

SPIRITUAL FACTORS OF THE DEVELOPMENT OF A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

***Abstract:** This article discusses the spiritual factors of the development of a democratic society. The main elements of a democratic society are analyzed.*

***Key words:** democracy, civil society, individual, society, spirituality*

Comparison of approaches to the implementation of democracy in different countries shows that each of them is unique in its own way. At the same time, it is possible to make various classifications: according to the dominant branch of power, according to the regional hierarchy of power, according to the number of parties, etc. Further generalization allows us to identify the basic political institutions necessary (although perhaps not sufficient) to achieve an ideal democracy.

The practical implementation of democracy depends on many factors, especially the size of the population and the size of the territory. Compared to large administrative units, small units are more homogeneous in composition and provide better opportunities for direct participation in political life. In compact communities, it is possible to organize effective discussions and provide ample opportunities for citizens to influence policy. Therefore, it is easier for smaller structures to satisfy the criteria of democracy. At the same time, as the size decreases, the real power and ability to solve problems, especially on defense and economic issues, decreases. One of the ways to resolve this contradiction lies in the division of spheres of influence between administrative and social units of various levels, in particular, by granting autonomy to cities and regions. The most common method is to use representative forms of government in large units

A political system that includes the above seven institutions is called a "polyarchy". The main features of the polyarchy are the possibility of political competition, ensuring the right to participate in politics and management on the basis of a coalition. Such rule is the opposite of dictatorship, when the choice of political course is dominated by the preferences of one group. An important role is played by the need of competing elites to enlist the support of the general population, which is not typical for an oligarchy.

Polyarchy institutions create conditions for the emergence of independent and diverse organizations that play an important role in the political life of the country, which entails political pluralism.

Throughout the 20th century, political scientists tended to believe that a significant number of countries supported the institutions listed above in due measure and therefore, in practice, can be considered democratic. At the same time, a country may meet the standard of polyarchy even if it lacks proportional representation, referendums, party primaries, social equality, or local government democracy. As Robert Dahl notes, the ideal of democracy makes extremely high demands, and it is likely that over time the polyarchy will begin to be considered an insufficiently democratic system.

Jean Baudrillard believes that modern democratic society is a consumer society, a society of self-deception, where neither true feelings, nor culture, nor any true values are possible, where the meaning of human life is reduced to ever-increasing consumption as a justification for the growth of the capitalist economy at any cost. From Baudrillard's point of view, democracy, democratic values through globalization are transformed into a standardized impersonal product, a kind of product that is sold to other cultures in the package of absolute goodness as a universal means of solving all problems, which causes various forms of rejection among those who are forcibly imposed on this product. Some researchers argue that the promotion of democracy in the world is one of the consequences of the globalization of the world economy, which also

leads to increased international competition, migration flows and a decrease in the social rights of workers in developed countries [approx. four].

From the point of view of Noam Chomsky, control over the media in the interests of a narrow group of people in modern society makes it possible to manipulate the mass consciousness, when the mass is instilled with one or another idea or opinion that it perceives as its own and an illusion of popular will is created on the basis of democratic procedures.

As the head of the Department of General Political Science at the Higher School of Economics, Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Leonid Polyakov notes: "Today, many of Lenin's ideas are very relevant. For example, criticism of bourgeois democracy as a hidden form of the dictatorship of capital. He wrote: who owns, he rules. In such a situation, ranting about the power of the people is simply a hoax". A number of authors with a socialist orientation believe that democratic principles must be developed not only in the political sphere, but also in the economic sphere.

Economic democracy[en] developed in the writings of Bernstein and his followers. It is defined as a set of measures necessary to eliminate inequalities in the distribution of economic power that are detrimental to democracy; as a matter of a more even distribution of private property and the partial confiscation of economic power from private hands and its gradual transfer in one legitimate way or another (within the existing legal system) under democratically accountable collective control, since some researchers believe that since political democracy was achieved for equalization of political power, then economic democracy will be achieved through a more even distribution of economic power.

Functionally, economic democracy in enterprises (participation of workers in management, industrial democracy) implies a wider participation of ordinary workers in the share capital of the company, control of works councils (lower levels of economic democracy) over a significant area of production

activity: humanization of labor, social policy, policy in the field of employment and includes the requirement for equal participation of works councils in the management of the enterprise on an equal footing with owners and managers.

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From the point of view of Noam Chomsky, control over the media in the interests of a narrow group of people in modern society makes it possible to manipulate the mass consciousness, when the mass is inspired by this or that idea or opinion, which it perceives as its own, and the illusion of popular will is created on the basis of democratic procedures.

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