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## PROVISION OF SOCIALIZATION OF THE PERSONALITY IN THE PRESCHOOL CHILDHOOD IN THE MULTICULTURAL EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT OF TRANSCARPATHIA

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**Abstract.** The rapid tempo of social changes is inherent in the modern Ukrainian society that has resulted in the actual and problematic personality socialization questions in preschool childhood. This period is exactly that sensitive period for the primary child world view formation, consciousness, social features etc. The stay in preschool educational institution plays an important role in preschool age child personality development.

Transcarpathian region is the region situated on the southwest of Ukraine within the western part of Ukrainian Carpathians and Transcarpathian lowland. At about 80% of the region's territory is covered by the Carpathian Mountains. In accordance with the Ukrainian Law "On the Status of Mountainous Settlements in Ukraine", until recently 192 settlements (31% out of the total quantity) belong to the mountainous. Volovets and Mizhgyrya districts fully subject to the action of the above indicated law, while in other districts the portion of settlements with the mountainous settlements status is presented from 13,6 (in Mukachevo district) up to 84,4 percent (in Rakhiv district). In our publication we will pay attention to four mountainous districts of Transcarpathian region: Velykyi Bereznyi, Volovets, Mizhgyrya and Rakhiv districts. This publication presents the comparative status analysis of preschool age children support carried out by the preschool educational institutions in Transcarpathian region in the period starting from the year of 2000 until 2013. In the mountainous districts of Transcarpathian region the preschool educational institutions establishment, quantity of children in them and preschool institutions loading tendency analysis is completed.

The distribution of preschool educational institutions as per children educational languages is given in this article. The above mentioned confirms, that in recent years, active attention has been paid to the new preschool institutions creation, namely in mountainous and half mountainous districts of Transcarpathian region. Also, the rising tendency of the number of children in these institutions is observed. However, the need to expand the children coverage by preschool education is constantly felt.

Allocation of children in permanent preschool institutions in accordance to their language of education has been changed significantly; nevertheless it still does not satisfy the national minorities' needs, due to the fact that it does not correspond to the quantitative composition of modern Transcarpathian population.

**Keywords:** personality socialization, modern Transcarpathian population, preschool educational institutions, multicultural educational.

The characteristic of the modern Ukrainian society is the rapid pace of social changes which caused the rise of vital and problematic issue of socialization of the personality in the preschool childhood. Indeed, the child must master a lot of rules which have been established in the society exactly in the period of forming of the conception about the world, phenomena of social life, and relationships between people. For the term "socialization" different researchers identify certain sides of this process depending on the aspect and purpose which directly interests the researcher.

Having analyzed a number of research studies, especially Ukrainian scientists on problems of socialization, we have found out that in the centre of scientific papers is the child of preschool age. Such scientists as A.M. Bogush, L.O. Varianytsa, N.V. Gavrysh, S.M. Kurinna, I.P. Pechenko and others determine that it is a period of the person's life in which the foundations of personal activity and personal characteristics, values that determine the qualities of the future life are laid; the period when the person is the most vulnerable, unprotected from environmental influences, social, psychological and physical violence<sup>1</sup>. Exactly this period is sensitive for the formation of the child's initial outlook, self-consciousness, development of social qualities etc. The important role in the formation of the personality of preschool age child plays his stay in a preschool teaching and educational institution.

In the Art. 11 of the Law of Ukraine "On Preschool Education" (2001) it is determined that the authority of the preschool educational institution is to satisfy the needs of citizens who live on the corresponding territory in providing with preschool education<sup>9</sup>.

The aim of the publication is to carry out the analysis of the provision state of preschool age children with preschool teaching and educational institutions in the cities and districts of Transcarpathia, in particular, to pay attention to the mountain districts of Transcarpathia and to analyze the allocation of preschool educational institutions of the region according to the languages of children upbringing.

Transcarpathian region is the region which is situated on the southwest of Ukraine within the western part of Ukrainian Carpathian Mountains and Transcarpathian lowland. On the north it borders upon Lviv region, on the east – Ivano-Frankivsk region of Ukraine. On the south it borders on Romania, on the southwest on Hungary, on the west on Slovakia, on the northwest on Poland. The present geographical location causes polyethnicity, multinationality and diversity of cultures.

Approximately 80 % of the region's territory is covered by the Carpathian Mountains which consist of three main ridges (Verkhovynskyi ridge, Vododilnyi ridge and Polonynskyi ridge) and also the ridge Volcanic Carpathians and four smaller but higher mountain ranges (Chornogora, Svydovets, Gorgany and Rakhiv mountain range). Transcarpathia is separated from the southeastern Carpathian hillsides by the following passes: Yablunetskyi, Torunskyi, Uzhotskyi, Veretskyi, Volovetskyi and Legions pass of height from 931 to 1110 m above sea level<sup>1</sup>.

According to the Law of Ukraine "On the status of mountain settlements in Ukraine" in Transcarpathia, until recently, 192 settlements have belonged to the mountain settlements (31 percentage from the total quantity). Under the action of the abovementioned law, Volovets and Mizhgyrya districts are come within, in other districts the fraction of settlements which have the status of mountain settlements was from 13,6 (in Mukachevo district) to 84,4 percents (in Rakhiv district)<sup>3</sup>.

In our publication we will pay attention to four mountain districts of Transcarpathia: Velykyi Bereznyi, Volovets, Mizhgyrya and Rakhiv districts.

**Velykyi Bereznyi district:** almost all the district is a picturesque mountain terrain, the forest tracts of which are laced by valleys around rivers and streams. The highest point above sea level (1463 m) is located on the valley which is called Rivna (Polonyna Rivna). A little bit lower are valley Gostra and mountains Mala Ravka, Kremenets. These and other peaks of mountains are the parts of mountain ranges of the Ukrainian Carpathian Mountains. The district is situated in the northeastern part of the Transcarpathian region, over 30 kilometers from the regional center. The square is 810 square kilometers. The population (as on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January, 1999) is 29883 people, including 22513 people in rural areas. In the ethnic composition the majority are Ukrainians of 93 percents. Also Slovaks are densely populated – about 1% and gypsies of 3% from the total number of inhabitants of the district.

Besides that, Russians, Hungarians, Jews, Moldavians and representatives of other nationalities live in Velykyi Bereznyi district<sup>2</sup>.

**Volovets district** is a mountain district of the north part of Transcarpathia. The square is 544 km<sup>2</sup>. The population – 27,5 thousand people. 98 % of inhabitants are Ukrainian, 1,3 % – Russians, 0,9 % – national minorities<sup>2</sup>.

**Mizhgyrya district** is situated in the center of the Ukrainian Carpathian Mountains. The locality is mountainous, woody (beech and pine forests cover 79 thousand hectares), rich in mineral waters (53 sources are explored). On its territory of 1,2 thousand km<sup>2</sup> almost 49,2 thousand people live in 44 settlements which are combined in 22 villages and 1 urban village council. More than 99 percents of inhabitants of the district are Ukrainians<sup>2</sup>.

**Rakhiv district** is situated in the most alpine part of the Ukrainian Carpathian Mountains. In the north Pryvododilni (Internal) Gorgany are rised above, in the west – Svydovets, in the northwest – Chornogora (mountain parts of Polonynskiy ridge), in the south – Rakhiv mountains. Over 40 km from Rakhiv (district center), in the Chornogirskiy range, the highest peak of the Ukrainian Carpathian Mountains and Ukraine in general is located which is called Goverla Mountain (2061 m above sea level). Alongside five more peaks of two thousand meters rise above – Brebeneskul, Petros, Pip Ivan Chornogiskiy (Chorna Gora), Rebra, Gutyn-Tomnaty and Menchul<sup>2</sup>.

According to the data of the statistical collection book of the State Statistics Committee of the Central Statistical Office in the Transcarpathian region at the end of 2010 in the region there were 532 preschool educational institutions for 29,2 thousand places, including 145 institutions for 12,8 thousand places in urban settlements, in the rural area – 387 institutions for 16,4 thousand places<sup>5</sup>. The quantitative indices of preschool educational institutions through the cities and districts of Transcarpathia over a period of time from 2000 to 2010 are indicated in the Tab. 1<sup>5:7</sup>.

|   | 2000       | 2001       | 2002       | 2003       | 2004       | 2005       | 2006       | 2007       | 2008       | 2009       | 2010       |
|---|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| <b>Total in the region:</b>             | <b>505</b> | <b>497</b> | <b>498</b> | <b>501</b> | <b>500</b> | <b>506</b> | <b>518</b> | <b>521</b> | <b>528</b> | <b>532</b> | <b>532</b> |
| Uzhgorod                                | 30         | 30         | 30         | 29         | 28         | 28         | 30         | 30         | 30         | 30         | 30         |
| Beregovo                                | 18         | 18         | 18         | 18         | 17         | 17         | 17         | 17         | 16         | 16         | 14         |
| Mukachevo                               | 24         | 24         | 24         | 24         | 24         | 24         | 24         | 24         | 24         | 24         | 24         |
| Khust                                   | 10         | 10         | 10         | 10         | 10         | 10         | 9          | 9          | 9          | 9          | 9          |
| Chop                                    | 1          | 1          | 1          | 1          | 1          | 1          | 1          | 1          | 1          | 1          | 1          |
| Beregovo district                       | 36         | 36         | 36         | 36         | 36         | 36         | 36         | 36         | 36         | 36         | 36         |
| Velykyi Bereznyi district <sup>*4</sup> | 15         | 15         | 14         | 14         | 14         | 14         | 14         | 14         | 14         | 14         | 14         |
| Vynogradiv district                     | 38         | 33         | 36         | 35         | 34         | 36         | 40         | 42         | 43         | 44         | 44         |
| Volovets district*                      | 24         | 24         | 24         | 23         | 23         | 23         | 23         | 23         | 24         | 24         | 24         |
| Irshava district                        | 59         | 57         | 58         | 57         | 57         | 57         | 57         | 57         | 58         | 58         | 59         |
| Mizhgyrya district*                     | 10         | 12         | 12         | 13         | 15         | 15         | 18         | 20         | 22         | 23         | 23         |
| Mukachevo district                      | 62         | 60         | 60         | 61         | 60         | 61         | 62         | 62         | 64         | 64         | 64         |
| Perechyn district                       | 13         | 13         | 13         | 13         | 13         | 14         | 14         | 14         | 14         | 14         | 14         |
| Rakhiv district*                        | 27         | 27         | 28         | 31         | 32         | 33         | 34         | 34         | 34         | 34         | 34         |
| Svalyava district                       | 29         | 28         | 28         | 28         | 28         | 28         | 28         | 28         | 28         | 28         | 29         |
| Tyachiv district                        | 39         | 40         | 38         | 40         | 40         | 40         | 42         | 42         | 43         | 44         | 44         |
| Uzhgorod district                       | 42         | 42         | 43         | 43         | 43         | 43         | 43         | 43         | 43         | 44         | 44         |
| Khust districts                         | 28         | 27         | 25         | 25         | 25         | 26         | 26         | 25         | 25         | 25         | 25         |

Tab. 1. Number of preschool educational institutions through the cities and districts of Transcarpathia (2000 – 2010).

As you can see, during ten years, the number of preschool educational institutions has been changing. We can observe declining of 2000 – 2001 (when during the year the number of preschool institutions was decreased by 8) as well as of 2002 – 2010 rising tendency. In general, from 2001 to 2010 the number of preschool institutions was increased by 35. As of 2012, according to the latest data of the statistical collection book there were 557 preschool educational institutions in the region, that is 25 institutions more than it was in 2010<sup>6</sup>.

If we consider a constant number of institutions then in the first place among the cities was always Uzhgorod with almost constant number of 30 preschool institutions (only in 2003, 2004, and 2005 we can observe a slight decrease by one – two institutions). Mukachevo (24) and Chop (1) succeed to keep their constant number of preschool institutions throughout the decade. Khust has lost one institution beginning from 2006 and Beregovo losing gradually the institutions at the end of 2010 has lost four preschool institutions. As of 2012 the picture has not been changed. In all cities the number remained constant, only in Mukachevo it was opened one more preschool institution. See the Tab. 2.

|                            |          |          |           |       |      |                   |   |                     |                    |                  |                     |                    |                  |                  |                   |                  |                   |                 |  |
|----------------------------|----------|----------|-----------|-------|------|-------------------|---|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|-----------------|--|
| <b>Total in the region</b> |          |          |           |       |      |                   |   |                     |                    |                  |                     |                    |                  |                  |                   |                  |                   |                 |  |
| 557                        | Uzhgorod | Beregovo | Mukachevo | Khust | Chop | Beregovo district | Velykyi Bereznyi district* <sup>1</sup> | Vynogradiv district | Volovets district* | Irshava district | Mizhgirya district* | Mukachevo district | Perehyn district | Rakhiv district* | Svalyava district | Tyachiv district | Uzhgorod district | Khust districts |  |
| 30                         | 30       | 14       | 25        | 9     | 1    | 36                | 16                                      | 46                  | 26                 | 59               | 33                  | 66                 | 16               | 34               | 29                | 46               | 44                | 27              |  |

Tab. 2. Number of preschool educational institutions through the cities and districts of Transcarpathia 2012.

However, if we carry out the quantitative analysis in percentage then the picture seems inconsolable. In all cities of Transcarpathia except of Chop (where due to the small quantity in 1 preschool institution the percentage composition is always constant 0,1% of the total quantity) we can observe decrease in percentage. Uzhgorod 5,9% in 2000, 5,6% in 2010 and 5,3% in 2012; Beregovo 3,5% in 2000, 2,6% in 2010 and 2,5 in 2012; Mukachevo 4,7% in 2000, 4,5% in 2010 and 4,4% in 2012; and Khust 1,9% in 2000 and 1,6% in 2010 and 2012<sup>5;6;7</sup>.

Regarding the districts, in the first place by the number of preschool institutions has always been Mukachevo district (62-64-66 institutions). In spite of the quantitative increase, in the percentage we can observe decrease 12,2% in 2000, 12% in 2010 and 11,8% in 2012. Mukachevo district is followed by Irshava district (59-57-59 preschool institutions). The number of institutions is constant, however in percentage we can see decrease 11,6% in 2000, 11% in 2010 and 10,5% in 2012. In the third place by the number of preschool institutions from 2000 up to 2010 was Uzhgorod district (42-44 preschool institutions): 8,3% in 2000 and 8,2% in 2010. However, in 2012 in the third place by the number of preschool institutions was Tyachiv district 7,7% in 2000 and 8,2% in 2012.

Let us analyze how the picture of providing the mountain districts of Transcarpathia with preschool institutions was changing.

Velykyi Bereznyi district – as we can see in the table 1. 2000 – 2001 15 preschool institutions were working in the district and beginning from 2002 up to 2010 without changes their number was 14. Nevertheless, in 2011 and 2012 their number increased by 16. Regarding the percentage, we can

\* Mountain districts of Transcarpathia are marked

mention slight fluctuation. First, decrease from 2,9% in 2000 by 2,6% in 2010 and substantial increase by 2,8% in 2012. The same picture is in Volovets district 4,7% in 2000, 4,5% in 2010 and 4,6% in 2012.

However, you should pay attention to two other mountain districts – Mizhgyrya and Rakhiv districts.

In 2000 Mizhgyrya district was in the last place by the number of preschool institutions of the region, total quantity of 10 preschool institutions and at the end of 2010 their quantity was 23 preschool institutions, and at the end of 2012 – 33 preschool institutions. As we can see, their number increased more than twice. Our attention is attracted not only by the quantitative increase of institutions, but also by the percentage of the total quantity of institutions. From 1,9% in 2000 their number increased by 4,3% in 2010 and 5,9% in 2012. Hence, we can make a conclusion that significant increase of the number of preschool institutions in the Transcarpathian region was facilitated by increase of preschool institutions exactly in Mizhgyrya district.

In recent years the number of preschool institutions of the Rakhiv district is actively increasing from 27 by 34 that is in percentage 5,3% in 2000 and 6,3% in 2010. However, by 2012 the number of preschool institutions has not been increased and in percentage it has even been decreased 6,1%.

The positive tendency of two more districts should be mentioned: Vynogradiv district – 7,1% in 2000, 8,2% in 2010 and Tyachiv district – 7,7% in 2000 and 8,2% in 2010. Nevertheless, in 2012 the percentage was not changed in both districts.

Regarding other districts their percentage of the total quantity has been decreased regardless of possible slight quantitative increase, as for example: Mukachevo district (62-64-66), Perechyn district (13-14-16), Uzhgorod district (42-44)<sup>5;6;7</sup>. Unfortunately, in Khust district the number of institutions has been decreased by three from 28 to 25 throughout the decade. As of 2012 in Khust district 27 preschool institutions work.

The necessity of the analysis of providing the preschool education according to the languages of children upbringing is caused by the chain of factors. First of all, it is caused by multiculturalism of the Ukrainian society in general and Transcarpathia in particular. Second, it is caused by such modern pedagogical guideline as formation of the continuous language education which “provides compulsory mastering of the state language by citizens of Ukraine, provides the opportunity to master native (national) language and practically to learn at least one foreign language”; “facilitate the development of high language culture of the citizens, the education of respect for the state language and languages of national minorities..., tolerance in relation to native speakers of different languages and cultures...”. At the same time, the strategy of the language education carried out in our state provides with the right for satisfaction of the educational needs in native language, preservation and development of their ethnic culture<sup>8</sup>.

The language policy in the field of education is transparent and includes all educational institutions regardless of type and category of the property.

The abovementioned is especially important for Transcarpathia, where there are preschool institutions with teaching of different languages.

The Bulletin of the State Statistics Committee of 2013 informs that in Transcarpathian region at the end of 2012 552 institutions of preschool education were functioning, among them 458 – with Ukrainian, 71 – with Hungarian, 1 – with Russian, 3 – with Romanian and 19 – with several teaching languages<sup>6</sup>. Therefore, from the total number of preschool institutions 82,97% conduct teaching and educational process in Ukrainian language, 12,86% - in Hungarian language, 0,18% - in Russian language, 0,54% - in Romanian language and 3,44% - in Hungarian-Russian, Ukrainian-Hungarian and Ukrainian-German languages. In recent years, the majority of the newly created institutions were with Ukrainian language of teaching. However, the present allocation does not mean discrimination of little citizens of the national minorities – they have the opportunity to satisfy their educational needs in the institutions with native language.

In preschool institutions of Transcarpathia the number of pupils was gradually increasing. In 2000 in preschool educational institutions were educated 20074 children, in 2010 – 35496 children and in 2012 – 45042<sup>6</sup>.

In the districts under investigation we clearly observe the tendency of continuous increase of the number of children in preschool institutions. In 2000 in 15 preschool institutions of the Velykyi Bereznyi district 287 children of preschool age were studying, and at the end of 2012 730 children were attending 16 preschool institutions. Nevertheless, increase of the number of children only shows increase of the number of children in groups. If in 2000 one preschool institution was attended by approximately 19 children, then in 2012 their quantity has been increased by 45 children<sup>22</sup>. According to the statistical data of 2013, the workload of preschool educational institutions through the cities and districts in 2012 shows that in Velykyi Bereznyi district the number of children in preschool institutions per 100 places is 145 that 45% exceeds the norm<sup>6</sup>. We do not intend to disclose in the present publication the changes which are happening in the teaching and educational process according to increase of the number of children, so far as this issue deserves a separate investigation.

In Volovets district the number of institutions has been increased by 2, however the number of children has also been increased. In 2000 22 children attended 24 preschool institutions, and then at the end of 2012 the occupancy increased to 33<sup>6</sup>. Nevertheless, statistical data convince that workload of preschool educational institutions of Volovets district is 27% less than expected norm: per 100 places – 73 children<sup>6</sup>.

It seems logical the increase of the number of children in preschool institutions of Mizhgyrya district, whereas in 2000 there were working 10 preschool institutions which were attended by 254 children and in 2012 33 preschool institutions were already attended by 2050 children that is 8 times more than it was. However, per one institution it was counted about 25 children in 2000 and in 2012 – 62. In Mizhgyrya district the number of children in preschool institutions per 100 places is 219 people<sup>6</sup>.

There were significant changes in Rakhiv district. In 2000 664 children attended 27 preschool institutions that is 24 children per one institution. In 2012 2261 children attended 34 preschool institutions that is 3,4 times more than it was. In 2012 one institution was attended by 66 children. According to the statistical data the workload of preschool educational institutions through the cities and districts in 2012 shows that in Rakhiv district the number of children in preschool institutions per 100 places are 125, that is 25% exceeds the norm<sup>6</sup>.

According to the current requirements, people with high moral qualities and appropriate education deal with pedagogical activity in modern preschool institutions of the region. In 2012 the total quantity of pedagogical staff working in Transcarpathian region was 4453, 540 of them in the investigated districts<sup>6</sup>.

Conclusion In the context of this statement we can see the rising tendency of the number of preschool institutions; we can observe the increase of children who attend preschool institutions indicating to increasing attention from the part of the state and public factors. Nevertheless, a slight stagnation in the increase of institutions with national languages of the minorities is tracked.

The abovementioned confirms that in recent years active attention was paid to the creation of new preschool institutions namely in mountain and half-mountain districts of Transcarpathia. Also, the rising tendency of the number of children in these institutions is observed. However, the need to expand coverage of the children by preschool education is constantly felt. The allocation of the children according to the languages of their upbringing has been changed significantly; nevertheless it still does not satisfy the needs of national minorities, due to the fact that it does not correspond to the quantitative composition of the population of modern Transcarpathia. Hence, the prospect of further investigation in this direction is followed: how acute is the need in providing the national minorities of Transcarpathia with preschool institutions and changes happening in the teaching and educational process according to the increase of the number of children in groups.

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