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**STATE PENSION REFORM AS A MECHANISM**  
**TO ENSURE SOCIAL JUSTICE**

The article deals with the interpretation of the «social justice» concept and social justice providing in Ukraine on basis of pension reform.

An author proves the thesis that Ukrainian society faced the task of clear criteria identifying to determine the degree of pension reform social justice, particularly reform of state (obligatory) pension insurance. The case for this is that, despite the declared benefits of reform, national interest is often put above the interests of individuals, as experts and most of citizens say.

Analysis of justice concept in the context of historical periods shows that this is a set of social concepts of proper. It is partly formed by the law (legislation), life (morality) and religion. Therefore each era corresponds to its concept of justice. The concept of «justice» can be formed only in human society which is constantly changing, moving from one historical formation to another.

Social justice in a market environment in addition to equality of opportunities should also include another important component – state social protection and aid for unemployed, people with low income. It means governmental guarantees for those who for objective reasons (age, gender, family circumstances etc) fall out equal competitive conditions, unable to secure a decent life for itself in a market economy. Realization of effective state social programs should ensure civilized living conditions for everyone at a level not lower than legislatively established subsistence minimum.

For able-bodied members of society equal opportunities should be established by state. Able-bodied members have to be able due to their labor to make a sufficient income for a full life. We can talk about implementation of the idea of social justice in all its diversity only when every person will be able to secure a decent standard of living.

If we use the terminology of I. Kant, in modern conditions a decent standard of living should be considered as a «categorical imperative» that reflects the essence of all conceptions of justice.

Ensuring of a decent life is the primary task of Ukrainian state, despite the fact that it tries to minimize the cost of social services. While reforming of the system of

compulsory pension insurance it should be taken into account, above all, the interests of citizens, and only then – economical and political priorities of the state (including geopolitical). Reforms must be implemented in a way that can be provided by the principle of public confidence in the law and actions of the state. Some economical and social indicators that characterize the state system of compulsory pension insurance, to a certain extent reflect the idea of social justice that emerged in the public consciousness. By author's approach these indicators are: the minimum labor pension compliance with pensioner subsistence level; equivalent of lost earnings replacing or revenue paid to employment insurance premiums; stable (regular) payment of pensions regardless of impact of negative external factors; compliance of mechanism and periodicity of indexation of labor pension growth index in terms of consumer prices growth.