

NATIONAL SELF-AWARENESS AND PATRIOTISM AS FACTORS IN THE POLITICAL ASSIMILATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

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Annotation. The article considers the relationship of national self-consciousness and patriotism with political assimilation of young people. Special attention is paid to such components of national self-consciousness as mentality, national character and national consciousness. The article analyses the influence of national self-consciousness on the formation of political attitudes and beliefs of young people, as well as the role of patriotism in this process.

Keywords: national self-consciousness, patriotism, political assimilation, youth, mentality, national character.

INTRODUCTION

In the modern world, characterised by dynamic changes in the political sphere, the study of the processes of political assimilation of young people is of particular relevance. Youth, as a socio-demographic group, is the most susceptible to new ideas and political trends, shaping the future of the political system.

One of the key factors influencing young people's political assimilation is national self-awareness. Awareness of belonging to a particular nation, its history, culture and values forms the basic attitudes and value orientations of young people, which further influence their political views and behaviour.

An important component of national self-awareness is patriotism - a feeling of love for the Motherland, pride in its achievements and readiness to defend it. Patriotism forms in young people a sense of responsibility for the fate of their country, stimulates interest in political processes and participation in them.

In this article we will examine the relationship of national self-awareness and patriotism with the political assimilation of young people. We will analyse how national self-consciousness influences the formation of political attitudes and beliefs of young people, and what role patriotism plays in this process.

Special attention will be paid to the specifics of national self-awareness and patriotism in modern Russia, as well as the factors contributing to their formation among young people.

MAIN PART

National self-consciousness is a complex set of social, political, economic, moral, aesthetic, philosophical, religious views and beliefs. National self-consciousness is people's awareness of their belonging to a certain socio-ethnic community.

Important components of national self-awareness are the concepts of “mentality”, “national character”, “national consciousness” and “patriotism”. The correlation between these concepts can be expressed as follows:

Notion	Definition
Mentality	Mindset, type of thinking, worldview
National character	Emotional behaviour accepted in a given culture
Patriotism	Love for the Motherland, loyalty to it, readiness to serve its interests
National identity	A set of views and beliefs, awareness of belonging to a socio-ethnic community

National character is not all the attributes of a nation, but only a stable, significant, distinct, characteristic of a significant portion of the nation's members.

National self-esteem unites the nation, allows assessing the trends of society development. Undoubtedly, high national self-esteem, based on faith in the great past of one's country and faith in its great future, allows one to positively assess the current state and established trends in the development of society, will be a source of national zeal and the dominance of patriotic feelings.

Patriotism is one of the components of national self-respect. Patriotism is a complex phenomenon of social consciousness associated with love for the Motherland, which manifests itself in the form of public feelings, moral and political principles of people's life. The essence of patriotism is love for the Motherland,

loyalty to it, pride in its past and present, readiness to serve its interests and protect it from enemies.

In modern research there is a variety of approaches to understanding patriotism. Patriotism can be characterised as a high feeling of love for the Motherland, as one of the highest, most important feelings, as a social phenomenon, as a manifestation of national pride towards the state on the part of its subjects, as a spiritual and creative movement, etc.

Thus, national self-consciousness and patriotism are important factors in the political assimilation of young people. A high level of national self-consciousness and patriotism contributes to the formation of an active civic position among young people, readiness to participate in the political life of the country and protect its interests.

Political assimilation of young people is a complex and multifaceted process in which young people form their political views, beliefs and behaviours. This process is influenced by many factors, among which national self-awareness and patriotism occupy a special place.

National self-consciousness is an individual's realisation of his/her belonging to a certain nation, its culture, history, language and traditions. It forms the basic value orientations of an individual, which further determine his/her attitude to political phenomena and processes. The structure of national self-consciousness includes such important components as:

Ethnic identity: realisation of oneself as a part of a certain ethnic group, a sense of community with its representatives.

National pride: positive evaluation of one's nation's achievements in various spheres - history, culture, science, sports, etc.

National interest: perceptions of the goals and objectives of the nation and how to achieve them.

A high level of national consciousness contributes to the formation of youth:

Active civic position: readiness to participate in public and political life, to defend one's rights and interests.

Political responsibility: understanding of one's role in political processes, readiness to take part in making decisions affecting the fate of the country.

Tolerance: respectful attitude towards representatives of other nationalities, their culture and traditions.

Patriotism is a feeling of love for one's Motherland, devotion to it, pride in its past and present, readiness to serve its interests and protect it. Patriotism is closely related to national self-consciousness, but it has a more pronounced emotional colouring and is aimed at a particular state.

Patriotism plays an important role in the political assimilation of young people by contributing to:

Formation of civic identity: realising oneself a citizen of one's country, belonging to its political community.

Development of political activity: participation in elections, social movements, political parties.

Readiness to defend the Fatherland: forming a conviction in the need to defend one's country from external threats.

The interaction of national self-awareness and patriotism creates a solid basis for the political assimilation of young people. Young people with a developed national consciousness and sense of patriotism are more actively involved in political life, show interest in the country's political problems and strive to contribute to its development.

However, it is important to note that national consciousness and patriotism can manifest themselves in various forms. Constructive forms of national consciousness and patriotism contribute to the development of civil society and the strengthening of the state. At the same time, hypertrophied forms of national consciousness and patriotism can lead to nationalism, xenophobia and other negative phenomena.

Therefore, it is important to form harmonious national consciousness and patriotism in young people, based on respect for other peoples and cultures, adherence to democratic values and the principles of the rule of law. In the next part of the article we will consider the specifics of national self-awareness and patriotism in modern Russia and the factors influencing their formation among young people.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it should be emphasised that national self-awareness and patriotism play a crucial role in the political assimilation of young people. They form value orientations, civic position and determine the models of political behaviour of young people.

The study showed that national self-awareness is the basis for the formation of patriotism and contributes to the active participation of young people in the

political life of the country. Awareness of belonging to a particular nation, its history and culture, forms a sense of pride and responsibility for the fate of their country.

Patriotism, in turn, motivates young people to be civically active, to participate in elections, and to defend the interests of their country. It contributes to the formation of political culture and tolerance.

At the same time, it is important to note that national self-awareness and patriotism should be developed in line with democratic values and not lead to nationalism and xenophobia. Respect for other cultures and peoples and an understanding of the importance of international co-operation should be fostered in young people.

Thus, the education of national consciousness and patriotism among young people is the most important task of the state and society. The formation of an active civic position of young people, their readiness to participate in the political life of the country and contribute to its development depends on it.

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