

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION IN THE FIELD OF CULTURE IN THE DIRECTORY EPOCH OF THE UKRAINIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC (DECEMBER 1918 - 1920)

KUPRIYCHUK V. M.

PhD in Public Administration,
Doctoral candidate at the Social and Humanitarian Policy Department of
The National Academy of Public Administration
E-mail: kvm1968@ukr.net

Abstract:

This paper deals with the state and management influence of the Ukrainian People's Republic Directory on the national and cultural development of the Ukrainian People's Republic (December 1918 - 1920). Peculiarities of the cultural development in this historical period are under the review, positive experience of the Directory humanitarian policy in the context of humanitarian development of modern Ukraine is analyzed.

Keywords:

Public Administration, government, humanitarian policy, culture, Directory, the Ukrainian People's Republic.

Statement of the problem. The revolutionary events of 1917 in Ukraine opened a new chapter in the history of Public Administration in the field of culture. Overthrow of the Russian Empire with its centuries-long Russification policy, struggle for the establishment of a sovereign Ukrainian state, deep social and economic and political changes and the resulting wave of expectations and hope for the national revival aroused spiritual growth in a society that was manifested in public cultural development. The historical experience of the humanitarian policy of

those days is very important for the successful solution of the modern problems. Therefore, the profound and comprehensive study of the forms, methods and means of the state's influence on the national culture development in different periods of the national liberation struggle of the Ukrainian people in 1917-1920s, especially in the epoch of the Ukrainian People's Republic Directory existence and activity, is topical for "Public Administration" as a science and requires careful analysis of the wide range of archival sources.

Analysis of the recent researches and publications. Publications of the researches on the Ukrainian People's Republic public administration in the field of culture began to emerge during the Directory epoch. In their articles such political and cultural figures as H. Pavlutsky, L. Kurbas, F. Shmidt, M. Hrushevsky, D. Doroshenko, O. Voynarenko, V. Vynnychenko, R. Mlynovetsky and others dealt with the urgent problems of the nation-building of the national culture on the territory of Ukraine. After the Ukrainian People's Republic defeat extremely productive in this area were such members of the Ukrainian diaspora as D. Antonovych, Yu. Lypa, O. Olzhych, D. Doroshenko, D. Chyzhevsky, Ye. Malanyuk, I. Kostetsky etc.

Works by modern scholars such as V. Averyanov, V. Troschynsky, V. Luhovyy, V. Skurativsky, V. Knyazyev, P. Sytnyk, I. Kuras, V. Mayboroda, V. Maslov, I. Nadolny, N. Nyzhnyk, P. Nadolishny, V. Ryzhyh, I. Rozputenko, V. Bykov and others deal with

the issues of various components of the management in the field of culture and public administration theory and history. In their works scholars reveal current trends in public administration of the humanitarian sphere, explore such issues as decentralization of state's influence on the spiritual life of the society, public role and place in the management of culture, essence of the state management of higher education, science and other components of the humanitarian sphere.

Emphasizing of the unsolved aspects of the problem to which the article is dedicated. For more than nine decades the Ukrainian national revolution has been at the heart of the scientific debates, having given rise to the appearance of a large variety of general literature. In spite of this there is a range of key issues of the public administration in the field of culture during the Ukrainian People's Republic Directory epoch which remain unexplored. Peculiarities and mechanisms of this process, various aspects of the state's impact of those days on the revival of the Ukrainian culture, the formation of the specialized institutions of the public administration of the national culture and art issues, etc. require further research.

In recent decades some aspects of this problem have been reflected in the works of the Ukrainian scientists: V. Andruschenko, A. Alekseyuk, V. Bondar, A. Derbak, M. Dmytrychenko, V. Kozakov, K. Korsak, V. Kremen, V. Sytnik, Yu. Chernetskyy, H. Schokin, T. Yatsenko and others. However, its complete analysis in the available modern literature is absent.

Aim of the article. Revealing of the essence, content and peculiarities of the state cultural development of the Ukrainian People's Republic in the Directory epoch (1918 - 1920).

Summary of the basic material. After the repudiation of authority by Hetman Skoropadskyy on December 14, 1918 and the rise to power of the Directory Ukrainian People's Republic was up built. National and cultural life of those days was influenced by the central government in the first half of 1919. Total insecurity, ambiguous policy, permanent warring against the Bolshevik and White Russian forces contributed to the state's support of cultural processes. But state and management mechanisms of the Ukrainian culture development continued to evolve and in some areas this process was quite rapid.

Very important step of the Ukrainian People's Republic Directory in the humanitarian policy was resolution of December, 24 1918, according to which in the government there was created a position of the Minister of Arts, which was taken up by D. Antonovich. However, complex military and political conditions of the late 1918 - early 1919 did not give an opportunity to realize such enactment. Therefore, state and management functions in the Ukrainian culture

organization and development were carried out by the Chief Administration of Arts and National Culture within the Ministry of Public Education, which consisted of six departments: of Preservation of Ancient Buildings and Art Heritage (head - M. Bilyashivskyy), of Archive and Library (V. Modzalevskyy), of Plastic Arts (H. Pavlutsky), of Theater (M. Starytska), of Art Industry (A. Sereda) and of Music (Ya. Akymenko-Stepovyy, and since January, 1 1919 - K. Stetsenko) (Fund 3689, s. 1, 36).

On December, 30 1918 at the meeting of the Directory the Theatre Council within the Ministry of Public Education was entrusted to examine the state of theatrical affairs in the Ukrainian People's Republic. According to its recommendations the Council of Public Ministers allocated some money to the professional Ukrainian theatres. Thus, the State Drama Theatre received from the government 1.074 million karbowanezes, Kyiv City Theatre - 413 thousand karbowanezes, "Young Theatre" - 100 karbowanezes. (Fund 1429, s. 106).

In January 1919, Theatre Department front office of the Chief Administration defined 11 bills that needed immediate approval of the Directory (Fund 3689, s. 4) and prepared establishment of the instructor and director courses, Ukrainianization and updated repertoire.

Early in 1919 the transition to the Ukrainian repertoire in Kyiv City Opera was launched. During January and February of 1919 Ukrainian-language repertoire was introduced in some theatres in Poltava, Zhytomyr, Berdychiv, Vinnitsa, Odessa and other cities of the Ukrainian People's Republic (Bulletin) (Robitnycha gazeta). On January, 11 1919 Government made a decision to establish National State Opera in Kiev (Fund 62, s. 3). Establishment of the Ukrainian Union of the Theatrical Art Men in Kiev in January 1919 was logical consequence of the theatrical life development. At the same time the magazine "Theatre", which was edited by a known playwright S. Cherkasenko, began its activity (Nova).

State and management activities of the Theatre department were primarily carried out through personnel policy, involving famous actors, directors, theatre workers with establishment of new theatres. For example, with the active participation of Les Kurbas drama theatre was created in Mogyliv-Podilskyy. Mykola Sadovsky organized actors and founded several new theatres, including the Main State Public Theatre in Kamyanyts-Podilskyy. Also, in the Ukrainian People's Republic there were organized about twenty nomadic cultural and educational cinemas to spread education among the urban population, and especially village dwellers (Dnistrianska).

Early in 1919 there was designed a programme of the prospective cinema development in Ukraine, which included a range of measures to increase the network of the stationary and nomadic cinemas and production of the Ukrainian films (Law).

Popularizing movie, the Directory supported legislation based opening of new cinemas and especially founding of children cinemas in Kiev, Katerynoslav, Vinnytsya, Kamyanets-Podilskyy and other cities, which became a novelty in the national cinematography formation. Moreover, the Ukrainian People's Republic government made film distributors introduce systematic exhibition of films in schools, colleges, universities, clubs, people's houses, "Prosvitas" into their practice and increased allocations for the state nomadic cinemas network development (Cinematograph).

Archive and Library department significantly strengthened its management activities in this epoch. Late in 1918 the department developed a range of state measures to support a network of the Ukrainian People's Republic libraries that were backed by 49 million hryvnias allocated by the Directory. Formation of the National Library staff and establishment of the nationwide library fund in its structure continued. It was planned to collect in the National Library all existing scientific publications in the humanities, natural sciences, technical sciences which were published in the Russian Empire and abroad since Middle Ages and till the beginning of the twentieth century (Fund 3689, s. 28).

Chief Administration of Arts and National Culture carried on state support of children libraries development, foundation of which began during the UCR (Ukrainian Central Rada) epoch. Due to the growing needs of the younger generation in study materials and fiction, early in 1919 administration funded opening of new children libraries networks in towns and large villages. Later, on the initiative of Kiev "Prosvita" and support of the Ministry of Public Education there was developed a programme of one thousand residential libraries opening in the Ukrainian People's Republic within the next two years. Their founding made a qualitative change in the library development and became one of the innovations of the Directory state policy on the libraries development in Ukraine. And though for a short period of time in power of the Ukrainian People's Republic, this idea was not fully realized, however, the government presented idea remained alive and did not lost its relevance in the following years (Fund 2582, s. 29, 33, 36).

Art Industry department carried out state and management activities to improve the financial condition of Typography schools-workshops in Kiev and Kamyanets-Podilskyy. Budget Committee made a

decision to allocate almost 60 thousand hryvnias to these institutions (Fund 2582, s. 30 - 31). The department developed and the Directory subsequently adopted Appropriation Bill of 635 thousand hryvnias for the establishment and maintenance of 24 handicraft industries schools -workshops in 12 counties in Podilya Governorate (Fund 3689, s. 17). Besides, within the department there was a Commission on the unified school plan development.

State and management activity of the Plastic Arts department was manifested primarily in the reorganization of art schools in the Ukrainian People's Republic. Within the department there was established a committee that made a decision to unite Kiev Art School and the Institute of Architecture and establish the Institute of Plastic Arts that consisted of four faculties. This very committee also prepared a Bill on the establishment of the Institute, its Charter, curricula of the faculties and budget of the Institute (Directory, s. 433 - 444).

Public administration of Musical and Choral Art department was carried out by Art department. On January, 13 1919 the Ukrainian People's Republic Directory Resolution reorganized the State Symphony Orchestra, M Lysenko into "Republican", and for its development more than 66 thousand hryvnias were allocated (Fund 1065, s. 3 - 36). The department monitored cultural events, assisting in amateur endeavours of young art choirs. Thus, with the assistance of the Arts department Folk Choir of Kamyanets-Podilskyy, National choirs of Vinnitsa, Zhytomyr and others received financial assistance from the government.

One of the most important artistic events of the Directory epoch was foundation of the Ukrainian Republican Chapel on January, 24 1919 under the supervision of O. Koshyts and allocation of 2.3 million hryvnias for its development. The chapel was given the task of national importance - to promote Ukrainian national art on the high professional level both in Ukraine and abroad. As a result of touring in France, Czechoslovakia, Austria, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, England, Germany, Poland, Spain Ukrainian musical art first showed itself to the world, having gained popularity in the European countries.

Public administration in other culture branches - literature and art mostly lost that massive character that was observed during the epoch of the Ukrainian State with Hetman P. Skoropadskyy. Public administration of fine art development was aimed not at achieving new but at preserving existing achievements, as well as at protecting cultural monuments. Although in the newspapers and magazines of those days from time to time there appeared some information about art events, for example, the solemn celebration of the 25th work

anniversary of Mykola Voronyy and foundation of the award in his name, however, state and management component of the literature and art development in general stalled. It goes without saying that a progressive event was foundation of the Publisher's Union of Ukraine at the congress of Ukrainian publishers on January, 3 1919, but in conditions of political turmoil such events were rather rare.

Public administration of Preservation of Ancient Buildings and Art Heritage department was primarily aimed at preserving Ukrainian fortresses, including Medzhybizh and Pylyava Fortress of Letychiv County, Satanovsky Castle of Proskuriv County, Podolia and clarifying situation with private and state cultural and historical monuments protection. With the assistance of the Chief Administration of Arts and National Culture and the Ministry of Home Affairs the palace of Count Potocki in Antoniny, Volhynia was taken under protection. In February 1919, the Ukrainian People's Republic Council of Public Ministers assigned 6 million hryvnias to publishers for publication of Ukrainian culture history monuments art series.

Early in February 1919 due to the restoration of Soviet power in Kiev, the Directory and its government were evacuated to Vinnytsya. Subsequent moves of the Ukrainian People's Republic Directory and short stays of Ministry of Public Education in Kamyanets-Podilsky, Rivne, Kolomyia, absence of the Chief Administration of Arts and National Culture department head were unfavourable for the public administration of the national culture development.

However, in September 1919 Theatre Board activity was renewed and the authority of the old members and the need of incorporation of the Artist's Union of Ukraine and Podolia Governorate society "Prosvita" representatives were acknowledged. Theatre department prepared draft resolution on the appropriation of 1,843,000 francs for four months more of Ukrainian Republican choir trip to Western Europe starting from June, 24 1919, which was approved by the Government on October, 16 1919.

Bilshovyk onset and overrun of the Ukrainian lands by Poland in November 1919 made the Directory make a decision to evacuate the government and dissolve all machineries of government. Further machineries of government transformations were sporadic and ineffective. According to the Council of Public Ministers decision on November, 15 1919 I. Ohienkowas appointed as a general proxy minister of the Ukrainian People's Republic government in Kamyanets-Podilsky. The Directory Resolution on February, 16 1920 dismissed on January, 1 1920 26 Ministry of Public Education officials, including three government officials of the Arts and National Culture Administration. Only in April and early in May of 1920 the Directory government institutions resumed their

work to some extent, and on June, 7 1920 the Council of Public Ministers approved the appointment of P. Zaytsev as a head of the Chief Administration of Arts and National Culture, the staff of which consisted only of 3 officials. It is important to mention that until its last days the Directory sought to maintain and develop the humanitarian component of the national life.

Conclusions. Complex political and military situation did not make it possible to create an effective mechanism of cultural processes management and prevented their sustainable creative development. However, new steps were taken in the field of cultural policy and they were a spiritual support of the social awareness national recovery and development. Political insecurity during the Directory epoch, lack of permanent territory and government institutions eventually led to the loss of state control over the artistic process by the Chief Administration of Arts and National Culture. It was the reason for cultural potential of the Ukrainian people during this period being largely unrealized. Experience of those days requires critical reframing and creative application in the humanitarian policy of modern Ukraine.

References

- Central Central state archive of the higher bodies of authority and control of Ukraine. – Fund 3689. – Description 1. – Case 7. – Page 1, 36.
- Central state archive of the higher bodies of authority and control of Ukraine. – Fund 1429. – Description 2. – Case 7. – Page 106.
- Central state archive of the higher bodies of authority and control of Ukraine. – Fund 3689. – Description 1. – Case 21. – Page 4.
- Bulletin of the Ukrainian People's Republic. – 1919. – January, 22.
- Robitnycha gazeta. – 1919. – January, 26.
- Institute of manuscripts of Vernadsky National Library of Ukraine – Fund 62. – Case 193. – Page 3.
- Nova Rada. – 1919. – January, 26.
- Dnistryanska hvylya. – 1919. – September, 14.
- Law on the Ukrainian inscriptions in motion picture films of the Ukrainian People's Republic / Bulletin of the State Laws. K.: – 1919. – March, 2.
- Cinematograph / Bulletin of the society "Prosvita" in Katerynoslav. Bilshovyk. – 1919. – May, 3.
- Central state archive of the higher bodies of authority and control of Ukraine. – Fund 3689. – Description 1. – Case 21. – Page 28.
- Central state archive of the higher bodies of authority and control of Ukraine. – Fund 2582. – Description 2. – Case 176. – Page 29, 33, 36.
- Central state archive of the higher bodies of authority and control of Ukraine. – Fund 2582. – Description 2. – Case 176. – Page 30-31.

Central state archive of the higher bodies of authority and control of Ukraine. - Fund 3689. - Description1. - Case21. - Page1-17.

Directory, Council of the Public Ministers of the Ukrainian People's Republic. 1918-1920. Doc. and mat. in 2 volumes. -V. 2. -K., 2006, P. 433-444.

Central state archive of the higher bodies of authority and control of Ukraine. - Fund 1065. - Description1. - Case147, 279. - Page3-36.

Central state archive of the higher bodies of authority and control of Ukraine. - Fund 2582. - Description2. - Case176. - Page27.