

STATE ADMINISTRATION OF VOLUNTARILY FIRE PREVENTION IN GALYCHINA AND EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE OF VOLUNTEER HELP ACTIVITY ARE IN COUNTRIES OF EU

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A study of role and value of historical experience of management of voluntarily fire prevention activity are undertaken in Galychyna and countries of EU for providing of fire safety of population of Ukraine. European experience of volunteer help is analysed for the sake of safety of society during large natural catastrophes and technogenic accidents. The analysis of modern attitude is carried out toward fire-prevention business. A quality increase of level of responsibility of society for the state of fire safety today is the important condition of increase of fire safety in Ukraine. Reasonably as far as volunteering is actual in Ukraine and widespread among Ukrainians. Confirmation of value of voluntarily fire-companies is circumstance that in Europe fire volunteers play more ponderable role, than professional firemen.

Key words: are state administration, voluntarily fire prevention, volunteer help, fire safety, fire volunteering, historical experience, Galychyna, Ukraine, Poland, EU.

Formulation of the problem. Historical aspects require the fact that the voluntary fire protection (hereinafter the DPO), which was under the care of the state, played a significant role in society. During all time, she led the fight against fires, and also demanded compliance with fire safety rules. This historical proof is that the fire protection of Galicia has a positive and varied experience, which, together with the European practice of fire volunteering, is of fundamental importance for the organization of fire safety in the conditions of independent Ukraine.

Analysis of recent research and publications. Some aspects of the activity of voluntary fire protection have been reflected in the works of domestic and foreign researchers – N. Vovchastoy, A. Dotsenko, S. Lyakhov, S. Popovich, L. Ryznik, A. Sovy, J. Shaflika, and others. M. Baitali, M. Brushlinsky, V. Nagirny, T. Oleynik and others.

Selection of previously unsettled parts of the general problem. However, to date, the issues of generalization of the historical experience of the DPO for the current practice of fire safety in Ukraine and the importance of volunteer activity in the field of fire safety both for the volunteers themselves and for the state as a whole have not yet been adequately investigated.

The purpose of the article. The main purpose of this work is to investigate and find out the value of historical experience of state management of the activity of fire volunteering in Halychyna and the EU to provide fire safety, namely, to reduce the damage and avoid the victims among the population of Ukraine.

Presenting main material. It should be noted that at different historical stages of the development of Galicia (from the end of the 19th century to the beginning of the 20th century) there was an intensification of some areas of voluntary fire protection and relaxation, due to ideological doctrines, economic priorities or mercantile interests of others. However, despite the ambiguous atti-

tude of the state and local authorities to the fire, in general there was a gradual evolution of the DPO.

It is essential to take into account the fact that in the conditions of insignificant public financing and limited financial capacity of the fire safety authorities of Galicia (during its stay in the Austro-Hungarian and Polish states) without a detailed analysis of the fire control decisions of the state administration it will be impossible to correctly determine the place and role of the DPO in the fight against fires and their consequences.

The main aspects of the public fire control system in Galicia, which included voluntary fire brigades, began to be formed at the end of the nineteenth century. [20]. In particular, on November 15, 1867 the Law "On Societies" was adopted [3]. It defined the essence of NGOs as voluntary associations that are not aimed at political goals, but should address philanthropic and other social affairs. The relationship between professional and voluntary fire brigades during firefighters rescue operations was regulated by the decision of the Board of the National Union of Voluntary Firefighters (KSDP) of March 9, 1901 [4]. With regard to towns and cities that were unable to maintain a paid fire service, the responsibility for the timeliness and effectiveness of the fight against fire lay on the head of the corps of voluntary firefighters [13]. Thus, at the beginning of the twentieth century. The main legislative base of the fire protection of the whole empire was worked out, the normative acts of which were also in force in Galicia. After the creation of the structure of professional and voluntary fire brigades, there was a gradual need to revise, expand, and systematize the existing regulatory framework throughout the field of fire safety. This was facilitated by the active work of the KSDP. As a result, the legal basis for the fire was worked out.

However, the problems of the constant increase in the number of fires, the rapid pace of development of cities required the collection and

synthesis of already existing legislative acts, the further formation of the regulatory framework for fire safety. The Regional Branch obliged the communes of cities and towns to be protected by the creation of auxiliary teams of voluntary firefighters, if necessary, to mobilize adult male population to rescue shares. This is sanctioned in the circular of Galician governor.

On March 27, 1911, the Regional Branch in Lviv was directed by the circular of the Galician governorate from February 15, 1904, to all district districts for the organization of fire protection. This document identified the role that the fire brigades of the region should assume: "Voluntary fire protection in cities and towns, which assumed the responsibilities of the bulky fire service, is obliged to carry fire, day and night, in the summer and in the winter constantly service" [22].

But the laws, which the authorities refer to in the implementation of fire safety, have not been unified and remained extremely unpredictable also in the interwar period. Skladaly basis of laws passed before receiving Poland's independence or temporary acts *zkonodavchi* years 1919-1920. However, legal provisions do not take into account the peculiarities of eastern Galicia, because, according to fire experts should formulate regulations are "based on local needs and conditions for only then they will be viable and will be induced to gradually improve the fire status" [20]. Inadequate legislation significantly influenced the effectiveness of fire protection. To some extent these deficiencies have eliminated the law "On protection from fires and other natural disasters", which March 13, 1934 was passed by the Sejm and, in accordance with Article 53, entered into force on 18 November [26].

Today, the progress in solving this issue can only be achieved on the basis of scientifically substantiated study of the situation in the field of fire safety and the provision of specific proposals and recommendations for its system of regulation from the experience of the EU [7].

Organization of fire safety work is a managed process, an important role played by local self-government bodies. Thanks to the knowledge of the historical and geographical facts of the localities, they are in a better position to identify the risks that can cause emergency situations and to quickly organize fire fighting. In this regard, Dr. W. Gayer objectively stressed that one of the important components of the mechanism for dealing with emergencies is the very activities of the territorial community. According to him, "even the best prevention professionals will not be able to prevent emergencies and minimize their damage, in contrast to the timely and correct use of community skills" [19].

Considerable valuable historical experience of local self-government bodies in Galicia from the end of the nineteenth century, before the Second World War, confirms the important role they can play in maintaining fire safety in the country, as is also shown by the practice of foreign countries. In most EU countries, professional fire protection is provided by local authorities and without centralized guidance. The process of reforming the institution of local self-government, the transfer of a number of functions from the state to local authorities, an increase in the financial component of local budgets necessarily raise the question of the creation of voluntary fire brigades in Ukraine. An example for imitation is the practice of our closest western neighbors: Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary [12].

The general experience of the fire department in Galicia convincingly proves that the prevention of fires and the fight against fire elements were a traditional matter not only of professional fire brigades, but also of voluntary fire brigade associations. It should be noted that the emergence of fire brigades was a consequence of the ineffective activity of the Austrian state in the field of fire protection of settlements. Great contribution to the development of voluntary fire in Galicia belonged to the inspector P. Paruna, who headed the corps of Lviv firefighters. He was the initiator of the creation of the National Union of Voluntary Firefighters in Galicia [21].

Proved historical fact is that the state was mainly responsible for fighting fire in the "fire guard" – semi-public structures, which were held by local communities at their own expense and who possessed special equipment. However, they existed in a few villages, their effectiveness and reliability caused constant complaints. In such circumstances, the functions of "fire" were performed by Ukrainian youth fire and gymnastics societies "Sokil", "Sich", and later "Lug". As of March 15, 1912, there were 760 firefighting companies in Galicia, including 196 societies called "Sich" [18].

The newly established fire brigades acted more effectively than the detachments of the local "Fireguard", and gradually replaced it completely [17, p. 360]. The Sicilians possessed high professionalism and skill in extinguishing fires. After the "Sich" was formed in the community of Nagornyanka of the Buchach district, all fires were so effectively eliminated that in 1910 the Polish Asekuratory Society allocated 50 kroons for the needs of society [6]. It is important that the neighboring "Sich" in critical moments helped each other. This contributed to the successful extinguishing of fire, and the neighboring communities rallied.

The described experience of the activities of voluntary fire brigades and fire and gymnastic societies in Galicia, testifies to their significant role in ensuring the fire safety of the population. A fundamental review of the current attitude to the fire department, a high level of community accountability for the fire safety situation today is an important condition for increasing fire safety in Ukraine. Therefore, one should clearly understand that modern Ukrainian voluntary fire brigades are not a formality, but an embodiment of the best experience gained, and in particular, in the organization of public administration for the development of fire in the region under investigation [16]. In our opinion, it is necessary to develop and implement a system of measures to revive the traditions of voluntary fire on the example of Socil, Sich, and Lug communities, and their mass participation in the prevention and extinguishing of fires, especially in rural areas.

In the European countries hundreds of thousands of volunteers are actively working, who are teachers, doctors or anyone on specialty. Today, voluntary fire brigades make up 80% of the British, French and Italian fire departments, and Belgium's fire brigade almost all consists of volunteer firefighters [7]. In Germany, professional fire protection operates only in 107 cities (usually with a population of more than 100 thousand inhabitants), and voluntary fire brigades – in 2074 settlements. The experience of Austria, where the role of firefighters is ordinary citizens, who at other times work on any other work, are interesting. In a small town there may not be a fire station, but there is a fire-fighting machine that is fully ready for operation, which, if necessary, is managed by a specially trained team of volunteers. It allows either to eliminate the fire on its own, or to wait for the help with the least damage, and also save considerable resources for the maintenance of firefighters.

Thanks to this, the fire safety system operates efficiently without unnecessary expenses and with the least damage. It is clear that in large cities with high-rise housing complexes and industrial zones without professional fire brigades and complicated machinery can not do, but in small towns and villages can volunteer firefighters [8].

In 1992, a reform of the fire service took place in Poland. The State Fire Service has undertaken not only to assist the population in the fires, but also in other cases: road accidents, various natural disasters. The advantage was given to voluntary fire brigades because of lack of budget funds to support fire protection in full [1].

At the end of 2013, a thematic national educational campaign for the Volunteer Movement Program was launched in Ukraine. It aims to

improve the cooperation of the population with the rescue services of Ukraine.

European experience convinces: 30-40% of fires in the initial stage are eliminated by voluntary fire brigades. In Ukraine, the relevant indicator does not exceed 3-4%. Today, the country needs more than 30 thousand volunteers and teams [9]. The experience of the Galician fire brigade proves that fire volunteering needs state support, first of all at the legislative level. The analysis of a number of legal acts regulating the activities of the DPO of foreign countries shows that the successful activity of voluntary fire brigades is possible only in the presence of the legal basis for the activities of the DPO, the corresponding social privileges and guarantees provided by the voluntary fire brigade, full-time employees (mechanics, drivers, dispatchers, chiefs of the DPO) in the departments of the DPO, training (including practical) voluntary fire actions for extinguishing and preventing fires.

In addition, at the state level, one can also stimulate people to engage in social activity. In particular, there is a state volunteer support program in Germany, according to which activists receive certain benefits and pay reduced taxes. All interested persons can go for free trainings, in which they receive critical skills for responding to dangerous circumstances and their warning. Due to this, there are people in the city who, in case of danger, can organize others with knowledge of the cause. These people do not need to pay salaries, but if a fire or flood occurs once in every 15 years, they will be among those who will behave correctly, who will know what to do and how to help. In Italy, thousands of volunteers are trained annually.

It should be noted that the DPO's work complicated the lack of basic knowledge of the population about responding to dangerous circumstances and their prevention. Therefore, it is important for the current organization of fire safety of the population to have a generalized experience of involving citizens of Galicia in the training of fire and technical knowledge, on their participation in the organization of protection of state and private property from fires, the dissemination of experience of assistance to the State Fire Service, local authorities in the organization of struggle with fires and their consequences. Already from the first issues of Ukrainian magazines "Fire survey – Union", "Fatherland", "Dilo", "Sokhillski Visty", "People's affair", "Sichovye Vesti" and others, they began to consolidate the fire brigade, scrupulously analyzed the causes of insufficient professional training of firefighters, patiently and it is available to popularize the basics of the fire among the population [15].

Conclusions from this study and prospects for further development in this direction. Therefore, the further development of the DPO should be aimed at achieving a progressive level of organization of fire volunteering in the EU. The state, invested a certain amount of money annually, can receive back much more. First, due to this, a culture of safe behavior is formed, because the person who has received the correct training will not allow a risky situation and will not make a fatal mistake. Secondly, the huge amount of money is spent on the elimination of the consequences of the accident, and the attraction of thousands of trained people makes it possible to save considerable money. Here you need a whole set of measures to take into account previous historical experience, which should be aimed at improving the entire system of fire safety. However, this requires a far-sighted approach that involves long-term planning and resource allocation. This problem is much wider, and the basis of its solution is to recognize the state of priority of problems related to ensuring the safety of life and health of its citizens.

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