

## SECTION 3

### SOCIAL STRUCTURES AND SOCIAL RELATIONS

#### THE PROBLEM OF THE FORMATION OF OMBUDSPERSON FOR CHILDREN'S RIGHTS INSTITUTION IN UKRAINE

**Gurich V.O.,**

Senior Lecturer at Department of Social Work,  
Social Pedagogy and Sociology  
Kherson State University

The current situation in the field of children's rights in Ukraine shows that, despite many transformations, the desired result is not achieved. The system of control, which has the hallmarks of corporatism, limited and narrow approach cannot be considered effective yet. In developed countries, the functioning of the Ombudsperson for Children's Rights solves this problem. UNICEF defines child ombudsman institute as an independent and legally established body created to defend the rights and interests of children. Therefore, we can recognize the raise of an actual question of the possible directions of its establishment as an independent and effective institution in Ukraine.

The purpose of the article is to ensure the implementation of the constitutional authority of the President of Ukraine for children's rights protection and implementation of Ukraine's international obligations in this area. In the scientific literature, the issue of the legal status of children's ombudsman is covered by such scholars as K. Zakomorna, N. Kovalko, O.

Martselyak, I. Nyedov, R. Opatskyy, I. Sira, U. Voitenko, A. Maidannyk, V. Levchenko, V. Hovorov, V. Zakrynytska and others. However, this issue is still not developed enough and requires further research.

System examination and improving components of the Commissioner's activity is a condition for institutionalization. To do this, the ombudsman body of any level to a full-time (freelance, public) basis must be a certain number of lawyers and social workers (proportionally to the population of the region) who possess socio-legal and socio-pedagogical technologies. Professional training of staff is already a constitutive element of higher education, on the agenda – developing and improving the mechanisms for their work. This requires the creation of standards for the ombudsman office work, in particular, supporting the child's interests at all stages of the case, procedures, restorative justice, and conflict resolution. A propagation of practices should be recognized as a necessary component.