

Elvira Zeitullaeva

PhD student of Public Administration and Regional Studies Chair,

ORIPA NAPA under the President of Ukraine

ORCID iD <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8377-3030>

MULTILEVEL AS A THEORETICAL CONCEPT AND METHODOLOGY OF MANAGING SOCIAL PROCESS

The article examines multi-level governance as a system of constant non-hierarchical, intertwining interaction of governmental structures, civil society and business at different levels of governance – supranational, regional, national, subnational, local – in order to discuss, develop and implement certain public policy. Multilevel governance is characterized by polycentrism and polysubjectivity, lack of concentration of power and exclusive competence at the national or any other level, where power can be exercised by non-governmental actors. The concept of multilevel governance was developed under the influence of network theory, governance doctrine and the paradigm of global governance. Network theory focused on the relationship between network participants and on understanding the internal structure of the network. The doctrine of governance reveals the relationship between state and non-state institutions, which provide the transition from hierarchical relations to a system of cooperation and co-management. The global governance paradigm is based on the recognition that relationships that are built at the local, national, and global levels are closely interconnected and interdependent. The science of public management and administration has defined two types of multilevel governance that are created around dichotomies: general purpose jurisdictions / Ad hoc jurisdictions; non-intersection / intersection of jurisdictions; limited / unlimited number of levels of jurisdictions; uniform and stable structure / flexible design. One of the main principles of multilevel governance is subsidiarity, which will define the principle of division of powers according to which the relevant functions are assigned to the level (local to supranational) and the sector (public, civic, business) in which these functions will be performed most effectively. Multilevel governance is an extremely dynamic system characterized by flexibility and diversification of interactions of management entities in cross-territorial and cross-sectoral dimensions, when different combinations of actors are formed in nature and form, degree of formalization and unification of interaction in different areas of public policy. The mechanism for streamlining the functioning of the system of multilevel governance is decentralization as a process of distribution of powers between different levels and sectors of government.

Key words: *multilevel governance; concept of multilevel governance; government structures; civil society; business; levels of government; network theory; doctrine of government; global governance.*