

# Revisiting social sphere regulation amid justice

*Roza K. Shamileva*<sup>1,\*</sup>, *Milana B. Sedieva*<sup>2</sup>, *Radima Kh. Denilkhanova*<sup>3</sup>, and *Madina Taramova*<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Grozny State Oil Technical University named after academician M.D. Millionshchikov, 100, Isaeva Ave., Grozny, Chechen Republic, 364024, Russian Federation

<sup>2</sup> CIRAS, 21a, V. Alieva Ave., Grozny, Chechen Republic, Russian Federation

<sup>3</sup> Kadyrov Chechen State University, 32 Sheripova Str., Grozny, 364024, Russian Federation

**Abstract.** The article is devoted to the problem of the dialectic of research and regulation of the social sphere as the basis of fair distribution relations. The problem of justice is a phenomenon that reflects the nature of social relations in modern conditions, the process of formation and development of a model of social behavior of various social communities, groups and individuals. Based on the experience of social practice, the authors highlight the regularity of the dialectics of interaction between social and economic spheres, and argue that the positive dynamics of economic indicators observed in recent years in modern Russia can be a regulator of social justice through the improvement of the mechanism and level of social protection of individuals. Today, the issue of social protection of underprivileged sections of the community amid modernization is becoming relevant. It is already becoming clear that this process is complex and painful, and this is not only due to organizational obstacles. It must be imagined that the real state of the social structure is characterized by many retirement-age, disabled and low qualified people. All this actualizes social protection of the population in the process of modernization. This is an important part of ensuring real social justice that exists in a civilized society. Based on this, such a direction can and should be considered as a factor able to mitigate conflicts and contradictions. Due to its universality and diversity, the problem of justice includes philosophical, sociological, and psychological aspects. At the same time, the underlying causes of social justice violation and the real mechanisms for its restoration should be found in the economic sphere.

**Keywords:** social sphere, social justice, social relations, social security, economic sphere, economic regulators

## 1 Introduction

In social science, there are theories that consider inequality and wide wealth disparity as a positive factor not interfering with balanced economic and social growth. In particular, supporters of J. Schumpeter's ideas believe that the unequal distribution of income results in achieving a higher level of entrepreneurial activity, as it increases incentives for work and capital formation whose accumulation, in its turn, affects social growth. According to A. Lewis, Nobel Prize winner, arguing that inequality is useful for the development of economic growth (since the rich save more than the poor, and capital accumulation is the key to economic growth), the government should maintain a certain level of social security as a consequence of economic growth. However, it is unacceptable to exceed the border that threatens national security and social stability.

It seems that this approach is not entirely accurate, since it is limited to using the ability of people to work, since the requirement of justice should apply not only to the labor activity of workers, but also to various social groups including children, the disabled, disabled

pensioners, as well as many types and forms of human activity providing normal functioning of the social structure of society as a whole.

Today, the issue of social protection of underprivileged sections of the community amid modernization is becoming relevant. Having analyzed the concepts of justice expressed by Western analysts, we were convinced of the impossibility of limiting the state's social policy implementation only in social sphere.

## 2 Problem Statement

In previous publications considering social justice in socio-economic relations as a complex and large-scale phenomenon, we highlighted the need to develop a flexible social policy, which should be based not only on the interests of individuals, various social groups and communities, but also on their permanent study, analysis.

First of all, it is necessary to develop appropriate rules, which must have scientific background, consider the ethno-historical characteristics of multinational

\* Corresponding author: [orda.shamia@mail.ru](mailto:orda.shamia@mail.ru)

Russia, specific mentality features. Obviously, to practically implement the principle of social justice, it is important not only to identify and set the norms of justice (in legislation, rules and customs), but also to create a mechanism for their observance [1].

### 3 Research Questions

The domestic authors Yu.G. Volkov [2], Z.T. Golenkova [3], N.E. Tikhonova [4] argue in favor of improving the regulators of the social sphere of society being the basis for the functioning of social justice.

When analyzing the problem of equity, usually only the stage of resource allocation is considered. However, we believe that the category of justice should be interpreted much more broadly including all stages of the reproduction cycle: production, distribution, exchange and consumption. At the stage of resource exchange, the problem of justice lies primarily in ensuring its equivalence, when the interests of all participants must be respected. At the stage of consumption, it is important to assess the extent to which social justice is observed in meeting the material and spiritual needs of people.

With regard to the production stage, the researchers of the Marxist orientation considered exploitation being the appropriation of surplus value by the capitalist to be the main injustice. However, social injustice in the production process can also arise for other reasons, such as differences in working conditions.

Using justice as an assessment criterion, it characterizes the socio-economic position of the individual in society and indicates the degree of adequacy of the society structures. Being a social requirement, justice reflects people's ideas about the proper level of welfare.

Social policy is the main mechanism contributing to the implementation of the ideas of justice in the socio-economic sphere.

### 4 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of social policy is to create conditions for the life of an individual in an amount corresponding to the level of society development, which is one of the most important criteria for social justice implementation. It is due to the fact that today the sphere of social policy includes not only the poor and the unemployed, but also hired workers; along with social security, its sphere includes income regulation, employment policy, etc. Proclaiming the creation of the necessary conditions for human life to be its main objective, the state undertakes the obligation not to infringe on the interests of various groups of the population, not to assign them the role of society outcasts on topics or other signs (physical age, etc.).

In many countries, effectiveness of social policy is increased by the redistribution of social functions between central and local authorities. Russia is no exception. However, today this is no longer enough. It is necessary not only to redistribute social functions, but

also to involve businesses, various public entities, social groups, and citizens in their implementation.

The functional structure of social policy does not remain unchanged as it is influenced by the processes taking place in the economy and society. This is especially evident in the conditions of the transition period, when, on the one hand, an increase in allocations for social programs is required, and, on the other hand, the financial possibilities for their implementation are steadily declining.

Russia's experience has shown that two functions come to the fore in the activities of the state aimed to implement social policy at the beginning of the transition period. These functions are regulatory (establishment of minimum standards) and adaptive (provision of social assistance to the most vulnerable social strata).

As the transition period comes to an end, opportunities are emerging for an active social policy that can be reoriented from short-term objectives stipulated by the need to neutralize the economic and social consequences of the crisis stage, to long-term ones aimed to regulate the mechanisms of social justice and create favorable conditions for human development.

The main problem of Russia is changes in the model of social policy or the search for certain ways to carry it out, and an attempt is also being made to change one extreme model of the socio-economic structure of the state to another. The society is transformed in this process.

A fairly common point of view is that economic growth is capable of solving the problem of poverty by itself, and direct measures are unnecessary.

The main factor hindering the strategy of overcoming poverty is the hypertrophied concentration of property and the huge differentiation of the population incomes. Due to the high unequal distribution of the growth results, the incomes of the richest part of the population increase, while those of the poor decrease. There is no adequate reduction in poverty because income redistribution outstrips economic and GDP growth.

In the previous chapter, we tried to disprove theories that rely on economic growth as a panacea for poverty. The strategy for overcoming poverty being one of the most important principles of justice should be active and systematic. The systemic approach of the state to solving the problems of effective employment and wage growth, ensuring minimum social standards, bringing them closer to the real subsistence level, social integration of poor citizens, guaranteeing them equal access to education, social infrastructure (which determines the development of human capital) against the background of a general economic growth will enable to implement social equity projects.

### 5 Research Methods

The society affects the personality in a number of areas, where significant ones can be distinguished:

- material and production areas,
- spiritual and moral areas,
- political areas,

- state-legal areas [5].

The concept of justice tries to find an answer to the question “Is there a mechanism of social regulation in this society that enables a person to realize their personal qualities during work?” This concept of employment characterizes the concept of “activity”.

In this context, “employment” and “unemployment” are interrelated concepts used for evaluative purposes in relation to recognized values being a person, his life, the process of activity. It is impossible to perceive employment only in a positive or only negative way.

Recently, there has been a lot of discussion around concepts that deny unemployment, or criticize “full employment”. The categories “employment” and “unemployment” for economists, sociologists, politicians, as well as civil servants, serve as criteria in the process of choosing the best ways for the economic and social development of society.

Thus, in a society with full employment, it leads to material and social leveling, a decrease in the motives for creative work. As for unemployment, it is generally difficult to justify it, although for some people it can become a mobilizing factor.

Note that this state reflects the general contradictions of “distributive” and “equalizing” justice, clearly stated by Aristotle. In the context of Russian society modernization, it is necessary to build a social policy based on a combination of these two principles, of course, taking into account the “natural” rights of each member of society to a certain share of social resources.

On the other hand, this combination is fraught with social collisions. The model of Western society carries a lot of potential conflicts and problems that will have to be solved for many more generations, especially in matters of labor and social employment.

Such an approach will shift the emphasis in the analysis of employment and unemployment problems from administrative and managerial positions to social and legal ones basing on universal human values. This will contribute to overcoming manifestations of injustice.

Implementation of social protection system is the main direction of social policy. It is associated with the assertion of the principle of social justice in relation to the protection of a number of social groups that do not have the opportunity to participate in production activities (children, the elderly, the disabled, etc.).

The modern social policy of Russian society should aim to provide these categories of the population with a decent life, offering social guarantees. However, our country should not copy the Western uncodified legislative social policy, which does not bring positive dynamics with regards to social justice.

In the context of justice, it is logical to share responsibility between the state and private employers, but this is possible with a stable group of owner-employers obliged to bear responsibility for the function assigned to them (responsibility) [6].

We consider everything that affects guarantees rather than charity to be an opportunity only for the state, its emerging legislative framework. For a very long time,

we will need to focus on the fact that without money the state will be able to guarantee education and such medicine for all, when teachers and medical workers receive a relatively small stable salary.

The problem is that there should be free education and medicine. This minimum, primarily in the person of the legislator, can and must be provided by the state.

The budget should be based on real taxes, there should be no confusing promises being insulting extortions from pensioners.

Practice has stated that this process should not be neglected. It is necessary to outline the contours of a feasible concept of social security in the general concept of a social market economy. A socially oriented model does not mean that the state runs charity to its own detriment.

Primarily, the interests of those social categories that are not able to secure their social status on their own are taken into account. We need to support the “outsiders” who are left behind. However, public organizations should make efforts to create this system. An integrated approach, combining the actions of the public and the state, is needed. This refers to an objective picture of the social structure regarding the real needs of different strata and groups. Sociological research can serve as a good base for solving these problems.

We are not faced with only one task related to the creation of a new institutional system aimed to support the poor. It needs to independently defend its interests, not relying only on official instances. Only such qualities are developed in the process of the individual’s socialization.

## 6 Findings

Legal education of citizens is very important, and the skills to use legal means to protect their interests are also important. All this is based on certain conditions that have the ability to contribute to the realization of the status of a citizen based on the awareness of their constitutional rights and the principles of social justice. A prerequisite for citizens to carry out this function of social self-defense is to develop and improve legislation in this area.

The process of realizing the interests of citizens in the field of social protection requires the creation of a material basis for regulating the socio-economic mechanism, in order to improve the standard of living of individuals by providing sources of income. This function can be implemented through the redistribution system. The ratio of redistribution and distribution will play a positive role. Distribution concerns the movement of material goods that all members of society receive from the share of the social product. This is the stage of expanded reproduction, which is parallel to direct production, exchange, and consumption.

The process of thoughtful systematized redistribution is an important form of social control, which aims to bring to life the principles of democracy and social justice. The purpose of the process is to provide the material basis for the social guarantees necessary to

provide low-income people and people in need of their support with a decent standard of living.

We have considered certain aspects of this process, which are associated with the establishment of social justice in the context of modernization. This problem related to the social sphere is broad. It is necessary to single out the main problem being the regulation of the social orientation of economic reforms regarding the interests of all social groups (both able-bodied and disabled).

This contributes to the expansion of the social base of the ongoing transformations. The efficiency associated with the reform of society is ensured at a time when many members of society are adapted to social reality. The development of social partnership is a clear indicator.

Social partnership is the central definition in the system of modern social policy, which aims to develop fair and humane social relations. Without delving into a detailed description of this social phenomenon, we will show that social partnership is an effective mechanism for achieving and strengthening social harmony necessary to balance the interests of workers, employers, and the state when regulating socio-economic and labor relations.

Summarizing the above, the main prerequisites for the formation of a socially oriented model of social justice in specific Russian conditions are as follows:

- the unity of the market and state control, the combination of distribution mechanisms and reliable protection of the state with the “rules of the game”, the participation of state institutions in the production of public goods and in the development of the social sphere;
- the interconnection of an integral system of market institutions and mechanisms for encouraging the personal citizens’ initiative, ensuring rapid growth due to the mobility of all factors of production and the effectiveness of self-control of economic entities;
- a clear system of social partnership, which can be based on constitutional principles and institutions of law;
- the social focus of the economy, which meets the modern requirements of social security, providing branched mechanisms that ensure social stability and economic security.

The problem related to social justice is considered as a priority problem associated with the formation of civil society. This cannot be considered a conjectural task as it is only a requirement specified by the epoch and the deep tendencies of progress taking place in society.

Social justice cannot be considered either from the perspective of a formal category, or as a relation of absolute good.

In the mind of a person (regardless of ethnicity), deviations from these norms are factors that contribute to the process of society marginalization. Social injustice is the phenomenon of unemployment being crucial for marginalization. It is necessary to study the structures of social employment in the subjects of Russia, since each region brings its own specific and unique features to the unified social structure of Russian society.

In the process of Russian society modernization, an important role is played by the issue of building a strategy for social development, which depends on the new social policy. An idea of the perception of various aspects of the social protection policy aimed to implement social justice is given by the results of the annual sociological online survey “Perception of the concept of social justice by Chechen youth in the conditions of modern reality” [1].

Today, there arise the problems of social conflicts, and they are associated not so much with violations of the principles of justice, but with the manifestation of stereotypes developed in the minds of individuals. As the study shows, stereotypes of ideas about social justice are a priority for student youth associated with moral and ethical values and legal norms accepted in society. The question “What do you see as a manifestation of social justice?” was answered in the following way: “Following moral and ethical standards” (23.3 % of the respondents); “Legal equality of all citizens” (31 %); “Indistinction in the standard of living and well-being” (15.7 %), and the “Equality of opportunities to realize personal abilities” (10 %). However, it is impossible to identify the stereotypes of individuals’ representations at the cognitive (personal) and ontological (real) levels, and here the problem in turn rests in the factor of differences in the level of individuals’ socialization.

The process of social justice in socio-economic relations is a complex and large-scale phenomenon that requires its state regulation through a flexible social policy, which should be built basing not only on the interests of individuals, various social groups and communities, but also on their permanent research and study.

First of all, it is necessary to develop appropriate rules having scientific background, regarding the ethnohistorical characteristics of multinational Russia, mentality peculiarities. Obviously, to implement the principle of social justice practically, it is important not only to identify and set the norms of justice (in legislation, rules and customs), but also to create a mechanism for their observance.

Respondents defined “fairness” as a social requirement reflecting the level of obligation for such benefits as material well-being, social protection. Fairness is associated with people’s ideas about the proper level of well-being, and the latter manifests itself more concretely and realistically against the background of injustices that an individual faces in everyday life.

Social policy is the main mechanism contributing to ideas implementation, principles and requirements of justice in the socio-economic sphere. The purpose of social policy is to create conditions for the life of an individual, in an amount corresponding to the level of society development, which is one of the most important criteria for social justice implementation. After all, today the sphere of social policy includes not only the poor and the unemployed, but also hired workers; along with social security, it involves income regulation, employment policy, and the fight against corruption, etc.

Determining the most important measures on the part of the state to achieve social justice, the 27.7 % of

respondents put “Ensuring the social responsibility of everyone in their place (study, work, family)” first. “Provision of basic medical services” was put second by 26.1 % of respondents. “Ensuring the conformity of the profession with education and qualifications” was significant for 20.4 % of students, 19.6 % of the respondents answered that “Everyone should take care of their own well-being” [7].

If the politics is guided by the interests of a person and creates favorable conditions for comprehensive development, then the increase in the activity of each individual (which is an unconditional factor in the implementation of justice) contributes to the dynamic development of the economy and the increase in the moral potential of society.

It is necessary to study the structures of social employment in the subjects of Russia, since each region brings its own specific and unique features to the unified social structure of Russian society. The formation of such a system in our country, as noted above, is hampered by the diversity of socio-economic conditions in the regions. In some regions, there is an increase in unemployment, in the others, on the contrary, there is a shortage of labor. Regions differ in nature and types of unemployment and types of labor shortages, in terms of socio-demographic, professional, educational and other indicators of the employed and unemployed population.

## 7 Conclusion

In the context of economy digitalization, it is advisable to develop a program of social justice in the economy, which, according to experts, should be adopted as a regulatory document regulating socio-economic relations.

The program should be focused on identifying a list of the main typical socio-economic conditions and situations within which the principles of social justice may be violated, as well as rely on a unified methodology for the formation of appropriate criteria.

It is necessary, in turn, to revise the existing legal documents, prepare new legislative acts regarding the fundamental provisions of the Program relating to the social aspects of regulating the economic sphere.

## References

1. *Social justice in the perception of Chechen youth*. Online survey. (2020). Retrieved from: <https://forms.gle/t4Ghh7FBB3dME5Hz8>
2. Yu.G. Volkov, *Sociology of the future: sociological knowledge and social project* (Knorus, Moscow, 2017)
3. Z.T. Golenkova, Contradictions and problems of modernization of the social structure of modern Russian society, *Russia Reforming* **17**, 311–331 (2019)
4. N.E. Tikhonova, *Social Structure of Russia: Theories and Reality* (New Chronograph; Institute Of Sociology Ras, Moscow, 2014)
5. I.A. Maslov, State coercion and state violence in modern political and legal doctrine, *Legal Thought* **4–5(114–115)**, 33–40 (2019) DOI: 10.25839/MATGIP.2020.88.60.004
6. S. Rozenko, Humanism in the punishment of Russian criminal law, *SHS Web Conf.* **134**, 00068 (2022)
7. R.K. Shamileva, L.M. Ismailova, Perception of justice as a process of social interaction in society. *Human. and soc.-econ. sci.* **4**, 12–13 (2022)