the legal nature of such mechanisms, the formulation of universal approaches to their construction, the identification of typical problems (e.g., fragmentation of the regulatory framework or lack of interdepartmental coordination), and the outline of the prospects for optimising administrative and legal regulation, taking into account the peculiarities of wartime.

– The analysis and synthesis employed in the study of administrative and legal mechanisms for

the implementation of socio-economic functions of the state in conditions of a special period facilitate, firstly, the decomposition of a complex legal system into discrete elements, including regulatory and legal acts, organisational and managerial structures, and procedures for the implementation of public services in the domain of reintegration of veterans and provision of ritual services. Secondly, the synthesis stage enables the integration of knowledge to formulate a comprehensive perspective on the effectiveness, coherence, and efficiency of existing mechanisms. The implementation of this approach facilitates the identification of structural issues and lacunae in the regulatory framework, thereby enabling the formulation of comprehensive proposals for enhancing state policy within the designated domains.

– The functional method is utilised in the study of administrative and legal mechanisms for the implementation of socio-economic functions of the state in a particular period, thereby enabling an analysis of the practical purpose and effectiveness of the activities of public authorities in the field of reintegration of war veterans and the provision of ritual services. The application of this method facilitates the determination of the extent to which specific administrative and legal instruments (norms, procedures, institutions) correspond to their designated functions. These instruments are intended to ensure social protection, dignity, access to services and the restoration of the rights of citizens affected by the war. This approach contributes to the identification of dysfunctions in public administration, as well as the development of substantiated recommendations for improving legal regulation in the specified areas.

– The methodology of system analysis employed in the study of administrative and legal mechanisms for the implementation of socio-economic functions of the state in conditions of a special period enables the consideration of the spheres of reintegration of war veterans and the provision of ritual services as interconnected subsystems of a single state system of public administration. Thanks to this method, all structural elements of the mechanisms can be covered (the regulatory framework, subject composition, procedural aspects and resources), and their interaction and impact on achieving the general goal of ensuring social stability, dignity and justice in society can be analysed. The system approach also enables to evaluate the effect of external factors, such as war, economic crises and international aid, on the operation of these mechanisms, and to develop comprehensive strategies for their improvement in the context of contemporary challenges.

– In the study of administrative and legal mechanisms for the implementation of the state's socio-economic functions during a special period, the synergistic method

allows for the consideration of the interaction between various elements of public administration – authorities, regulatory legal acts, civil society institutions and international partners – as an open, dynamic system that self-organises under the influence of internal and external factors. In the context of reintegrating war veterans and providing ritual services, this approach enables to trace how effective interaction between these elements can generate new-quality management decisions and form sustainable state support mechanisms. The method has been demonstrated to facilitate the identification of growth points and crisis zones, where the joint action of subjects (synergy) has been shown to yield a greater effect than isolated efforts. This is especially pertinent in conditions of war or the post-war period.

– The comparative legal method, as employed in the present study, facilitates the analysis of administrative and legal mechanisms for the implementation of socio-economic functions of the state during a designated period. This methodological approach enables a comparative analysis of Ukrainian legal practice in the field of reintegration of war veterans and provision of ritual services with the experience of other states that have undergone armed conflicts or large-scale social upheavals. This approach enables effective models of legal regulation, institutional approaches, and management solutions that are working successfully in EU countries, Israel, the USA and Croatia to be identified, and the possibility of their implementation in Ukrainian contexts to be assessed. Analysing the legal systems of other countries helps to identify shortcomings in domestic legislation, adopt progressive legal instruments, and direct administrative reform towards ensuring more effective, people-centred social policy.

– The method of interpretation and hermeneutics in the study of administrative and legal mechanisms for the implementation of socio-economic functions of the state in the conditions of a special period allows for a deeper understanding of the content of regulatory and legal acts regulating the sphere of reintegration of war veterans and the provision of ritual services, taking into account the historical, social, cultural and political context of their emergence and application. The hermeneutic approach facilitates the discernment of the profound implications inherent within legal norms, thereby establishing a nexus between legal texts and the tangible requirements of society, particularly in contexts such as war or post-war reconstruction. This approach has also been demonstrated to be beneficial in the analysis of law enforcement practice, particularly in the interpretation of ambiguous or contradictory provisions that are of critical importance for the social protection of veterans and the implementation of the right to a decent burial. Consequently, this approach contributes

to the establishment of coherent and meaningful legal policy in the relevant areas.

The amalgamation of these methodologies facilitates a comprehensive examination of the protocol for honouring war veterans as a pivotal component of implementing the socio-economic function of the state during a designated period, thereby providing a scientific foundation for the formulation and enhancement of policy in this domain.

2. Theoretical and Legal Principles of Honoring War Veterans as an Important Element of the Implementation of the Socio-Economic Function of the State in the Conditions of a Special Period

2.1. The Concept of Honoring War Veterans as an Important Element of the Implementation of the Socio-Economic Function of the State

The social function of the state is one of the fundamental categories of public administration, determining its activities aimed at ensuring basic social rights, the well-being of the population and maintaining social justice (Nalyvaiko, 2023). This function reflects the connection between the state and society, consolidating its duty to create conditions for the realization of the rights and freedoms of every person. The theoretical foundations of the social function lie at the intersection of legal, sociological and economic concepts. These concepts consider the social function to be a mechanism for achieving social harmony, overcoming inequality and ensuring stability. The social function of the state is based on the principle of the rule of law, which establishes the primary objective of state authority: to protect and provide for human rights. In a democratic society, this principle ensures equal opportunities for all citizens, regardless of their social status, nationality or place of residence. This applies to the provision of both material needs, such as social security, healthcare and education, and non-material needs, such as the protection of rights and access to justice. In the modern world, the social function of the state is seen as a way of overcoming social challenges, such as economic inequality, unemployment, demographic issues and migration. In the context of Ukraine, the Constitution of Ukraine (Article 46) stipulates that the state is responsible for the social protection of its citizens and the creation of conditions for a decent life. This social function is of particular importance in Ukraine. This provision establishes the basis for the formulation of a policy aimed at safeguarding social rights, which are a component of human rights (Madalyts, 2025).

In periods of war or armed conflict, the primary social function of the state is to protect the most vulnerable segments of the population, including internally displaced persons, war veterans, the families of fallen servicemen, children, and the elderly. The state is under an obligation to provide social benefits, as well as to establish programmes that facilitate integration and reintegration for those who have been adversely affected by war. In this context, the role of civil society organisations and international partners is important, inasmuch as they are able to provide support in the implementation of the social function. The implementation of the social function of the state and the protection of human rights in conditions of martial law is an extremely complex task that requires the adaptation of traditional management mechanisms to the crisis circumstances caused by armed conflict. The phenomenon of war engenders a plethora of challenges, which may be categorised into multiple levels. These include, but are not limited to, the destruction of infrastructure, mass population displacement, economic constraints and an escalation in social risks. However, despite the challenges posed by these circumstances, it is incumbent upon the state to ensure the fulfilment of its social obligations, namely the protection of the most vulnerable echelons of the population and the maintenance of social stability. A salient feature of the social function of the state during war is the provision of fundamental social services, even in regions where state bodies operate with significant limitations due to hostilities or occupation (Mykoliuk, 2006). This includes medical care, education, social benefits, and housing for affected citizens. Mechanisms of targeted support play an important role in enabling a rapid response to the needs of displaced persons, veterans, persons with disabilities, and other categories of the population.

The concept of the economic function of the state encompasses a system of measures by which the state regulates economic processes, provides conditions for stable economic development, forms macroeconomic policy, influences the redistribution of resources, provides a competitive environment and supports the national producer. The economic function of the state is realised through a variety of instruments, including fiscal policy, monetary policy, investment policy, state regulation of the market, support for entrepreneurship, antitrust control and management of state property. The state performs this function in both peacetime and emergency situations, in particular war or economic crisis, when ensuring economic security, restoring production potential, controlling strategic sectors of the economy and supporting employment of the population becomes especially relevant. The economic function is closely related to the social one, since a stable economy is the basis for the realisation of citizens' rights to social protection,

medicine, education, and so forth (Averianov, 2006; Bytiak, Harashchuk, Diachenko, 2020).

The concept of the socio-economic function of the state is therefore implemented through comprehensive measures aimed at ensuring a decent standard of living for the population, social justice, economic growth, redistribution of national income and market regulation in accordance with public interests. This function encompasses the activities of the state in providing support to socio-economically disadvantaged categories of the population, ensuring employment, healthcare, education, wage regulation, tax policy, public investments, as well as the management of the economy during periods of crisis or special circumstances (e.g., martial law).

In the contemporary era, the socio-economic function is regarded by scientists as being amongst the most significant of the modern functions of the state. According to V.B. Averianov, this function is implemented primarily through public administration and administrative and legal mechanisms within the executive branch (Averianov, 2006). In turn, Yu.P. Bytiak emphasises the importance of administrative and legal regulation in the field of social security, considering it as a component of the social function of the state (Bytiak, Harashchuk, Diachenko, 2020).

The normative basis for the implementation of this function is constituted by the Constitution of Ukraine (Art. 1, 3, 46), the Law of Ukraine "On State Social Standards and State Social Guarantees", the Budget Code of Ukraine, as well as international acts, in particular the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966).

It is therefore vital to honour war veterans as a key component in the execution of the socio-economic function of the state. This is necessary to guarantee a dignified approach towards individuals who participated in the protection of the independence and territorial integrity of the state. This is achieved by acknowledging their contribution not only at the symbolic level, but also through tangible socio-economic measures. In fulfilling its social function, the state must provide veterans with a range of benefits and guarantees, particularly with regard to pensions, healthcare, sanatorium and resort treatment, housing programmes, employment and psychological support. The economic aspect of this process involves state financing of social support programmes, investment in infrastructure for remembrance, such as the creation of memorials and museums, and the holding of state ceremonies. It also involves supporting the families of fallen defenders.

The state plays a strategic role in the formation of historical memory, patriotism and national unity through its honoring of veterans, a fact that is especially important in times of war or post-war

reconstruction. Consequently, the administrative and legal mechanisms that regulate this process become of particular significance. These mechanisms facilitate coordination between authorities, ensure equal access to social benefits, and establish a clear procedure for the implementation of relevant measures. The act of honouring veterans constitutes not only a moral obligation of the state, but also an integral component of the social contract between the state and its citizens. This social contract serves to strengthen the trust citizens have in public authorities, thereby contributing to the stability of society as a whole.

2.2. Types of Socio-Economic Measures that the State Applies to Honor War Veterans as an Important Element of the Implementation of the Socio-Economic Function of the State

The state has a range of socio-economic measures in place to honour war veterans. These include the provision of material support and the organisation of symbolic events that are recognised within society as a recognition of their contribution to the state's defence. The primary measures encompass the following.

The Laws of Ukraine "On Status of War Veterans and Guarantees of Their Social Protection", "On Fundamentals of Social Protection of Persons with Disabilities in Ukraine", the Budget Code of Ukraine and subordinate regulatory legal acts: Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated March 31, 2015 No. 200 "On Approval of the Procedure for the Use of Funds Provided in the State Budget to Provide Certain Categories of the Population with Sanatorium and Resort Treatment"; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated June 17, 2004 No. 785 "On Approval of the Procedure for the Provision of Free Transportation Services for Certain Categories of Citizens"; Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated February 22, 2006 No. 187 "On Approval of the Procedure for Providing Disabled Persons and Other Certain Categories of the Population with Technical and Other Means of Rehabilitation" enshrines the state's socio-economic measures aimed at honoring war veterans, in particular through the provision of benefits, provision of medical care, rehabilitation, transport privileges and other forms of state support. The Law of Ukraine "On Status of War Veterans and Guarantees of Their Social Protection" stipulates that socio-economic measures include the following: free medical care in state and municipal healthcare institutions; priority sanatorium and resort treatment; 50%–100% discounts on housing and communal services; free travel on all types of urban passenger transport; tax benefits; provision of medicines

according to doctors' prescriptions; priority service in social institutions. These measures are intended to provide both material support and symbolic recognition of the contribution of veterans to the defence of the state (The Law of Ukraine "On Status of War Veterans and Guarantees of Their Social Protection").

The Law of Ukraine "On Fundamentals of Social Protection of Persons with Disabilities in Ukraine" applies to veterans with disabilities, including persons with disabilities as a result of the war. It provides for: ensuring the accessibility of services and social infrastructure facilities; providing technical and rehabilitation aids; social support and care; creating conditions for employment, professional rehabilitation and participation in public life (The Law of Ukraine "On Fundamentals of Social Protection of Persons with Disabilities in Ukraine").

It is evident that the act in question delineates specific measures designed to provide support to disabled veterans. This aspect constitutes a pivotal element in honouring their sacrifice and service.

The Budget Code of Ukraine stipulates the financial provisions for social protection programmes for veterans, delineating the allocation of funds through both state and local budgets. The articles of the Code stipulate that the financing of medical care, social security, sanatorium and resort treatment, and rehabilitation programmes is to be conducted on the basis of separate budget programmes that are approved by annual laws on the State Budget of Ukraine. Consequently, the 2023 and 2024 State Budgets of Ukraine allocated financial resources to initiatives encompassing medical care, social security, sanatorium and resort treatment, and rehabilitation of war veterans. In particular, in 2024, 785.4 million UAH was allocated for sanatorium and resort treatment, representing a 7.5% increase on the previous year. A budget of 749.4 million UAH was allocated for a pilot project on dental prosthetics for certain categories of persons who defended the independence of Ukraine (The Budget Code of Ukraine). However, the precise amounts allocated directly for medical care, social security and rehabilitation programmes for war veterans are not detailed in open sources. In order to obtain specific data, it is recommended that contact be made with the Ministry of Veterans Affairs of Ukraine, or that the official publications of the State Budget of Ukraine for the relevant years be consulted.

The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated March 31, 2015 No. 200 "On Approval of the Procedure for Using Funds Provided in the State Budget to Provide Certain Categories of the Population with Sanatorium and Resort Treatment" defines the mechanism for sending war veterans to sanatorium and resort treatment at the expense of the state. The preferential categories include:

combatants; persons with disabilities as a result of the war; war participants; family members of the deceased (The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Approval of the Procedure for Using Funds Provided in the State Budget to Provide Certain Categories of the Population with Sanatorium and Resort Treatment").

The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated June 17, 2004 No. 785 "On Approval of the Procedure for Providing Services for Free Transportation of Certain Categories of Citizens" provides for the right of veterans to free travel in urban and suburban transport (The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Approval of the Procedure for Providing Services for Free Transportation of Certain Categories of Citizens"). The resolution also encompassed the approval of a mechanism for compensating the cost of services to carriers for transporting veterans.

It is important to note that there is currently a lack of consolidated information regarding the total amount of compensation paid to carriers for transporting war veterans in Ukraine for the 2023–2024 period. This is due to the fact that compensation for preferential travel is carried out mainly at the level of local budgets, and each territorial community independently determines the volumes and mechanisms of such payments. For example, the Mykolaiv Village Council of the Sumy District of the Sumy Region adopted the Program for Reimbursement of Compensation for the Transportation of Certain Privileged Categories of Citizens on Suburban Routes of Public Use by Road Transport for 2024. The total financial provision for this programme amounts to 2,138,688 UAH, of which 1,231,200 UAH is allocated from the village council budget. The programme encompasses a range of beneficiaries, including those with a history of military service. The Stryi Urban Hromada has approved the Program for Reimbursement of Compensation for Transportation of Certain Privileged Categories of Citizens on Urban and Suburban Routes of Public Use by Road Transport for 2024, with a total funding allocation of 36 million UAH. The objective of the programme is to provide compensation to carriers for the provision of preferential transportation services, with a particular emphasis on those who have served in the war.

It is worth noting that the State Budget of Ukraine for 2025 sets expenditure on veteran policy at 10.7 billion UAH. However, these funds cover a wide range of support measures for veterans and do not specify the amounts intended for compensation for preferential transportation services. Due to the decentralised nature of financing preferential transportation, accurate data on compensation for transporting war veterans can be obtained by

contacting the relevant local authorities or studying the official reports of local budgets for 2023–2024.

The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine dated February 22, 2006 No. 187 "On Approval of the Procedure for Providing Disabled Persons and Other Certain Categories of the Population with Technical and Other Rehabilitation Means" establishes that the state grants veterans with disabilities the right to: receive prosthetic and orthopedic products, mobility aids; rehabilitation services; technical means to improve the quality of life (The Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine "On Approval of the Procedure for Providing Disabled Persons and Other Certain Categories of the Population with Technical and Other Means of Rehabilitation").

The regulatory and legal acts in question collectively constitute a system of administrative and legal mechanisms that enable the state to honour war veterans, not only in a symbolic sense, but also in a socio-economic capacity, through the provision of support, compensation, care and state recognition of their role in the defence of the country.

3. Conclusions

In conclusion, it is evident that the state, in its efforts to honour war veterans as a pivotal component of the execution of its socio-economic function in a period of heightened exigency, undertakes the following measures:

The provision of benefits and social guarantees is an important aspect of veteran support. War veterans have the right to free medical care, sanatorium and resort treatment, discounts on housing and communal services, free travel in public transport, tax benefits, provision of medicines, as well as priority service in social protection institutions.

Material assistance and pension provision are provided in the form of increased pensions, one-time cash payments to commemorative dates, compensation for damage to health during military service, and allowances for special services to the Motherland.

Provision of housing. The state implements programmes to provide veterans with housing by providing preferential terms for loans or monetary compensation for unused housing rights.

Vocational rehabilitation and employment. Organisation of professional retraining programmes, state support for veteran entrepreneurship, and employment benefits.

The perpetuation of memory and the organisation of ritual services may take various forms. These include the installation of monuments and memorial plaques, the naming of streets, the organisation of state events to commemorate specific dates, the ensuring of a dignified burial for the deceased, and the allocation of funds for the maintenance of graves.

Psychological support and social adaptation include the operation of psychological rehabilitation centres and support programmes for veterans with PTSD, as well as the work of social services with the families of the deceased and injured. Taken together, these measures demonstrate society's gratitude and the practical implementation of the socio-economic function of the state, which is aimed at ensuring the well-being, dignity, and reintegration of war veterans into civilian life.

Concomitantly, it is posited that in light of the prevailing martial law and the paucity of financial resources available for the provision of material support to war veterans and the organisation of events to honour them as a component of the execution of the socio-economic function of the state during a designated period, the following deficiencies can be identified:

Firstly, it is important to consider the formality of approaches. In many cases, honoring is declarative in nature and is limited to one-time ceremonies or awarding awards, without being accompanied by systematic social support.

Secondly, the fragmentation of legal regulation. The absence of a consolidated honoring policy at the legislative level gives rise to incoherence in the actions of public authorities and instability in funding.

Thirdly, insufficient funding was cited as a contributing factor. During periods of martial law, a considerable proportion of budgetary resources is allocated to the sphere of direct defence, with socio-economic programmes for veterans being financed on a residual basis.

Fourthly, the unevenness of regional support is a salient issue. In light of the decentralised nature of the commemoration initiatives, a considerable reliance is placed on the involvement of local authorities. This has the effect of engendering an imbalance between regions, with a higher level of support being observed in affluent hromadas.

Fifthly, the integration of the concept into contemporary social processes is inadequate. The practice of commemoration is not often concomitant with the reintegration of former servicemen and women into public life, thus diminishing its significance in the context of fostering an inclusive society.

In order to resolve these issues, the following proposal is put forward:

1. In the field of legislation, the regulation of commemoration as a component of social policy is imperative. It is recommended that a separate article be included, or even a section, in the Law of Ukraine "On Status of War Veterans and Guarantees of Their Social Protection" on the commemoration policy, with clear indicators of its implementation.

2. Financial sustainability. The introduction of targeted programmes for financing commemorative

events, supporting families of the deceased and memorial initiatives at state and local budget levels.

3. Commemoration should be integrated with other events. This could involve combining commemoration with employment, training and rehabilitation, for example through supporting veteran businesses and creating thematic rehabilitation centres of memory.

4. Developing partnerships with the public sector. Providing support to veterans' organisations that

initiate and hold commemorative events, involving businesses and charitable foundations.

5. Creating a unified national Register of Heroes, interactive maps, and applications that would popularise veterans' stories and strengthen the nation's identity.

Such an approach would not only ensure that veterans are honoured with dignity, but also serve to transform this policy into a pivotal component of social cohesion and economic development in the country during this crucial period.

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