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MASS MEDIA OF NATIONAL MINORITIES AS A MEANS OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION IN SOCIETY

Abstract

This paper examines how the presence the media of national minorities aligns itself with the principles of civil society principles and fosters tolerance and stability in the Ukrainian multi-ethnic society. It follows from the analysis that the existence of periodicals published by national minorities increases social awareness, contributes to national reconciliation, mutual understanding between people, and promotes social development. It was found that ongoing publication of national periodicals approved by the state enables representatives of national minorities to feel equal citizens of Ukraine, whose high social status and cultural needs are acknowledged and recognized. The registered periodicals and radio broadcasts of the Polish national minorities in the Carpathian region evince the existence of free non-governmental organizations that reflect the interests of social groups and their values. It is emphasized that the Polish community of Prykarpattia is dispersed, therefore the development trend of its social media reflects the nationwide progress of ethnic integration of particular national communities into society. Also, the authors show that Polish-language and bilingual newspapers and magazines of the Ivano-Frankivsk region are important factors in the preservation and public expression of the identity of national minorities, reflect their unique culture, traditions and the degree of their assimilation.

Keywords

national minorities, periodicals, public organizations, polyethnic society, legislation, national reconciliation

A national minority is a group of people of non-dominant status who live in a modern ethnic environment. A national minority includes persons who have citizenship and, by definition, do not play a leading role in society, which lead to the defense of political rights and provision of adequate legal protection. The national minority is compromised in amount in comparison with other ethnic groups, but has enough strength to influence the political situation in the regions of residence. In order to preserve ethnic identity, the national minority creates special institutions, national, cultural centers, educational institutions, and the media¹.

An important feature of the modern world is the polyethnic composition of the population of many countries, which occurred as a result of changes in the political map of the world after the two world wars and increased migration due to local conflicts or economic reasons. Such polyethnicity requires both legislative regulation and public acceptance. Therefore, it is important, from the point of view of the European direction of Ukraine, to consider the manifestation of identity and originality of national minorities through their periodicals².

Representatives of various national minorities have traditionally lived in Ukraine, who interact with Ukrainians economically, socially, culturally in order to, depending on the circumstances, either to preserve their identity or to assimilate.

Therefore, modern Ukrainian researchers, in particular G. Lutsyshyn³, focus on the place and role of national minorities in the political life of Ukraine, noting that ensuring the declared rights and freedoms of national minorities is a prerequisite for both national consolidation and successful foreign policy of Ukraine⁴. Researchers I. Lopushinsky and I. Popova emphasize the need for cooperation with national minorities to achieve tolerance in society⁵.

O. Rafalsky's historiographical work covers various interpretations of views, starting with Russian Empire, the realities of "indigenization" policy of the 1920s and 1930s, and ineffective declarativeness of the Soviet empire regarding the formation of a democratic independent Ukraine⁶. Chirko B.V. and Orlyansky V.S. characterize the national minorities of Ukraine in the early twentieth century⁷. Mironova I.⁸ and Yu. Kolisnyk study the press of national minorities during formation of Ukrainian

¹ Yakubova 2010.

² Bezverkha 2016.

³ Lutsyshyn 2002.

⁴ Lutsyshyn 2012.

⁵ Lopushinsky 2013.

⁶ Rafalsky 2001.

⁷ Chirko 1995.

⁸ Mironova 2006.

statehood⁹. The works of N. Myalovytska¹⁰ and Ryaboshapka L. are devoted to the legal status of national minorities of Ukraine¹¹.

As for public organizations of national minorities, they are, as a rule, only the background of research on political and legal aspects of protection of national minorities' rights (O. Antonyuk, N. Belitzer, V. Nikityuk, Y. Rymarenko, M. Shulga, L. Shklyar). Modern researchers: L.D. Yakubova, V.M. Shvets, T.M. Bezverkha, D. Dutsyk, M. Dvorovy in their works consider the press of national minorities of Ukraine as a factor of ethnic consolidation of society.

Therefore, the paper's purpose is to determine the periodicals' features of national minorities of Ukraine, in particular Ivano-Frankivsk region, to revive and preserve their national identity and interests, to consolidate into Ukrainian society. The goal is to determine the degree of observance of declared rights and freedoms, social and political activity of national minorities, expression of their identity and originality in periodicals.

It is used philosophical and general scientific methods of scientific research, which are inherent in modern science, in their interconnection and complementarity. The research was implemented and based on the general methodology – from theory to practice, system-structural, functional methods, methods of system analysis and comparative method as the main approaches for comparing the researched processes. The methodological basis of the research is general scientific methods on the realization of the national minorities' rights for their own mass media in modern Ukrainian society, in particular empirical, comparative, analytical and descriptive methods. The method of system analysis made it possible to determine the peculiarities of modern national minorities in Ukraine and the realization of their right to form their own mass media. The analytical method made it possible to determine the main problems and tendencies in using the potential of mass media of national minorities to strengthen tolerance and stability in the Ukrainian multi-ethnic society. The key method was a comparative and critical analysis of the activities of public organizations and their own mass media of national minorities of modern Ukraine, using the example of the Ivano-Frankivsk region.

NATIONAL MINORITIES IN UKRAINE

Ukraine, as a state, guarantees equal political, economic, social and cultural rights to all peoples, national groups and citizens living on its territory through the Constitution and laws. Discrimination on national grounds is forbidden and

⁹ Kolisnyk 2000.

¹⁰ Myalovytska 2013.

¹¹ Ryaboshapka 2001.

punished by law. Tolerance is formed under the influence of a whole set of factors. The media play a key role in this process. To a large extent, formation of communication practices within society between different groups, and consequently the social climate in general, depends on them.

Representatives of national minorities may not be discriminated against and, in particular, become the object of hate speech. States should promote minorities access to the media, as well as encourage the creation and broadcasting of television and radio programs in the languages of national minorities. Journalists in particular, as well as the media in general, must be neutral in their coverage of minority issues. This allows to look at the problems from different angles and perspectives.

As of January 1, 2022, the population of Ukraine amounted to 41.16 million people (since 2014 – excluding the occupied territories (Crimea, Sevastopol, parts of Donbas)¹². In connection with the All-Ukrainian population census from 2011, it was postponed to a later date, then we use the data of the All-Ukrainian census of 2001. According to the 2001 All-Ukrainian Census, more than 130 nationalities and ethnic groups live in Ukraine. The vast majority of the national population are Ukrainians – 37,541.7 thousand people or 77.8% of the total population. The second place was occupied by Russians – 8334.1 thousand people, or 17.3%. The five largest national communities living in Ukraine, along with Russians, include Belarusians, Moldovan, Crimean Tatars and Bulgarians. Another five groups are Hungarians, Romanians, Poles, Jews, Armenians¹³.

On June 25, 1992, the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted the Law About National Minorities in Ukraine¹⁴, which not only took into account the specifics of ethno-national development of Ukraine, but also the international experience of regulating interethnic relations. The adoption of this law was of fundamental importance for the state's prospects, because the construction of polyethnic democratic legal society was declared. The rights of national minorities were also recorded in the 1996 Constitution of Ukraine. Sovereign Ukraine has ratified international legal instruments for regulating the situation of national minorities in polyethnic societies: The European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1997).

Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (1995), Art. 9 which provides the right to receive and share information in the native language both within the country and abroad, which is realized primarily through the possibility of creating their own media published in the national language. The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (1992) entered into force in Ukraine on

¹² Population of Ukraine in 2022.

¹³ Dutsyk, Dvoroviy 2019.

¹⁴ The Law of Ukraine On National Minorities in Ukraine, 1992.

1 January 2006. In May 1996, the Council of Representatives of Public Associations of National Minorities was established at the Ministry of Nationalities and Migration of Ukraine to coordinate the state-building potential of national minorities.

On April 19, 2000, it was held the Council of Representatives of Public Associations of National Minorities with the President of Ukraine, which helped increase the role of public organizations of national minorities in the development of state policy and Ukrainian statehood. The decisions of the Council were of recommendatory nature, its work was provided by the Ministry of Justice of Ukraine. In 2001, the State Committee of Ukraine for Nationalities and Migration was established.

In order to meet the information needs of national minorities, on September 18, 2018, the Concept of Broadcasting on the Subject of National Minorities was approved¹⁵. In accordance with the Concept, in 2019, the National Minorities Broadcasting Coordination Center was established to coordinate comprehensive cooperation with regional branches of the Public Broadcaster and all national minorities living in Ukraine with the aim of comprehensively representing the ethnic diversity of Ukraine at the national level.

Starting in early 2019, there is still no separate ministry or state committee that would take care of national minority issues. Instead, there is a relevant department at the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine, as well as relevant departments or divisions at regional state administrations in different regions. The Ministry of Culture and Information Policy of Ukraine is the main body in the system of central executive bodies that ensures the formation and implementation of state policy in the field of international relations and the protection of the rights of national minorities in Ukraine.

Ensuring and protecting the rights of indigenous peoples and national minorities in Ukraine in accordance with international, in particular European, human rights standards is defined as a strategic goal within the framework of The National Strategy in the field of human rights, approved by the Decree of the President of Ukraine.

Today, during the armed aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine and the temporary occupation of part of the territory of Ukraine, the Government of Ukraine uses all possible measures aimed at ensuring the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. Ukraine takes all possible measures to protect and maintain the rights and freedoms of internally displaced persons who were forced to leave their place of permanent residence during the period of the Russian Federation's temporary occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the city of Sevastopol, and certain areas of Donetsk Oblast and Luhansk Oblast, including national minorities. As a result of the armed aggression of the Russian Federation, a significant part of citizens of Ukraine among national minorities and ethnic

¹⁵ The Concept Of Broadcasting On The Subject Of National Minorities, 2018.

Ukrainians found themselves in the status of “minority within a minority” in the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine. Ukraine carries out positive action policy measures to preserve the Crimean Tatar language as the language of the indigenous people of Ukraine, which is in a vulnerable situation. The Decree of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine approved the Concept for the Development of the Crimean Tatar Language. The document is aimed to create conditions for the revitalization of the Crimean Tatar language to a safe level through legislative, institutional, organizational, financial, informational and other means of ensuring its functioning as a language of one of the indigenous peoples of Ukraine¹⁶.

MASS MEDIA OF NATIONAL MINORITIES IN UKRAINE

As of January 1, 2021, there are 107 cultural centers of national minorities in Ukraine, whose activities are aimed at preserving and developing the cultural identity of ethnic communities, the most numerous of which are: Jewish (17), Polish (16), German (15) communities, as well as 13 multinational (those that unite several national minorities). As of May 11, 2021, 1,373 public organizations of national minorities were registered in Ukraine. The largest number of such public organizations were registered in Odesa (177), Zaporizhia (105), Dnipropetrovsk (91), Donetsk (79, including temporarily occupied territories), Zakarpattia (70), Cherkasy (59), Kherson (58) regions, as well as in Kyiv (65)¹⁷. Public associations of national minorities are non-governmental organizations that represent the ethnic, social and cultural interests of their representatives. Traditional and modern media are an important means of expressing such interests. Ethnic print media play an important role in promoting democracy, peace and harmony in the country, really contribute to the implementation of European norms and standards in ethnopolitics of multinational Ukraine¹⁸.

During its existence (since October 1991), newspapers of national minorities underwent repeated reorganizations – they were supplements to the newspaper of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine “Voice of Ukraine”, then transferred to the State Committee of Ukraine for Nationalities and Migration. Since 2011, state support of newspapers has been within the competence of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine. According to the Law On Reforming State and Municipal Print Media in 2018, the Ministry of Culture issued an order to withdraw from the co-founders of print media.

¹⁶ Fifth Report submitted by Ukraine, 10 January 2022.

¹⁷ Ibidem.

¹⁸ Shvets 2012.

Newspapers of national societies are exclusively educational (cover cultural, educational and social spheres aimed at protecting the national language, customs) and cannot compete with sociopolitical publications, moreover with commercial ones. Therefore, without state support, publishing newspapers in the languages of national minorities cannot be possible¹⁹.

In 2004, 4084 exclusively Ukrainian-language publications were registered in Ukraine, 2620 in Russian, 10 in Hungarian, 4 in Polish, 6 in Romanian, 4 in Crimean Tatar, 27 in English, 2 in Bulgarian, and 2 in German²⁰.

An important aspect of the realization of the national minorities' rights in Ukraine is the possibility of publishing printed media in the languages of national minorities. As of November 2020, the total circulation of print mass media in the languages of national minorities was 205,100 copies. According to the data of the State Register of Print Mass Media and Information Agencies in 2020, the amount of periodicals in the languages of national minorities as subjects of information activity in relation to registered print mass media in the language of publications of national minorities is: Russian – 15,757, Belarusian – 9, Armenian – 3, Gagauz – 4, Yiddish – 3, Crimean Tatar – 34, Moldovan – 1, German – 113, Polish – 78, Romanian – 35, Slovak – 10, Hungarian – 46²¹.

According to the State TV and Radio Committee of Ukraine, in 2020 the total number of newspaper editions in the languages of the world was 1,527, of which 878 newspapers are published in Ukrainian; in Russian – 293 newspapers; 2 newspapers are published in English; in Hungarian – 3 newspapers; 1 newspaper in Polish, the rest ones are bilingual or trilingual. Newspapers in the languages of national minorities make up 42.6% of the total number in Ukraine²².

Let's consider in more detail the situation with the spread of mass media of national minorities in the regions of Ukraine.

The annexation of the Crimean Peninsula by the Russian Federation and hostilities in the area of the anti-terrorist operation in the territories of the self-proclaimed Donetsk People's Republic and Luhansk People's Republic temporarily make it impossible to monitor the mass media of national minorities in these territories. Since the time of the temporary occupation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the territories of the Luhansk and Donetsk regions, the Russian Federation has pursued a policy of information isolation of the local population from the information space of Ukraine. In the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine, the Russian Federation illegally stopped broadcasting in the state lan-

¹⁹ Orel 2012.

²⁰ History of the press in Ukraine.

²¹ Fifth Report submitted by Ukraine, 10 January 2022.

²² Publication of printed mass media in Ukraine according to the results of 2020, March 29, 2021.

guage of Ukraine, limited access to Ukrainian periodicals, and blocked websites of Ukrainian information resources. Full control over mass media broadcasting in the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine has been established. Most of the mass media operating in the occupied territories of Ukraine are under the control of the Russian Federation. Pro-Russian Crimean Tatar mass media were created: Public Crimean Tatar Television and Radio Company, Millet TV channel, Vetan radio channel. Discriminatory restrictions on access to the Ukrainian information space and mass media complicate the opportunities for further integration and self-realization in Ukrainian society of citizens of Ukraine from the temporarily occupied territories of different ethnic identities and increase their informational, cultural and social segregation.

In the east of Ukraine, in the territories of the Donetsk and Luhansk regions controlled by the Ukrainian authorities, the number of mass media of national minorities has been significantly reduced. Until 2014, the program “Polish Wave of Donbass” and the television program “TV Poles of Donbass” were broadcast on Donetsk regional radio, and the newspaper “Poles of Donbass” was published (in Ukrainian and Polish). Due to hostilities in the fall of 2014, the office of the Donetsk public organization “Cultural and Educational Society of Belarusians “Neman” was destroyed. In the Donetsk region, the official websites of the Federation of Greek Societies of Ukraine and the F. Stambulzhi Donetsk City Society of Greeks constantly covers information about the societies’ activities, commemorative dates, national holidays and other events of the Greek national minority. For the Greek population of the controlled territory of the Donetsk region, the newspapers “Ellyny Ukrainy”, “Kambana”, and “Khronos” continue to be published. Materials about the daily life of Germans in the Donetsk region were posted on the websites of the Council of Germans of Ukraine, the Charitable Foundation Development Society, the International Council of German Culture, etc.

The Severodonetsk City Society of Germans Widergeburt national and cultural association operates on the territory of the Luhansk region controlled by the Ukrainian authorities. In the Luhansk region, out of 16 newspapers, the founders of which are local executive authorities and local self-government bodies, 14 are bilingual: Ukrainian-Russian. However, in the territory controlled by the Ukrainian authorities, there is currently no regional sociopolitical newspaper.

The city of Kyiv is the center of printed publications of national minorities of Ukraine: the national monthly “Upuguo” and “Aragats”, a newspaper of the Armenian national minority of Ukraine in Ukrainian and Russian, are published in Armenian; “Dziennik Kijowski” (Pismo społeczne, ekonomiczne i literackie) and “Wolność i Prawo” – national publications in Polish; “Jewish News” – a national newspaper of the Jewish Council of Ukraine in Ukrainian and “Hadashot” – a monthly newspaper in Russian of the Association of Jewish Organizations and

Communities of Ukraine; “Forum of Nations” is a monthly newspaper in Ukrainian of the Congress of National Communities of Ukraine²³.

In the Zhytomyr region, the Zhytomyr regional state television and radio company systematically and widely covers current topics related to the Polish-national community, since the largest Polish minority in Ukraine lives in the region. Regional television in the cycle of programs about the life of local Poles “Chervona Kalyna” covers the various activities of about 50 Polish public organizations every week. The life of the Polish community is covered in other programs and in the news editions of “News of Zhytomyr Region”. The Polish-language newspaper “Mozaika Berdychivska” is published with the assistance of the Berdychiv Branch of the Society of Polish Culture. The regional radio and FM radio station Zhytomyr Wave prepares: the Polish-language program “Unity”; information blocks covering the activities of the Jewish, German, Czech, Polish and other national communities of the Zhytomyr region.

In the Rivne region, materials about the Polish diaspora are published in the bilingual newspaper “Volyn Monitor” (in Ukrainian and Polish). On the initiative of the Władysław Stanisław Raymont’s Society of Polish Culture in the Rivne region, weekly program “Weekend in Polish” is published on Radio Track, which covers the culture, customs, and traditions of the Polish ethnic group in Ukrainian and Polish.

In the Chernihiv region, the Polish-Ukrainian-language newspaper “Orle plemie” of the cultural and educational union of Poles of Pryluky is published. The newspaper of the Jewish community “Thiya”/“Renaissance” (Russian language) is published, which is published monthly²⁴.

In the Sumy region, under the Sumy regional state administration, there is a public council, the members of which are representatives of national minorities, who represent the interests of people who live in the territory of the region and use regional or minority languages. Special issues of the newspaper “Blatt” of the Sumy City Center of German Culture are published in the region. In the region, the newspaper “Yahad” in Ukrainian and Russian is published by the Sumy Charitable Jewish Center Hesed Chaim. Also registered is the newspaper “Lebn” Konotop City Charitable Fund Jewish Community Center Ester.

In May 2014, a new “One Country” project was launched in the Poltava region, initiated by the Department of Information Activities and Communications with the Public of the Regional State Administration. The project envisages the holding of press conferences in “Novyny Poltavashchyna”, in particular, by heads of public organizations of national minorities regarding the preservation of the integrity of

²³ Printed mass media of Ukraine.

²⁴ Ibidem.

Ukraine, condemnation of aggression by the Russian Federation, and informing the public about statutory activities.

The informational needs of representatives of national minorities in the Dnipropetrovsk region are covered by regional periodicals, the founders of which are national and cultural societies. On the air of regional radio and television, the topic of the rights of national minorities is covered in information and analytical programs: “Evening panorama”, “News of the day”, “News of the region”, “This day”, “I just live”, “I have found my destiny”, “Divosvit”, “Musical Radio Courier”, “Art Time”, “Evenings”, “In the house the light shines”, “Generation-XXI”. The local Jewish newspaper “Shabbat Shalom” is published monthly in Russian. With the support of the leadership of the regional state administration, a project to create a series of books “National and Cultural Societies of Dnipropetrovsk Region” is being implemented. Ten periodical print mass media whose founders are national minorities are registered. List of printed publications: Herald of the Scientific and Educational Center “Tkuma”, founder of the BF “Scientific and Educational Center of Jewish History and Culture “Tkuma”; “Geula”, “Shalom, haverim” – Dnipropetrovsk Jewish religious community; “Shalom Kryvbas” – Jewish religious community in Kryvyi Rih “Chabad Lubavitch”; “Shabbat shalom”.

In the Odesa region, regional radio and television broadcast weekly programs “Motherland” (in Bulgarian), “Kolorit” (in Bulgarian and Moldovan, alternately), “Actualitets”, “Hymns of the Native Territory”, “Felicitare”, “Playul Natal” (in Moldovan language), “Ana Tarafa” and “Fieldflower” (in Gagauz language). The “Inter-Odesa” television program covers the activities of national associations of the region every week.

The publication of newspapers in the languages of national minorities is supported at the expense of the regional budget: “Roden Kray” – All-Ukrainian state cultural and educational bulletin of Bulgarians of Ukraine, published weekly in Ukrainian and Bulgarian since 2001; “Bulgarians Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow” is a regional cultural and educational bulletin of the Bulgarians of Ukraine, published weekly since 2013; “Luchaferul” is a newspaper of “The All-Ukrainian National-Cultural Moldovan Association” with nationwide distribution, published weekly in the Moldovan language²⁵. Issues of national orientation, direct activity of national communities are constantly reflected in the publications of regional printed publications: in the newspapers “Odesa News”, “Black Sea News”, “Vechirn-ya Odesa”, “Odesa Herald”, “Dumska Ploshcha”, “Migration”²⁶. The newsletter of “The Council of Representatives of the National and Cultural Society of the Odesa Region” is published monthly – the newspaper “Bagatonationalna Odeschyna”.

²⁵ Ibidem.

²⁶ Ibidem.

Local newspapers practice publishing thematic pages in the languages of national minorities. Thus, the newspaper “Reniysky Vestnik” publishes pages in the Gagauz and Moldavian languages every two months; The Izmail newspaper “Prydunayskie vesti” publishes monthly thematic pages in the Moldavian language. The publication of the “Danube Bank” almanac, which publishes the works of local authors in the Moldovan language, has been launched.

In the news and industry programs of regional radio and television of the Kherston region, the topic of ethno-national politics is one of the leading ones. Regional radio Dnipro and FM-radio Tavria of the Kherson regional state television and radio company Scythia systematically broadcast radio programs that talk about the lives of representatives of national minorities in the region: “Radio-gallery “Compatriots”, “They are talking about it”, “Instant life”. Information about the life of national minorities in the region was presented in the programs “Tavriya News”, “Start the day with us”, news programs of the TV channels KRATU and TViy plus. In the city of Skadovsk, there is a city Greek society, which unites about 120 people of Greek nationality. This community takes an active part in the preservation and development of Greek culture, cooperates with other public organizations of the district.

All national minorities of the Vinnytsia region have access to mass media, the opportunity to engage in publishing activities and highlight their cultural and artistic projects and language and educational programs. The TV and radio channels of the regional state TV and radio company VINTERA regularly broadcast informational and musical programs with stories about the multinational life of Vinnytsia. Since 2012, the newspaper “Slovo Polska” has been published once a month in Polish, which covers the life and activities of the Polish community in Vinnytsia, Zhytomyr and Khmelnytskyi regions. Since 2012, the newspaper “Shabbat” in Ukrainian has been published twice a month in the city of Bershad, which covers the events of the Jewish community²⁷.

In the Cherkasy region, periodicals are published, the founders of which are Jewish public organizations: the newspaper “Nadia” (language of publication – Ukrainian, Russian), the newspaper “Razom – Ineinem” (language of publication – Russian).

In the Khmelnytskyi region, the Polish-language newspaper “Nasha Rodzina” (the founders are the regional newspaper “Chas” and the regional branch of the Union of Poles in Ukraine), the Polish magazine “Voice of Podillia” (the founder is the Interdistrict Union of Poles of Podillia) – In Polish and Ukrainian languages, the regional Jewish charity the newspaper “Shalom Aleichem” (the founder of the Khmelnytskyi charitable fund “Hesed Besht”) is published monthly in Russian and

²⁷ Ibidem.

Ukrainian languages at the expense of charitable contributions²⁸. On the initiative of the Khmelnytskyi Charitable Foundation “Hesed Besht”, the program “Lehaim” in Ukrainian is broadcast on the regional radio every month.

In the Chernivtsi region, journalists of the creative association of television and radio programs in the Romanian language are working on the creation of programs of the regional state television and radio company in Romanian. The Polish-language newspaper “Gazeta polska Bukovyny” is published in the region, which includes publications on international relations and the activities of national-cultural societies, as well as Hesed Shushana (Rose of Mercy) – a local bulletin in Ukrainian and Russian of the Chernivtsi Regional Jewish Charitable Fund. Many Romanian-language newspapers are published in the region, namely: “Concordia”, “Zorile Bucovinei”, “Arkashul”, “Libertatea Cuvântului”, four regional newspapers “Meleg natal”, “Gazeta de Hertsa”, “New Day” (“Monitorul de Hliboca”), “Word of Truth” (“Novoselitsa”), “Septentrion Literar”, “Familia”, “Bukovyn Bell”²⁹. All of them contain publications on issues of international relations and activities of national and cultural societies. “Concordia” is financed from the state budget, and “Zorile Bucovinei” and “Gazeta de Hertsa” – from the local budget. TV channel “UA: Bukovyna”, owned by the National Public Broadcasting Company of Ukraine, produces five television programs and eight radio programs in Romanian without translation or subtitles to help the Romanian-speaking minority stay aware of world events³⁰.

In 2019, the Book Chamber of Ukraine registered only one newspaper in the Polish language in the Ivano-Frankivsk region – “Kurier Galicyjski”³¹. Within the framework of the Agreement between Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Radio and Opole Radio of Poland, exchange programs about the life of Ukrainians in Poland and Poles in Ukraine were aired quarterly during the reporting years in Ukrainian and Polish. Freedom of direct reception of radio broadcasts from a neighboring country is ensured in the region. Local FM radio stations broadcast Polish radio programs. The Hungarian community in Ivano-Frankivsk is small, but has its own Hungarian Cultural and Educational Center (Magyar Kulturális Oktatási Központ), which highlights its activities on Facebook³².

In the Lviv region, the radio company Independence broadcasts programs prepared by the Polish editors of the radio company for the Polish community of the region, two monthly magazines are published in Ukrainian and Russian: the regional bulletin of the All-Ukrainian Jewish Fund Hesed-Aryeh and the local edition of the Sholom Aleichem Lviv Society of Jewish Culture – Shofar.

²⁸ Ibidem.

²⁹ Pidkuimukha 2021.

³⁰ Tishchenko 2019.

³¹ Printed mass media of Ukraine.

³² Magyar Kulturális Oktatási Központ 2022.

The Association of Hungarian Journalists of Transcarpathia works in the Transcarpathian region. The Transcarpathian Regional State Television and Radio Company (ZODTRK) has a German, Slovak, Romanian and Hungarian broadcasting editorial office, which translates individual programs in this language from other languages. Broadcasting is financed from the state budget. Vynogradiv-TV broadcasts programs in Hungarian. The radio station Pulzus FM operates in the Berehiv district, which broadcasts in the Hungarian language and promptly covers the most prominent and important social, political and cultural events of the Hungarian-speaking community. Broadcasting in the Romanian language is carried out by the private enterprise Radio Slatina-RTK.

Local newspapers are registered in the region in Hungarian (“KARPATI IGAZ SZO”, “Karpatalja”, “Karpatinfo”, “Naplopo”), in Ukrainian and Hungarian (“Nagyszolos – videki Hirek”, “News of Vynogradivshchyna”), in Romanian – “Mar-amoroshany”, in Slovak – “Podkarpatskyi Slovak” and one newspaper in German³³. Three district and one city communal newspapers are duplicated in Hungarian. An electronic publication in Romanian “Concardia” is distributed. The Mukachevo Diocese of the Roman Catholic Church publishes the Hungarian-language newspaper “Uy Goy” (“New Sprout”), the administration of the Transcarpathian Reformed Church is the founder of the Hungarian-language newspaper “Küldetes” (“Mission”).

Every year, the region hosts the International Festival of TV and Radio Programs for National Minorities My Native Land, the purpose of which is to show TV and radio programs aimed at the spiritual revival of national minorities, cultural heritage and values of ethnic communities.

As we can see, in modern Ukraine the number of printed publications of national minorities is sufficient, and the number depends on the regions of their residence.

THE ROLE OF MASS MEDIA AS A MEANS OF EXPRESSION AND PRESERVATION OF THE IDENTITY OF NATIONAL MINORITIES OF PRYKARPATTIA

Prykarpattia is one of the regions of Ukraine where representatives of various national minorities have traditionally lived and live, who economically, socially, and culturally interact with Ukrainians and try, depending on the circumstances, either to preserve their identity or to assimilate.

The national composition of the population of the Ivano-Frankivsk region in 2001 was dominated by Ukrainians, who numbered 1371.2 thousand people or 97.5% of the total population (1409.8 thousand). Representatives of more

³³ Ibidem.

than 90 nationalities and ethnic groups also live here: Russians – 24.9 thousand, Poles – 1.9 thousand, Belarusians – 1.5 thousand, Moldovan – 0.6 thousand, Jews – 0.4 thousand, Hungarians – 0.1 thousand and others³⁴.

90 years ago, Stanislavs and Western Ukraine in general were the part of the Second Polish Republic. Poles like Jews, made up the lion's share of the population of present-day Ivano-Frankivsk (almost 22,000), and only 8,500 Stanislavs were Ukrainians. For the following next 70 years, there were the war, repatriation and the communist regime – everything had changed fundamentally. Now Ukrainians have their own independent state and are Ukrainians by their essence and mentality of Ivano-Frankivsk, although it often inherited old Polish architecture and traditions from it.

The 2001 census showed that Ivano-Frankivsk was home to about 2,000 ethnic Poles. The Polish community is the largest among other minorities and quite active. Citizens of Ukraine of Polish origin living in the Ivano-Frankivsk region are actively involved in the formation of a positive foreign policy image of Ukraine in the Republic of Poland, as their rights are not only declared but also respected: there are no obstacles to public identity, native language, Roman Catholicism.

The modern Polish community in Ivano-Frankivsk and the region is not very large and is a national minority, but it is actively developing, as evidenced by numerous Polish societies. Thus, out of the total number of (38) registered public organizations of national minorities in Prykarpattia, the largest community are Poles – 18 organizations, followed by Germans – 6, Jews – 3, and the rest (Russians, Romanians, Hungarians, Slovaks, Belarusians, Lithuanians, Arabs etc.) have one organization each.

The following public organizations operate in the city: “The Franciszek Karpinski Regional Society of Polish Culture”, “The Pszczyzna Society of Polish Culture”, “The Young Stanislawow Polish-Ukrainian Youth Organization”, “The Polish Family and Europe”, “The Andrzej Potocki Polish Society”, and “The Center for Polish Culture and European dialogue”. The statutes of these organizations provide for the support and promotion of Polish culture, language, traditions and the development of Ukrainian-Polish relations³⁵.

The main goal of The Center for Polish Culture and European Dialogue, which was established in 2013 (became a platform for cooperation between all Polish organizations) and is most active in Ivano-Frankivsk – is a call for public activity of the Polish environment in all spheres to strengthen Poland's positive reputation. Ukraine; to take care of the protection of the rights of the Polish national minority on the territory of Western Ukraine; to establish mutual understanding between

³⁴ The results of the 2001 All-Ukrainian population census.

³⁵ Bas Olena 2019.

Poles and Ukrainians. The Center has its own library, subscribes to the 25 most popular magazines in Poland, all events, news, the ad is highlighted on its website. The Center has a Polish-funded CKPiDE radio, which airs twice a month, and provides a weekly review of Ukrainian and Polish media in two languages³⁶.

The publishing house of Polish- and Ukrainian-language printed mass media in the Ivano-Frankivsk region has a long tradition. In Stanislaviv (until 1962 the Polish name of the city was still preserved) in each kiosk it was possible to buy various Polish magazines and newspapers, and they were bought and subscribed to not only by Poles but also by Ukrainians. The first newspaper in Ivano-Frankivsk, “Dziennik Stanisławowski”, began to appear on September 2, 1848. After the Ukrainian Ivan Dankevych moved from Lviv, Polish publishing houses of newspapers and magazines began to develop rapidly in the city.

Thus, during 1836-1883 the newspaper “Kurier Stanisławowski” was published (the founder and first editor was Agaton Giller, one of the leaders of the Polish uprising of 1863-1864), soon – “Goniec Stanisławowski” (1873), “Slogan” (1875), “Gazeta Podkarpacka” (1876), “Kronika” (1880), “Głos Stanisławowski” (1881), “Echo Pokuty” (1883), “Kronika Stanisławowska” (1885), brochure for children: “Svitelko” (1883).

There were also Ukrainian publications: the first Ukrainian newspaper in the city “Gospodarz i Promyszlennik” (1879 – 1882), the magazine “Dennytsia” (1880), edited by the famous Ukrainian linguist Ivan Verkhtsky. After the creation of the diocese, “Biuletyn Diecezji Stanisława” (1886-1939) and “Almanach teologiczny” (1887) were published. On November 5, 1918, “Stanisławski Wiśnik”, the government magazine of “The County Ukrainian National Council”, began to be published, and on November 10, – “Ukrainian Life”. In 1919, the newspaper “Respublikanec”, an opposition to the government of The Western Ukrainian People’s Republic, was established, edited by D. Demyanchuk, a resident of Stanislaviv. In total, in 1918-1919, 13 Ukrainian magazines were published in Stanislaviv, the temporary capital of The Western Ukrainian People’s Republic³⁷.

On February 23, 1919, the first issue of the Polish weekly “Głos prawdy” was published, in which it was stated: “We are a national minority and must be reckoned with. we are divided, and look for those who would unite us. Build bridges over abysses...”³⁸.

Currently, the total number of local and regional newspapers in the Ivano-Frankivsk region is 41, and in the city itself there are 18 newspapers (the most

³⁶ Center for Polish Culture and European Dialogue in Ivano-Frankivsk.

³⁷ Mass media in Ivano-Frankivsk.

³⁸ Lytvyn, Naumenko 1995.

popular are “Halychyna”, “Zapadny Kurier”, “Halytsky Korrespondent”) and 3 magazines, and only one of them is Polish language – “Kurier Galicyjski”.

“Kurier Galicyjski” is the largest regional Polish-language newspaper in Ukraine, registered in Ivano-Frankivsk and published twice a month. “Kurier Galicyjski” defines itself as an independent newspaper for Poles in Ukraine. Part of the editorial office is located in Lviv, part in Ivano-Frankivsk. The newspaper is funded by the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs through The Freedom and Democracy Foundation (Polish: *Wolność i Demokracja*)³⁹.

“Kurier Galicyjski” is a completely independent publication that adheres to the principles of a free press. The newspaper is open to cooperation with the Polish, and not only the Polish environment, organizations and other associations, although the former, for obvious reasons, are a priority. The cultural and educational orientation of the publication promotes the commonwealth of the Polish and Ukrainian peoples, their national reconciliation, in particular in matters of historical memory, as the newspaper covers the history of Poles in Ukraine. The purpose of the publication is to popularize the Polish language, history and culture among the citizens of Ukraine of Polish origin. In addition to the paper version, the newspaper is published in electronic form, under this name also operates radio and television⁴⁰.

The founder and publisher, editor-in-chief of “Kurier Galicyjski” was Mirosław Rowicki, a member of The Union of Polish Journalists. He took an active part in Polish-Ukrainian cooperation. Since 2005, Mirosław Rowicki has actively supported ethnic Poles living in Ukraine. On his initiative, a children’s magazine in Polish “*Polak Mały*” was also founded.

In 2015, Mirosław Rowicki was included in the ranking of the most deserving people for the Polish-Ukrainian dialogue. He was the initiator of The Galician Club, an organization that includes Polish and Ukrainian publicists, journalists, and scholars, and on his initiative annual Polish-Ukrainian scientific conferences were held in Yaremche, Ivano-Frankivsk region. Mirosław Rowicki was active in a joint initiative of the Precarpathian National University and the University of Warsaw – the reconstruction of the ancient astronomical observatory on Mount Pip Ivan⁴¹.

In addition to the Polish, one of the active minorities is also the Hungarian community in the Carpathians – about a hundred people. At the beginning of 2020, The Hungarian Cultural and Educational Center was established in Ivano-Frankivsk. The Center organizes exhibitions, children’s vacations and search works for the reburial of Hungarian soldiers who died in the First and Second

³⁹ Galician Courier.

⁴⁰ Ibidem.

⁴¹ Detector Media, July 10, 2020.

World Wars, and much more⁴². They cover their activities on social networks and have a Facebook page.

Thus, the Poles of the Ivano-Frankivsk region, as well as other ethnic minorities, are integrated into the civil society of Ukraine in the regional dimension not only through public organizations, but also through regular issues of periodicals covering public associations, cultural societies and individual minorities. in the life of the region. Despite the fact that the “Kurier Galicyjski” is a cultural and educational publication, the editorial board manages to play an important role in the ethnic consolidation of Poles in Ivano-Frankivsk region.

Periodicals of national minorities of Ukraine represent the unimpeded implementation of proper information support of their representatives, it is evidence of full observance of their rights and freedoms declared in the Law of Ukraine On National Minorities in Ukraine, as well as full public acceptance and a high degree of international tolerance. Ethnointegration into Ukrainian society takes place in the conditions of equal intercultural dialogue with the revival and preservation of national identity and interests.

Ethnic media of Ukraine regularly cover a high degree of social and political activity of national minorities, free expression of their identity and identity. The constant publication of state-approved national periodicals enables representatives of national minorities to feel like equal citizens of Ukraine with a high social status and secured cultural needs. The existence of periodicals of national minorities raises the level of public awareness, promotes national reconciliation, understanding between people, extinguishes the manifestations of domestic xenophobia.

However, as already mentioned, with the reduction of state support from Ukraine, publishing newspapers in the languages of national minorities is impossible. Their activities are supported by funding for national minority states. Another important reason for the decrease in the number of national minority media in Ukraine is the migration of the population to their ethnic states and youth abroad.

MASS MEDIA OF NATIONAL MINORITIES AS A MEANS OF NATIONAL RECONCILIATION IN SOCIETY

Summary

Mass media of the national minorities of Ukraine contribute to the revival and preservation of national identity and interests, as well as promote consolidation with the Ukrainian society. In particular, periodicals show the social and political activity of national minorities and their identity, as well as satisfy the needs of minorities for information. Mass media of national minorities also play an important role in nurturing democracy, peace and harmony in the country, contribute to the implementation of the European norms and standards in the ethnopolitics in multinational, polyethnic

⁴² Savchyn 2020.

Ukraine. Minority media mainly perform an educational function, highlighting the cultural, educational and social spheres, aiming at protecting the national language and customs. The state must financially support publication of newspapers and magazines of national minorities, especially in their native languages: Polish, Armenian, Polish, Romanian, Moldovan, Gagauz, Greek, etc. Prykarpattia is one of the regions of Ukraine where representatives of various national minorities traditionally live; they interact with Ukrainians economically, socially, and culturally, as well as try – depending on the circumstances – either to preserve their identity or to assimilate. The Polish community in Ivano-Frankivsk and the region is not very large, but it is actively developing, as evidenced by numerous Polish associations and the presence of periodical publications appearing in print.

In general, the ethnic media of Ukraine regularly highlight the high degree of social and political activity of national minorities, the free expression of their identity and originality. Ongoing publication of state-approved national periodicals enables representatives of national minorities to feel equal citizens of Ukraine whose high social status and cultural needs are acknowledged and recognized. The existence of periodical publications of national minorities increases the level of public awareness, promotes national reconciliation, fosters understanding between people. However, with the decrease of support from the Ukrainian state, publishing newspapers in the languages of national minorities is impossible. Their activities are supported by funding from the countries when respective minorities originate. Another major cause behind decreasing number of mass media of national minorities in Ukraine is the migration of the population to their ethnic states and young people abroad, which may offer a perspective for further scientific research.

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