

BIO-POLICY: ITINERARY FOR FUTURE SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS

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It is now a proven fact that, in moving one step at a time toward greater civilisation, society is constantly making evolutionary changes leading from a state of chaos to one of greater control. This is really a movement toward a higher level of social organisation, integration and consolidation and to a widening of the limits of humankind's conscious control of its behaviour and toward a rationalisation of human community.

It is worth outlining the dialectics of this process. On the one hand, the improvement of social management systems is a basis for developing the self-government of both human communities, and individual human beings. On the other, the appearance of self-government at new levels of quality is becoming a precondition for complete change in social management.

After having chosen the road of radical reformation, Russia will also have to create a new governing structure for society. It is now necessary to answer two questions. First, what will the itinerary be in this process? We are discussing a society-governing system in the centre of which is the human being, with his or her needs, interests, rights and liberties. We are also speaking of the creation of conditions for a worth while way of life. Second, in what way and with the help of what technologies and mechanisms, will it be possible to create this system? Its successful functioning will depend greatly on how closely it is connected to all the different categories of the population, and how completely it reflects the needs and interests of all the people. In comparison to ecological or demographic ones, the statistical methods for receiving information about social processes are very limited and reflect, as a rule, only the surface of events and occurrences. The social side of life has its own specific characteristics:

- Within this framework, the most vital needs and hopes of people are realised.
- The relationship system, in this sphere, is extremely flexible and dynamic.
- The subjective factor has a significant influence.
- It is an arena of social tensions resulting from the appearance, struggle and collision of different public forces.
- It is hard to fulfil its ideal, because government is derived directly from it.
- It is very difficult to predict, because of the extra influence of statistical factors.

In other words, this is the most complicated and comprehensive sphere of management. That is why it has to be mastered, step by step, so as to create models for the solution of different problems. It is likely that all our current disadvantages in this sphere can be explained by the fact that we are trying to settle all the questions in their entirety, and all at once. But comprehensiveness here can be used only with regard to the individual as a single link in the chain, with all his or her relationships; but not in the meaning of total solution for all of society because every person lives in his or her own world, house or country. That is why the social sphere needs a comprehensive approach that includes the power to make concrete decisions locally.

Last, and most important, is the question of whether we need to help a person once, or to give that person a mechanism which will help him, or her, not only to survive, but to gain stability and to find a place in society. There is a well-known saying: you can feed a hungry man once if you give him a fish but you can feed him for life if you give him a fishing rod.

In Russia, we talk a lot about the creation of a welfare system which will assist the population. There is a ministry and other services, but the main activity of these organisations has been limited to giving allowances and to the distribution of assistance and other charitable measures.

While these structures are important, the following issues should be present as a focus of social policy :

- the division of society according to sectors of ownership, wealth, ideology, religion, national or ethnic allegiance
- the transformation of the traditional elements of social structure into new ones
- the state and dialectics of different sectors of public consciousness
- the socio-psychological consequences of the change in paradigms
- the development of a new concept of State service and State policy

That is why it is more important to give a fishing rod. The theory of social government and new technologies can become our itineraries, as

we go into the future. They serve as maps. They show us the shortest and the most favourable ways to fulfil our desires for the future by saving us from disease, through new discoveries, or through our everyday routine work.

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