

THE POLITICAL ELITE OF MODERN UKRAINE

Relevance of the problem. Political power divides people into those who govern and govern, and those who are governed and governed. The former are few, the latter – the vast majority. The relationship between them is at the heart of all political history. Study of prospects for the development of Ukrainian society and its transformations taking place in the upper stratum of society. It can be argued that the new configuration of power space depends on the transformation of the political elite – changes in the composition and organization of the group with real power, the dynamics of its cultural and ideological priorities, changes in selection and promotion technologies. These changes significantly affect and determine the state and functioning of social institutions, moral and intellectual innovations, changes, and excitements of social mobility.

Purpose. To characterize the modern political elite of Ukraine, all its shortcomings and achievements.

Tasks:

- get acquainted with the primary sources of the world and Ukrainian political thought on the study of the political elite;
- analyze the formation and development of basic theories of the political elite;
- identify the main trends in the development of the political elite and political leadership of Ukraine at different stages;
- find out the role and place of political leadership in the political system, to explore the peculiarities of its functioning in the modern

political world.

The discourse of the topic. A political elite – independent, higher, relatively privileged group of people, endowed with special psychological, social, and political qualities, is directly involved in the approval and implementation of decisions related to the use of state power or influence on it.

The ruling elite consists of three interrelated elements:

- The political elite, which is part of the ruling, acts as a bearer of power functions, its influence on the system of power relations is determined by the ratio of forces within the elite, the ratio of political forces in the state, the form of the political system, the presence and severity of conflicts. The political elite has extraordinary psychological, social, and political qualities, and is directly involved in making and implementing decisions related to the use or influence of state power.

- The bureaucratic elite includes representatives of the administrative apparatus. They have power, influence the performance of important state functions.

- Communication and ideological elite – representatives of science, culture, clergy, and media.
- By types of political activity, elites are divided into state, municipal, party, and public organizations.
- By place in the elite hierarchy distinguish:
- Higher elites (the higher elite includes persons who hold high positions in government, parliament, major parties, influential pressure groups and make strategic decisions).

- Medium (these are deputies, senior administrative officials of regional and municipal bodies businessmen that influence the political decision-making process).

- Below (the lower elite includes the administrative apparatus of state bodies, heads of regional branches major parties, as well as leaders of influential parties).

The political elite is formed by political leaders- people who are better prepared than others for such activities, have real power, through which they exercise a legitimate influence on a certain part or even the whole society. At the same time, millions of citizens voluntarily, with hope and expectation, delegate to political leaders a certain, if not a considerable part of their political power and rights. Such political leaders are statesmen, leaders of political parties, associations, public organizations.

Conclusions. The elite reflects the objective need to organize people's joint activities. The function of organizing people's activities and managing social processes is performed by leaders. Therefore, leadership exists wherever there is group, collective activity. In Ukraine, the modern political elite only partially corresponds to the content of this concept. It is unconsolidated, heterogeneous, semi-closed, and its social base is mainly not the middle class, but the speculative and criminal bourgeoisie. It is an elite of social status, but not the best part of society. Explain the concept of «elite», consider different approaches to the theory of elites. They showed that large-scale transformations of public life, new times, and new tasks require a significant renewal of the political and managerial elite.

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