

RETHINKING THEORETICAL STUDIES OF SOCIAL AND HUMANITARIAN FUNDING MECHANISMS IN UKRAINE

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Summary

The study analyses the theoretical foundations of financial management mechanisms in the social and humanitarian sphere. The financing mechanisms for social and humanitarian efforts in Ukraine are reevaluated using the Kitchenham literature review model. The article reviews studies by scholars on social and humanitarian financing, using sources like Google Scholar, Web of Science, and Scopus. It focuses on Ukrainian researchers to pinpoint future research directions for financing mechanisms in Ukraine's post-war reconstruction. It is noted that many scientific and educational publications provide different definitions of financial mechanisms, financial governance and management in the social and humanitarian spheres.

These definitions are not contradictory, but demonstrate different views on the importance of different elements. The study suggests that a review of current research achievements and best practices can highlight key areas for further research on financial mechanisms in public administration of Ukraine's social and humanitarian sectors in the post-war reconstruction period.

It emphasizes the importance of focusing on social and human factors, improving public administration and developing concepts for improving the quality of public services.

Key words: management, finance, social sector, humanitarian sector, research.

DOI <https://doi.org/10.23856/6625>

1. Introduction

Ukrainian scholars have been studying the social and humanitarian sector for over 30 years. But there are still open questions about the mechanisms of financing the social and humanitarian sector in Ukraine.

Since gaining independence, Ukraine has focused on social and humanitarian development to improve lives and meet individual needs (*Gavkalova and Yeremka, 2023; Vovk, S., & Lobas, V, 2015 et al*). However, the shortcomings of social relations and financial management in Ukraine's humanitarian sector became most evident during the war (*Kravtsiv, V., 2023*). This presents important research opportunities and the need for new methods to tackle issues related to modern changes and post-war reconstruction.

The international scientific community believes that a state's social and humanitarian aspects reflect its national progress and ability to innovate in public administration (*Nebrat, V., & Korniaika, O., 2022; Santis, S., Grossi, G., & Bisogno, M., 2018; Jaspers, K., 2014; Pierson, C., 1998; Popper, K., Lorenz, K., & Kreuzer, F., 1992 et al*).

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2. The purpose and objectives of the article

The study aimed to review and analyze scientific sources, both domestic and foreign, about the financial mechanisms in public administration within the social and humanitarian sectors. The research on the financial mechanisms in public administration for the social and humanitarian sectors utilized various analytical approaches, including general, functional, procedural, and both subject-object and object-subject perspectives. The review of current scientific achievements and best practices will help identify key areas for further research on developing a financial mechanism for public administration in Ukraine's social and humanitarian sectors during post-war recovery.

3. Research findings

We have analysed the work of scholars studying social and humanitarian finance mechanisms using open sources such as Google Scholar, Web of Science and Scopus, focusing on Ukrainian researchers, to identify future directions for research on social and humanitarian finance mechanisms for post-war reconstruction in Ukraine.

Kitchenham's (2004) model for analyzing literature reviews formed the basis of identifying research sources. We developed specific search terms and criteria for including and excluding studies, then selected and summarized the relevant research data. Key concepts for the search were identified, and a conceptual approach was developed to facilitate the literature review.

We focused on the key terms 'financial mechanism' and 'social and humanitarian sphere' in the titles and abstracts of the studies. These inclusion and exclusion criteria were established to increase the overall reliability of the review. Also, peer-reviewed English-language articles with empirical data on financial mechanisms in the social and humanitarian sectors were included. The following articles were not included in the analysis.

The analysis of the main content of each article helped to summarize the material and compare the documents. The method identified common themes in scientific papers, enabling us to reevaluate theoretical studies on financing in Ukraine's social and humanities sectors, draw conclusions, and highlight areas for future research.

Many academic and training publications provide different definitions of financial mechanisms, financial governance and management in the social and humanitarian sectors. These definitions are not mutually exclusive views; rather, they demonstrate the different opinions that can be expressed on the importance of individual elements.

Key principles of public financial management evolution in Ukraine's social and humanitarian sectors, from independence to now, have been discussed in works by Khoma, N. (2022), Kornivska, V. (2022), Khomutenko, A. (2017), and others. The opportunity to study financial mechanisms in Ukraine's social and humanitarian sector has enabled a long period of searching for optimization strategies that reflect the changing administrative and political landscape in Ukraine.

The unclear division of responsibilities between public authorities in the area of social and humanitarian financing, combined with a complex system of information

transfer for decision-making, has become a major challenge to progress in Ukraine (*Borodin & Tarasenko, 2015; Belashova, 2014*).

An analysis of Ukraine's financial public administration in the social and humanitarian sector shows that its evolution has been largely shaped by the uneven distribution of social and economic resources across different regions (*Tkachova, 2013; Pylypyshyn, 2011; Radchenko, 2009*). This has important implications for the future productivity, reliability, and security of Ukrainian citizens.

As the conflict in Ukraine persists, the financial management of socio-humanitarian organizations is becoming increasingly complex. Consequently, there is a growing interest in analyzing existing financial mechanisms and identifying new forms of their utilization. There is a lack of a thorough review of literature and theories that analyze recent studies on financial mechanisms for managing the socio-humanitarian sector in Ukraine.

The works of domestic scholars on the management and organization of the social and humanitarian sector are mostly focused on the study of the general approach of financial management mechanisms that correspond to the general principles of public administration (*Kurnosenko, L., 2022; Kravchuk, N., 2017; Gladun Z., 2012 et al.*). By integrating objective and individual elements of financial management mechanisms, through the organization of economic, humanitarian and social aspects, they prove that their focus on meeting the interests of the country's human and social society must necessarily include economic, organizational, political, legal and motivational strategies.

The works of K. R. Popper (1992), K. Jasper (2014), and other philosophers study management as a reflection of society's self-managing qualities, integrating the dialectical laws of nature, society, and thought. This lays the groundwork for enhancing scientific knowledge and operational capabilities. A thesis focused on improving management processes within the social and humanitarian sectors.

The best way to study how the mechanisms of public administration and funding mechanisms of the social and humanitarian sphere work is to use the subject-object and object-subject approaches. They involve targeted interaction between an object and a subject or the organization of the social and humanitarian sector by changing its internal environment.

Most studies agree that Ukraine's social and humanitarian sector operates within a single financial system with interconnected, similar elements (*Kravtsiv, V., 2023; Gavkalova, N., & Yermka, D., 2023; Khoma, N., 2022 et al.*) The financial sector and its management are crucial to the socio-economic landscape of a country, involving many complex processes and systems. The effectiveness of the socio-economic system and the development of society depend on the creation of this fundamental structure.

The next approach in the study focuses on the practical significance of financial management of the socio-humanitarian sector and mechanisms of public financial management. As part of this approach, we have also considered the works of N. Tomac, R. Tomac, Radonya and Bonato (2019), F. Taylor (1914), S. Emerson, C. Van Ness, G. Streeter, L. Sundstrom, P. Emerson and J. Emerson et al. (2022) and others. They argue that general management and financial management are important integrating functions of funding in the social and humanitarian sectors.

4. Conclusions and prospects for further research

The state's financial policy is broader and is not limited to providing financial assistance to those in need. It involves creating a favorable environment for entrepreneurship and

employment for all able-bodied citizens. This involves deregulating businesses, supporting small enterprises, ensuring high employment, managing labor relations, and providing social protection through social security, insurance, and minimum wages.

Scientific research on Ukraine's financial governance should follow a systematic approach, covering the object, subject, organizational structure, functional mechanisms, and resource base needed for these components. A thorough study of the balance of social and human factors, as well as the effectiveness of public administration and policy, the creation of scientific concepts and their practical implementation in the social and humanitarian spheres, also affect timely and high-quality decision-making on the distribution and use of state budget funds.

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