

Lecture № 4

- **Political system of society.
Ethnopolitics and
international relationships**

Themes:

- The notion and structure of political system of society.
- Typology of political systems.
- Political system of Ukraine.

Political system of society

- **Political system of society** is an integrated totality of relationships of power, subjects of politics, state and non-state social institutions that are supposed to fulfil political functions concerning protection, harmonizing, of interests of social groups, communities, provide stability and social order in the vital activity of society.

The basic features of political system

- interconnection of group of elements;
- making a certain unity by this elements;
- inner interaction of all the elements;

The basic features of political system (2)

- **striving for selfpresentation, stability and development;**
- **ability to interrelate with the other systems.**

Structure of political system

- **Structure of political system** is an integrity of power institutions that are related with each other and create a stable unity.
- Political power is the basic integral element of political system. It is concentrated in state, political parties and public organizations.

Structure of political system (2)

- Structure of political system consists of the following elements: *political relationships, political organization of society, mass media, political principles and norms, political consciousness and culture.*

Political relationships

- Political relationships are the relationships between the subjects of politics on the basis of achieving and enjoying of the power. They comprise relationships between classes, inside classes, inter-nation and international relationships

Political organization of society

- **State with all its constituent elements legislative, executive and juridical branches of power, military forces — is the defining element of political organization of society. Being the basic institution of political system state rules the society, protects its economical, social and cultural spheres.**

Mass media

- Mass media are the active and independent element of political system of society and play the part of the fourth power in democratic countries. Mass media are branched net of establishments that are occupied with gathering, processing and spread of information.

Political principles and norms

- **Political principles and norms** are supposed to form political behavior and consciousness of a person according to the aims and tasks of political system. Political principles and norms that are secured in Constitution, laws, codes regulate political relationships, define allowed and not allowed things under the angle of strengthening of ruling regime.

Political consciousness

- **Political consciousness** being an important element of political system is formed under the influence of social and political practice. Political consciousness appears as the totality of political ideas, traditions that are reflected in political documents, law norms as a part of social consciousness.

Political culture

- **Political culture is also formed under the influence of social and political practice and appears as totality of ideas about different aspects of political life.**

Functions of political system

- **Developing of the political course of the state and of the aims and tasks of society development.**
- **Organization of the society activity in order to achieve aims of state political program.**

Functions of political system (2)

- **Coordination of certain society elements.**
- **Legitimation (activity aimed at making political system legal at the reach of reciprocal balance of political life, official policy and law norms).**

Functions of political system (3)

- Political sociologization (introducing a person into political activity of society).
- Articulation of interests (putting forward demands to the people who produce politics).

Functions of political system (4)

- **Coordination and regulation of interests and needs of social groups.**
- **Integration of all the society elements around common social-political aims and values.**

Functions of political system (5)

- **Stabilization (support of stability of development of social system in general).**
- **Political communication of political system components.**

Typology of political systems

- Modern politology differentiates such **basic types of political systems**:
- 1) military and civil;
- 2) conservative and transforming;
- 3) completed and incomplete (the main criteria for such division is the presence of all the elements of the system);

Typology of political systems (2)

- **microscopic, macroscopic, global; traditional and modernized;**
- **democratic, authoritarian, totalitarian.**

Political System of Ukraine

- **Political system is closely related to the surroundings in which it functions and develops which causes ways of power realizations, set of methods and means of its fulfillment. Ukraine like other post-socialistic countries is on the stage of transformation of its social-political system**

V. Yakushyk

Modern Ukrainian politologist **V. Yakushyk** states that from the point of view of the peculiarities of its system characteristics political system of Ukraine is characterized as:

- relatively stable system, able to transform into unstable easily as a consequence of conflicts between the main political groups;

Political System of Ukraine (2)

- a system with a relatively low speed of social process and a system with a not enough receptivity of social innovations;
- a young independent system that in fact has not enough efficient modern traditions and experience to be able to function independently

Political System of Ukraine (3)

- a centralized system with some elements of decentralization;
- a system that doesn't fulfill the whole complex of functions that are necessary for normal functioning of a civilized society;

Political System of Ukraine (4)

- **a Continental-European, system in the stage of transition from closed to open;**
- **a system in the emergency conditions.**