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STUDENTS RESEARCH INITIATIVES IN THE STUDY OF STRATEGIC PLANNING OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The article describes the methodological basis and principles of students studying of various aspects in the process of strategic planning of regional development. According to the dalto-competence approach in the training of students and development of educational programs the following principles and approaches are offered: scientific, systematic, interdisciplinary approach, close connection with practice, study of the problem of strategic planning of regional development in the context of the theory of centre-periphery relations, taking into account modern theories and indicators of human capital development; hands-on active students participation in research and social work in the elaboration of a regional development strategy.

Keywords: educational programs, methodological principles, regional development, strategic planning of regional development.

Дар'я Мальчикова, Володимир Коробов, Ігор Пилипенко Дослідницькі ініціативи студентів під час вивчення процесу стратегічного планування регіонального розвитку. У статті визначено методологічні основи і принципи вивчення студентами різноманітних аспектів процесу стратегічного планування регіонального розвитку. Відповідно до діяльнісно-компетентнісного підходу у підготовці студентів і формуванні освітніх програм запропоновано такі принципи і підходи: науковість, системність, міждисциплінарність, тісний зв'язок із практикою, вивчення проблеми стратегічного планування регіонального розвитку у контексті теорії центр-периферійних відносин, з урахуванням сучасних теорій і показників розвитку

людського капіталу; практична активна участь студентів у дослідницькій і громадській роботі по розробці стратегії регіонального розвитку.

Ключові слова: освітні програми, методологічні принципи, регіональний розвиток, стратегічне планування регіонального розвитку.

Дарья Мальчикова, Владимир Коробов, Игорь Пилипенко. Исследовательские инициативы студентов в процессе изучения стратегического планирования регионального развития. В статье определены методологические основы и принципы изучения студентами различных аспектов процесса стратегического планирования регионального развития.. Согласно деятельностно-компетентностного подхода в подготовке студентов и формировании образовательных программ предложены следующие принципы и подходы: научность, системность, междисциплинарность, тесная связь с практикой, изучение проблемы стратегического планирования регионального развития в контексте теории центр-периферийных отношений, с учетом современных теорий и показателей развития человеческого капитала; практическое активное участие студентов в исследовательской и общественной работе по разработке стратегии регионального развития.

Ключевые слова: образовательные программы, методологические принципы, региональное развитие, стратегическое планирование регионального развития.

Statement of the problem. New social requirements according to the leading vectors of country's development, are reflected in the wide variety of the interdisciplinary socio-geographical researches connected with regional development's control, searching the methods of rationalizing the nature-usage, cadastral measuring of lands and territories, forming the regional areal organization. The governmental issues of such actual questions representation can be found in diversity of apprehensions, strategies, plans and programs, which form the multi-layers governmental politic in regions. The strategic planning of regional development is the multipurpose technique that unifies different scientific disciplines in order to find the efficient organization of manufactures and settlements, to achieve a well-balanced regionals and communities development, to elaborate the complex approach for using natural resources, etc.

It is necessary that in Ukraine the training of experts in regional development and planning, organization and using the territory, is traditionally made by different university's specialties and faculties started from architecture and city-building specialty to geography and management. But the strategic planning of regional development and territory today is one of the most effective means of efficient

territorial organization of society in different scopes – from nationwide to local. Fields and spheres of applying these regionalistics methods and territorial planning are various and each year their number is increasing. That is why the educational training programs for experts in geography are included such courses as “Territorial planning”, “The theory of regional development”, “Regionalistics”, which have become common and effective for preparing not only experts in a city-building specialty but also for future geographers, ecologists, specialist in territory planning and cadaster, etc. However, even though we have all necessary theoretical, scientific and methodological sources, the teaching of these courses can be made only under the circumstances of pointed lack of resources in provincial universities that resources could help them to provide their own academic researches that could then become an investigative and educational basis for students. Though, a very important meaning obtains teachers and students participation in producing academic projects, providing by local social organizations, which compensate this shortcoming in such a way.

There is the analysis of the latest researches and publications. To the problems of territorial usage of different regions’ scales, types and area developments in the aspect of globalization, increasing territorial competition, rational settling of territories are dedicated numerous publications both in Ukraine and outside. The investigations in the field of planning territory and efficient organization of geospace for a long time are beyond comparison in foreign countries, as well as the newest means of planning territorial concentration of economic activity, investigation connection problems of microeconomic, external economic factors and territorial organization of property, the analysis of intangible factors for balanced area development and increasing of competitive ability of territories [10 – 14 so on]. The question connected with diagnosis of regional development in different aspects was investigated by such scientists as T.Dmitrieva, J.Zabaldina, N.Larionova, V.Leksin, K.Mezentsev, A.Melnichuk, I.Nikolina, Y.Holianko, A.Sheviakova, and others. The methodology of strategic regional development is hanged on foremost European experience [2-4], in Ukraine the same methodology is investigated by famous experts such as A.Tkachuk, V.Kashevsky, O.Vrublevsky, K.Firsun [6, 9].

The aim of the article – to form the methodological basis and principles of students learning different aspects of the process of strategic planning of territorial development through the dalto-competence approach.

The main material of the investigation. In May 2001 the conception of national regionals' development politic of the country was confirmed by the President's Edict. That was the beginning of the establishment in Ukraine regional economic and regional politics, which are now forming in rather complicated political and socio-economic circumstances and which, nevertheless, are still retaining their actuality (5-th of February 2015 confirmed by the Law of Ukraine "About the principles of national regional politics"). Primarily we should notice that the regional politics, according to the European standards and requirements, is provided firstly full and effective usage of natural resources' potential of territories, convenient and comfortable settlement of population, ecologically secure and economically beneficial location of property's activity. In this context regional politics corresponds also conditions of modern geographic paradigm, e.d. the conception of regional territorial organization of society. Even though the area (territorial) approach has general scientific status, its theoretical and methodological elaboration is the prerogative of geographers. According to this approach, the topical for geographers are becoming such directions that connected with regional science and regionalization of the country (among them are regional economics and regional politics), reformation of administrative territories' organization of Ukraine, developing the regional geo-population politics, comparing analysis of socio-economic regional development layers and quality of people's life-conditions, planning territories of regions, forming national and regional ecological nets, elaborating strategies, plans and programs of socio-economic regional and city's development, environmental protecting activities and ecological security of society [7].

The themes that are connected with various aspects of working up the strategy of regional development, are occupied a special place in educational programs for students, who are studying on the speciality -"Geography". To begin with, these questions are straightly related to the principles of planning territories and in fact are

the key aspects in forming a geographical way of thinking. Secondly, the regional planning is the most actual practical-political theme, because it reveals the basis of regional politics, forms the view on the outlooks of practical development of the native region. A combination of scientific and political actual aspects influences on educational and methodological importance of these themes.

Released in Kherson methodology is shortened and incomplete version of Methodology of integrated planning of regional development in Ukraine that was designed as a part of the EU Program “Support the politics of regional development in Ukraine” for systematizing and improving the way of planning and implementation of regional development.

It is rather important to unify theoretic-methodological and practical steps of investigation (learning) the subject while presenting the questions of strategic planning of regional development.

That is why; the first step is a maximized approaching to practical needs of Kherson region, a thorough research of the Strategy of Kherson region’s development up to 2020 that was produced by the Working group of Kherson regional administration and it was submitted for consideration to society and further to the session in Kherson regional administration. Such approach is based on the paradigm of actionalism in modern European science, and also on the works of famous French sociologist Alen Turen. His approach is formed on creative, active position of a researcher, a representative of a creative group, who is not just passively observing the process of happenings, but vice versa, participating in the process, who takes an active social part in social transformations and arranging some reforms. As for Ukrainian society that passes through constantly social changes, revolutions, the idea of active bothering of researcher into social life, about social intervention is trivial. “Sociology, also like History, is changing with exact social reality, - Alen Turen wrote, - and slowly disengaging from connecting with nature and the essence of things, while it is found out that our social life is mostly happening and changing because of our work, social conflicts, cultural produces and political debates.”[8, p.128].

The embodying of this principle – “activated” learning of the process of strategic planning of regional development is realized in active participation by educators and students in social life: educators, heads of departments and deans take part in scientific investigation program of Kherson regional administration, they are the participants of working group that designs “The strategy of regional development of Kherson region till 2020”. The designing of this strategy is supported by the EU Project “Support of regional development politics in Ukraine”, the educators have a chance to provide students with actual information “at first hand”, to discuss not only theoretical but also practical questions about elaborating the strategy of regional development. On the other hand, an educator has an opportunity to involve students who are studying the methodology of strategic planning of regional development, to take an active part in monitoring a development of Strategy that is made by the Association of regional centers of Ukraine that is included the Center of researching the south-ukrainian borders’ region, the social analytical organization, arranged by the department of socio-economical geography in KSU.

The most important methodological principle of learning the strategy of regional development is a principle of systematic, the strategy of regional development should be observed in connection with the strategy of general national development, they are co-ordinated with strategies of other regionals’ developments especially with neighboring regions, we should provide an interdisciplinary approach, combine geographical knowledge and methods with economics, sociology and other fields of science. A realization of educational and scientific principle of systematic while learning the theme, combines the systematic of the subject of learning/researching and the systematic of integration research and educational methods, approaches of different studies.

The governmental strategy of regional development of Ukraine till 2020 is formed on the basis of European approaches to regional development and foresees a creation by each Ukrainian region their own strategies of development till 2020, the main role plays their proper competitive advantages and real perspectives their development.

The methodology of strategic regional development is a creative combination of main components of development – social, economic and ecological connected with interfiled priorities and it is not just their sum.

The planning of regional development includes working up analytical documents about the conditions of social and economic development of region; such analysis was made in our region and the educators are now using actively the materials and ideas from this analysis while teaching the course “The theory of regional development”. The SWOT-analysis of the competitive advantages of regional development was made; also ways of development and strategic aims were marked. This part of a plan we call the Strategic platform.

An important issue is a maximum involvement in producing the strategy of regional development each interested sight such as the administration, self-government, business, universities, society and mass media. Such approach is a significant condition of approximation and realistic of a strategy, in other words, the possibility of its realization. The consolidated social participation in creating the strategy provides clarity and openness of the process, constant following by mass media, wide society circle, experts and researchers. It is necessary to avoid an extra politization, manipulating usage the strategy of regional development by separated regional groups, which have the aim to achieve their own selfish and group’s prosperity.

The analytical part of the regional strategy includes data, that is a quintessence of geographical approach, the basis of speciality:

- Geographical location
- Landscape peculiarities of relief, characteristics of soils and hydrology
- The potential of natural resources
- Climate conditions (temperature conditions, precipitations, air humidity, winds, etc)
- Administrative section, place in national labour section
- Peculiarities of social and economic development during last 5 years
- Ecological situation on the territory

- Political situation
- Financial and budget situation
- Level of life of society and its job activity

That is why while investigating this theme, it is necessary to emphasize on social meaning of geographical specialities and Geography as a science.

An important methodological issue of learning the process of strategic of regional development is a modern theory of centre-periphery organization of geospace [5]. The progress of society is connected with various social-space processes, the unity of their interaction provides a peculiar territorial organization of society, leads to popularization and forming a center-periphery structures. Area division into centers and peripheries of social-space development leads to increasing of disproportion of regional development, appearing large periphery domains with low rates of social development and quality of society life-conditions. The processes of peripheralization can be seen as well as at the general national level but also at regional and local levels. National processes and decentralization of government which are connected with solving the problem of administration of periphery territories and improvement of administrative-territorial organization in periphery regions, these also enhance the actuality of given research. The fragmentation of the area by conditions “center-periphery” is observed in social and economic displays and should be considered while the designing the Strategy of regions and other Ukrainian territories development.

Kherson region is a peculiar depressive region where special disproportions of area development and connections with the center have created. As Dr. I.Pilipenko considers: “... The geospace paradigm, as interdisciplinary general science methodology, helps to fully characterize the systematic-structural, dynamic and functional aspects of appearing and supporting the geospace impurity and to describe them in the context of concept “center-periphery”” [5, c.33]. Such approach gives the opportunity to examine and learn during the lectures and practices the economic- and space- population of Kherson region, to analyze the origin of new urbanistics nucleuses, to see a new sense and opportunity in the

development of periphery.

At the department of socio-economic geography such necessary part of regional development is investigated as human capital, the role of intellectual unit of regional development. The activation of creative section of society, regional intellectual elite is an important condition of increasing a regional development and an essential aspect of strategic planning of development Kherson region [1, с. 27-31].

Conclusion. The main principles and methodological basis of students learning a strategy of regional development are such: the scientific approach (a fundament of modern European researches), systematic approach (systematic approach to the subject and to the aim and other approaches – social, economic or ecological), interdisciplinary approach (combination of paradigm and research strategies of different sciences), close connection with practice, learning the problem of strategic planning of regional development in the context of the theory of center-periphery connections, with taking into account modern theories and indexes of human capitals' development; practical active participation of students in social work of designing a strategy of regional development.

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Summary

Daria Malchykova. Volodymyr Korobov, Ihor Pylypenko. Students' research initiatives in the study of strategic planning of regional development.

The article describes the methodological foundations and principles of students study the various aspects of the process of strategic planning of regional development. One of the priorities of innovative pedagogical and methodological work in teaching appears the competence approach. Competence in this approach is the ability of students to solve concrete tasks of regional development evaluation. According to dalto-competence approach in the training of students and development of educational programs the following principles and approaches are offered: scientific, systematic, interdisciplinary approach, the close connection with practice, study of the problem of strategic planning of regional development in the context of the theory of centre-periphery relations, taking into account modern theories and indicators of human capital development; hands-on active student participation in research and social work on the elaboration of a regional development strategy.

During lectures and workshops the idea of the possibility and the need of comprehensive social and economic indicators for evaluating the effectiveness of regional management usage develops. An instructor of courses has a problem – students' mastery of modern measuring the level of regional development methods. This includes mastering acquaintance with the latest methods and measurement of students' design skills indexes of regional development and their use for comparative analysis of regional development. In a shortage of own resources lacking to peripheral universities to conduct their own research there could be a research and educational school for students. It is extremely important to the teachers and students to be involved in the implementation of research projects of local NGOs that can

offset this deficiency.

Solving scientific and practical problems in process of strategic planning of regional development was provided by a set of research and educational activities: clarification of the concept of "region" using the methodology of a systematic analysis and the determination of the characteristics of regional socio-economic system. Students in the study of the topics are noted the importance of determination of the characteristics of regional socio-economic system, they used general scientific methods of generalization, systematization, axiomatic method, deduction, induction, comparative historical method and so on. SWOT-analysis is widely used.

Keywords: educational programs, methodological principles, regional development, strategic planning of regional development.

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