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THE IMPACTS OF GLOBALISATION PROCESSES ON THE EXECUTION OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION FUNCTIONS

Ondrej Mital*

ABSTRACT

Contemporary public administration faces many challenges. Globalisation flows represent practical aspects of globalisation as well as functions of public administration represent practical aspect of government. The presented study regarding the challenges of public administration viewed within the context of contemporary globalisation processes concentrates its attention on the metamorphoses of public administration functions. The aim of presented paper is to analyse, with the help of inductive and deductive methods, the impacts of contemporary globalisation processes on the realization of public administration in the conditions of Slovak Republic. Our hypothesis predicts that the globalisation processes and globalisation flows influence the execution of public administration in the Slovak Republic. Presented paper concentrates its attention on the relationship between globalisation flows and public administration functions. The main benefit of the paper is based on the finding that contemporary globalisation flows could be significant factor in transformations of the public administration functions. Finally, the impact of globalisation processes is obvious in each of four basic functions of public administration – administration function, self-organisation function, regulatory function and function of providing public goods and public services. We cannot say that these forces are dominant, but globalisation processes are important factor that should be considered.

Key words: globalisation processes, globalisation flows, impacts of globalisation processes, public administration functions, transformation of public administration

Introduction

Globalisation processes are one of the essential parts of contemporary society. Based on this fact, it is necessary to examine genesis, progress and impacts of globalisation processes. Public administration is an integral part of the society as well. Based on this fact, public administration should reflect

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current society challenges, which are determined by many factors. Actual transformation of public administration is composed of ambitions, such as making public administration more transparent, providing public goods in adequate quality and quantity, improving professionalism of employees or accomplishing the requirements declared by international documents and international treaties. Both globalisation processes and public administration are important part of contemporary society in the 21st Century. However, we need to realize that if we could understand the above-mentioned phenomena, we will be able to reduce negative aspects of their existence. Moreover, a lot of valuable publications, documents and books concentrate their attention on impacts of globalisation processes and their potential to change existing reality. Besides that, the attention of Slovak theoreticians is focused on issues related to reform and transformation of public administration. However, relationship between these two dynamically evolving phenomena is relatively unexplored field of interest. Nevertheless, mentioned issues regarding the contemporary development of our society should be perceived as a very prospective field for future research. According to the complexity of selected phenomena, the ambition of presented study is the focus the attention to transformation of public administration in the context of contemporary ongoing globalisation processes.

The aim of this study is to analyse, with the help of inductive and deductive methods, the impacts of contemporary globalisation processes on the execution of public administration in the conditions of Slovak Republic. Our hypothesis is that the globalisation processes influence the execution of public administration in the Slovak republic. Presented paper concentrates its attention on the relationship between globalisation flows and public administration functions. According to above-mentioned, the paper tries to answer following question: How is execution of public administration functions influenced by contemporary globalisation flows? At the same time, the study tries to answer following partial questions: How significant is the potential of globalisation processes to influence the execution of public administration? What are the basic functions of public administration? Which practical impacts of contemporary globalisation processes we could identify in the context of basic public administration function?

From what was said, the examination of relationship between globalisation processes and public administration is actual and relevant mostly due to the fact that the provision of public goods and services is one of the primary goals of public administration. According to this fact, related activities should reflect

preference of the public. Successful achievement of these ambitions requires an ability of public administration to reflect potential changes of preferences. Nevertheless, these changes are becoming faster and more intense because of contemporary globalisation processes. At the same time, public administration needs to solve problems, which cannot be contained by state borders.

1 Potential of globalisation processes to transform contemporary reality

Contemporary society could overcome barriers in communication, migration, making business, governing public issues and many other activities in more sophisticated way than before. Based on this fact, contemporary society and human activities are becoming more connected and more interdependent. Our planet and everything around us is connected and interdependent in a unique way.

1.1 Globalisation processes – a very short introduction

Based on the abovementioned, there is a fundamental question, which should be answered properly. What are the fundamental features of contemporary globalisation processes and globalisation flows? First, some contradictions are associated to the origins of selected phenomenon. Some theoreticians argue that globalisation processes are relatively new phenomenon, which is a part of our history since the end of the 20th Century (Ondrová, 2013; Novotný, 2011; Mezřícký, 2011; Harris, 2008). On the other hand, there are opinions that globalisation processes are a constant part of human society. These theories are based on the models of globalisation¹ (Schäfer, 2007; Sheshabalaya, 2006; Robertson, 1992). However, these models should be characterized by at least one common attribute. The ability of globalisation processes to influence human society has been increasing gradually, especially in the last phases of these models. Therefore, *based on historical point of view there are two dominant interpretation of globalisation*. However, there is another important aspect of historical perspective. The current state of globalisation is the highest achieved state, in which individuals and groups meet each other, cooperate and compete, and all of this is determined

¹ Models of globalisation processes mostly consist of three or more phases. For further information: MITAL, O. 2015. Globalizácia v kontexte historického vývoja. In *INTERPOLIS '15*. Banská Bystrica: Belianum, 2015, s. 152-156. ISBN 978-80-557-1074-7.

by shared spiritual and material values (Hykisch, 2001). On the other hand, the origins, beginning and progress of globalisation are an important aspect of actual state of knowledge, but at the same time, these features are not a crucial part of contemporary research.

Selected phenomenon is permanently discussed by the theoreticians of traditional theoretical paradigms, such as liberalism, realism, functionalism or constructivism. Nevertheless, there are some specific theoretical conceptions, which underline the uniqueness of globalisation processes. According to **D. Held** et al. (1999) these scholars could be divided in to three relatively coherent schools, which are *hyperglobalists*, *sceptics* and *transformationalist*.

Hyperglobalist approach is linked to the extinction of national state and culture followed by the triumph of global capitalism and distinctively new form of global culture, governance and civil society (Williams, 2009). According to **A. Martinelli** (2005), hyperglobalist approach is less convincing, because world economic has become more fragile, less dependent on the global market and more dependent on state policies, but there is increasing homogeneity of world values, consumption patterns and styles of life. Sceptics believe that hyperglobal approach is just a myth and from the political point of view is unrealistic (Jones, 2006). This theoretical conception does not realize that globalisation is a new period of our history, because according to sceptics is our future more fragmented and regionalised than globalised (Agora, 2016). The approaches mentioned so far are opposing tendencies for sure, but presented antagonism is mitigated by the transformationalist approach. This interpretation of selected phenomenon accepts globalisation as a new social power, which reprograms many aspects of social, political and economic life (Hudson, Lowe, 2009). At the same time, transformationalist view relates to continuity as well as changes in current cultural, political, economic and social development (Soborski, 2013). We may sum up that arguments of mentioned conceptions are relatively convincing, but in our opinion the exact character of globalisation processes is somewhere in the middle.

From what was said, character of globalisation processes and diversity of theoretical tendencies have something to do with the problem of creating comprehensive definition². Generally, we may agree with the Slovak expert

² The complexity of globalisation processes is underlined by a plenty of definitions. Some of them emphasize economic features, some pay their attention to political aspects and some highlight

K. Ivanička (2006) that globalisation is a complex process of the transformation of contemporary world, which causes significant changes in social, economic and political sphere of modern world. Globalisation processes are phenomenon, which may be explained as a revolution of side consequences, which ruins those little things that remain of modernity and simultaneously leads us to an era of uncertainty (Lysý, 2009). On the other hand, globalisation is unavoidable part of postmodern period, which should be characterized by constantly increasing simultaneity, mobility and plurality (Koper, Klinčáková, Klučiarovský, 2015). Mentioned definitions simply confirm abovementioned opinions that intensity and dynamics of globalisation processes and their potential to transform existing social reality has been increasing through the last decades. Some parts of society are influenced more than the others. Nevertheless, most of our society is influenced by contemporary globalisation processes.

1.2 Practical aspects of contemporary globalisation processes

Globalisation is a *multidimensional phenomenon*. German expert on globalisation processes **U. Beck** (2007) provided enumeration of dimensions - informational, ecological, economic, labour-organisational and cultural dimension of globalisation processes. Complexity of human being is not the only thing, which has been transforming dramatically. According to **J. Tomlinson** (2011) globalisation processes transform relations between places, everyday activities, experiences, cultural traditions and identities. Tomlinson interpretation of *detritorialization* emphasizes global connectivity, which means that local is no longer the most important factor of our everyday reality (Ritzer - Dean, 2015). Globalisation processes accelerate shrinking of physical space (Frost, 2009). Moreover, the set of intentional activities of any entity could surround whole planet (Rosenau, 2006). Multidimensionality and detritorialization leads us to the last attribute, which is the existence of *global interdependency*. It represents circumstances, when decisions and activities of one entity is determined by the decisions and activities of another entity, but at the same time one entity could be influenced more than other (Wunderlich - Warrior, 2010). Moreover, we may argue with the idea of **P. Singer** (2006) that states could not live separated lives because of mutual commitment to each other.

other aspects of globalisation processes. Member of the Geneva Centre for Security Policy **N. Al-Rodhan** gather 114 definitions of globalisation processes.

Mentioned attributes of globalisation processes should be perceived as a theoretical construct rather than practical impacts. Therefore, we need to identify some practical aspects, which have got potential to transform everyday life and execution of public administration too. According to many theoreticians, practical aspects of globalisation processes could be relatively exactly observed through the flows of globalisation.

Generally, the term *globalisation flow* could be defined as a *movement of physical objects, goods, people or information across the space and time*. The whole concept of globalisation flows is mostly discussed in the sense of increasing porosity of global natural barriers and state borders (Ritzer - Dean, 2015). One of the first theoreticians that brought concept of globalisation flows to life is social and cultural anthropologist **A. Appadurai**. According to his opinion, it is a truism that we live in a world, which is characterized by objects in motion and these objects include thoughts, ideologies, people, goods, messages and technologies (Appadurai, 2000). Paradoxically, all mentioned objects in motion influence public administration, but public administration tries to regulate them as well. Globalisation flows are characterized by continuous flux and by generating new patterns, disrupting old systems and bypass existing interconnections (Aaltola, Käpylä, Vuorisalo, 2013). According to the opinion of **J. Heathershaw** and **E. Schatz** (2017) there are flows, which are with the globalisation processes connected rather by the effort to alter the state gradually and progressively rather than supplant it. Networks composed of interdependence at multicontinental distances occur through flows and these networks have potential to influence attributes, such as capital, goods, information, ideas, people, forces as well as environmentally and biologically relevant substances (Keohan - Nye, 2000). We may sum up that globalisation flows are a concept, which represents practical impacts of globalisation processes on our society.

Based on the abovementioned, globalisation processes cannot be perceived as a fiction or theoretical concept. Globalisation is real and relatively successfully ongoing process. From what was said, globalisation processes have potential to change existing reality just because of globalisation flows. In this sense, selected phenomenon could influence the transformation of the state and the public administration. This first part of the study tried to emphasize the potential of globalisation processes to transform existing reality. Remaining part of study deals with the relationship between globalisation flows and the realization of public administration. However, the text that follows pays its attention to the concept of public administration functions.

2 Functions of public administration – practical aspect of governing

From what was said, we need to highlight an objectively existing detail. Globalisation flows represent practical aspects of globalisation as well as functions of public administration represent practical aspect of government. The absence of public administration is extremely unreal. That is the main reason why we need to focus on processes that affect achieving of public interests. Generally, we may say that public administration embodies the executive and its main goal is to govern public issues in accordance to public interests. Public administration consists of state administration, self-government and public corporations. We need to add, that state administration and local self-government realize the most competencies of the entire public administration activities. Nevertheless, there is a subsystem of public corporations, but also other types of self-government. However, state administration and local self-government are due to their importance the most discussed subsystems of public administration in the conditions of the Slovak Republic.

At the beginning of our considerations regarding practical aspects of public administration, we try to concentrate our attention on *the concept of public administration functions*. Slovak expert on public administration **F. Kosorín** (1999) defines functions as something what is devoted from character of public administration activities and express itself in accordance to goals, ability to act, competencies and duties of public administration bodies. What is more, functions of public administration represent requirements of concrete society, needs of individuals and interests of concerned subjects (Erneker, Pána, 2017). According to **L. Hrtánek** (2012), functions of public administration should be perceived as a tangible reflection of the application of public administration methods, which should be performed by responsible employee. In the widest sense, the functions should be interpreted as a fulfilment of goals, which are in accordance to securing public goods determined by political authority (Nedelcu, 2010). We may sum up that functions are practical expressions of public administration existence in the contemporary democratic societies of 21st Century.

On the other hand, relatively clear definition of public administration functions is in the contrast to the variability of classifications. Following classifications are relatively different and number of functions is different as well. In accordance with the ambition of this study we may shortly introduce selected classifications of public administration functions, which are relevant to conditions of the Slovak Republic.

Public administration functions, as it was stated by **P. Káňa** (2010), should be divided into five groups, which are administrative, security, organisational, regulatory and the function of serving the public. As it was defined by **M. Adamcová** (2010), public administration should manage its administrative roles, roles related to ensuring undisturbed functioning of public administration organisations, but also roles related to providing goods in accordance to public interest. Functions should be divided into two groups, which could be called as govern-organisational and power-securing (Průcha, 1994). Using the words of **J. Erneker a L. Pána** (2017), we may identify three functions, which are power-securing, regulatory-organisational and serving the public. On the other hand, we may use classification, which is relatively different. Functions of public administration should be divided into two big groups, general functions, which consist of organisational and power-security function and concrete functions, which consist of factual, institutional and personal aspects (Kosorín, 1999). We may sum up that mentioned classifications of functions are quite different, but simultaneously we may find some similar features.

Primary, there is an *administrative function*, which relates to an administrative activity of state and public administration unconditionally. The importance of this function is based on capability to regulate and enforce the fulfilment of legal duties as well as security and internal order. *Self-regulatory function* is focused on necessity to self-organisation of public administration and its main goal is to ensure effective management of whole system. Third function pays its attention to the ability of public administration to regulate mutual rights and obligations of entities in a broadly beneficial meaning. This function should be named as a *regulatory function*. Finally, we need to think about *function of providing public goods and public services*. The essential content of this function is to provide public goods and public services in an adequate quality, quantity and in accordance to public interests.

Public administration in the Slovak Republic is in a similar position than public administration in any other state of globalised world. According to abovementioned, it is necessary to emphasize that we need to consider the porosity of state borders. This fact should be appropriately articulated by the words of **S. Schiavo-Campo** and **H. M. McFerson**. Impacts of globalisation on the realization of public administration are tangible in many states and due to this fact, they reduce ability of states to act impartially, but on the other hand, globalisation transforms functions of public administration (Schiavo-Campo - McFerson, 2015). Moreover, using the words of **F. Briška** (2008) we may argue

that global system does not recognise the oasis of untouchability and possible future problems will have impact on whole world and especially on relatively open and dependent Slovak Republic as well. According to the development of our society, the international openness of the Slovak republic is very helpful and useful, but at the same time, it could harm our everyday life easily.

However, the general dilemma is quite difficult, full of twist and turns, especially in following meaning. No territorial nation-state is any longer capable of effectively regulating transnational issues and challenges, such as financial stability or migration, alone (Lavenex, 2013). Based on these circumstances, public administration of democratic states is in situation where globalisation processes and globalisation flows need to be considered.

Impacts of globalisation processes on the public administration should be confirmed by following opinions. Benefits of states in a globalised world are closely connected with the efficiency of public administration (Jabbra - Dwivedi, 2005). Moreover, traditional questions of public administration need to be redefined, because realization of public interest is getting more complex and more demanding (Bauer, 2015). Government of states should implement policies in accordance to perspectives and challenges, which have international and global proportions, and at the same time more operative activities of public administration need to consider cross-border cooperation (Raadschelders - Vigoda-Gadot, 2015). Finally, globalisation processes and globalisation flows seem to be one of the key issues, which can be a significant factor of planning, managing and realizing of public administration functions.

3 Globalisation flows - an important factor of basic public administration functions

Contemporary form of public administration is the result of long-term development. Traditional concept of public administration was born without any needs to consider issues from outside the territory of the state. The reality of 21st Century should be characterized by intensive global interdependence and by porosity of state borders as well. The current challenges of public administration are determined by factors from outside the sovereign state. According to these circumstances, the following part of study regarding contemporary globalisation flows concentrates its attention on transformations of four basic public administration functions.

3.1 Administrative activities of public administration

Coercive and ordering character of activities is traditional attribute of public administration. Besides that, fundamental aspect of this function is relatively rigid. There always will be an administrator, who will make decisions by applying the administrative deliberation. This human element could not be eliminated from the public administration (Králík - Kútík, 2013; Jreisat, 2011). However, globalisation flows have been dramatically changing *rights and duties enforced by public administration*. Rights, duties and legitimate interests of citizens are determined by global affairs, such as environmental protection, international security and internal order, human rights issues or trade regulation as well. Questions and strategies related to these spheres are highlighted and elaborated in the documents, which are created by international organisations, such as international treaties, international conventions, international standards, but also bilateral and multilateral agreements. Of course, there are some differences on how strictly implementation of these documents needs to be. Obviously, the most significant impact we may identify in the context of economic dimension of globalisation processes. Flows of people, goods and services are more liberal and public administration need to respond to these circumstances.

Moreover, another important part of administrative function is an *ability to influence future development of society*. In this sense, ability of public administration lies on involvement in the process of formulation and realization of public policies. However, this ability is broadly influenced by contemporary globalisation processes and globalisation flows. Public administration is not capable enough to solve all existing problems at own territory anymore. Based on objective reasons, public administration needs to cooperate with other states, especially due to the issues such as environmental protection, poverty, criminal activities, intergeneration solidarity and many more are not limited by state borders. In the context of international cooperation, public administration applies public policies, which are affected by recommendations mentioned in the international documents. Some scholars concluded that at this point, we might talk about something that should be called as a democratic deficit.

The *ability to guarantee security and internal order* is another aspect of this function. If we consider actual incidents, then security and safety are becoming fundamental basis of effective existence of contemporary society, which through can state and public administration accomplish another important public

interest, such as high-quality education system, widely accessible healthcare system, adequate standard of living as well as good governance. Security cannot be reached by individual effort of Slovak Republic and the need of international cooperation seems to be a logical choice, especially when we consider the existence of global terrorism, which affects global security and internal state order. In this sense, the scientific and technical progress is determinant of modern terrorism as well as globalisation and changes in mentality and organisation of social life (Kowalska, 2015). If Slovak Republic wants to face contemporary security challenges and threats successfully, then implementation of security policy in accordance to international strategies looks as only way how to reach this goal (Šimovček, 2009). Actions related to safety and security are mostly determined by NATO strategies, European Union and Schengen area membership.

Security aspect of contemporary society is challenged by liberalisation of various globalisation flows. The role of the state and public administration regarding the existence of democratic deficit is to establish some objectives of development, which could according to valid legislative guarantee protection of human rights and morals. According to **J. Lasicová** and **J. Ušiak** (2012), the contemporary concept of security need to consider globalisation as well as informatisation and humanisation. In this sense, public administration should find solutions, which represents middle course between the preservation of security and supporting and strengthening of freedom and democracy. However, these ideals are closely related to another function of public administration.

3.2 The importance of undisturbed functioning of public administration organisations

The necessity to ensure undisturbed functioning of public administration is an integral part of self-organisational function. This function contains activities and conceptions, through which can public authorities realize their actions properly. Primary goal of this function is to create system of organisations, which can satisfactory achieve public needs.

First, the most important part of this function is related to the *rational organisation of public administration entities and state territory* as well. According to contemporary globalisation processes, this aspect of self-organisational function is mostly discussed in the conditions of existence of self-governing regions. Existence of self-governing regions, respectively NUTS III regions, was determined by general region classification used by European

Union. Nevertheless, except of this case there is no strict global trends related to the organisation of the state territory, through which should international organisations directly influence decisions of relatively sovereign states.

However, getting public administration closer to the public should be identified as a global trend. Decentralisation of public administration is one of the most common aspect of contemporary democratic societies. The significant part of competencies was decentralised to the self-governing units in the conditions of the Slovak Republic as well. According to **L. Cibík** (2015), concrete decentralisation scheme is an outcome of many categories, aspects and is determined by uniqueness of state and public administration as well. Decentralisation is a part of modern democratic systems, through which we can stimulate participation of citizens and create more open and transparent democratic society (Machyniak, 2015). However, decentralisation process has not been realized properly in the conditions of Slovak Republic. There are many local self-government units with lot of competencies, which cannot be financed in a demanded quality and quantity. On one hand, there should be considered structural problems such as, lot of small villages or insufficient funds, but future transformation should be managed in according to challenges, such as securing and strengthening democratic institutions and mechanism. According to **E. Kováčová** (2015) regarding high fragmentation we should think about consolidation of local self-government, it is only way how to solve problems of small self-government units.

Moreover, the functioning of public administration organisations is influenced by the flows of information, which are enhanced by globalisation processes and technological progress as well. Comparison of public administration is thanks to *indexes, rankings and other initiatives*³ related to various aspects of public life much easier than before. Importance of these initiatives is objectively underlined by globalisation processes. Presented results should be important factor of decision, which could be made before entering concrete state by individual, businessman, but also by a tourist. In this sense, we could consider that there is a challenge standing ahead of public administration, which is related to making public administration in the Slovak Republic more competitive.

³ International organisations prepare some indexes and rankings, such as Corruption Perception Index, Global Corruption Barometer (Transparency International); Open Local Self-government, Transparent Doctors, Open State Contract (Transparency International Slovakia); Government at Glance (OECD); Global Peace Index, Global Terrorism Index (Institute for Economics and Peace).

From what was said, mentioned rankings mostly consider effectiveness of the entire public administration, which is closely related to providing public goods and public services. Moreover, self-regulation function regarding ambition to create effective system of public administration should contribute to satisfying of public interests. The ability of public administration to provide public goods and services is one of the public administration functions. However, following part of the text will be focused on the potential of public administration to regulate interaction between citizens and other legal entities.

3.3 Regulatory function of public administration

Essential part of public administration is an exclusive ability to regulate social interactions. Competencies of public administration could be transformed to decision, which may influence *right, duties and legitimate interests of citizens and other legal entities*. Before our consideration regarding contemporary globalisation flows, we must add that there is an inevitability of democratic principles and public administration should reflect this ambition. It is an unconditional necessity for public administration employees to *respect diversity of opinion and interests*, which are presented in accordance to legislative and morals. According to **D. Škutová** (2016), the Europe is still united in the general concepts, such as denying aggression, but less united in secondary issues like concrete approaches in the national policies. Social relations should be regulated by public administration in accordance to values, such as *tolerance, solidarity or justice*. However, these ideals are getting brand new meaning and importance in the context of contemporary globalisation processes.

Tolerance should be understood much widely than before, especially in the context of cultural and religion diversity. According to **I. Kant** (1996), antagonism, intolerance and competitiveness are the driving forces of human development. However, these forces will according to Kant became the foundation of good, tolerance and human prosperity (Leško, Ješič, Andreanský, 2013). At the same time, emotions and narrations should be included in the argumentation and public discussions (Jesenková – Jesenko, 2015). In this sense, tolerance should be an important factor of decision-making process. This ambition needs to be stressed in accordance to flows of people and meeting of cultures and religions.

Moreover, another important ideal related to the regulation of social interactions is solidarity, which is mostly discussed in the context of current

migration crisis. Public administration participates in the integrating of immigrants to our society. Nevertheless, the results of these activities are not as good as they should be. On the other hand, we may argue that situation is not as bad as we could see in the states of Western Europe. At the same time, we cannot say that the consequences of integration processes and activities are acceptable. These circumstances are precisely identified by **J. Lid'ák**. The frustration caused by the feeling of scorn, rejection and discrimination because of cultural and religion distinction, inadequate working conditions and bad standards of living - these are the most common sources of dissatisfaction and racial disturbances as well as unfriendly attitude of majority against immigration and immigrants in the European countries (Lid'ák, 2016). Finally, these tendencies are getting more pronounced in the next aspect. Labour market in the Slovak Republic is exhausted. According to this fact, especially bigger and transnational companies try to find employees in other states. Immigration in the Slovak Republic is maybe not as important as it is in other countries of globalised world. However, public administration needs to solve issues related to immigrants in the Slovak Republic. On the other hand, emigration, which will be mentioned in the following text, is important factor of Slovak public administration as well.

Justice is another ideal, which must be a part of public administration activities. On the other hand, this ideal had exceeded the scope of public administration. Nevertheless, public administration tries to mitigate some disproportions caused by market mechanism and especially economical dimension of globalisation processes. The providing of public goods and public services is tangible evidence of public administration efforts to make human society better. We should consider the limits of public administration in the Slovakia especially in the context of territorial size and total number of citizens. Moreover, we must stress sad trend of an intensification of income contrast between rich and poor people and difference between Rich North and Poor West. According to **M. Gbúrová** (2012), the quality of democracy is deformed by the pathological effects caused by international environment, and these effects have impact on forming of global economy and global politics. On one hand, justice is relatively subjective aspect of our reality, but on the other hand, contemporary distribution of welfare is not fair at all. As it was stated by **R. Geffert** (2015) we live in an era when seven of eight billion people are threatened by poverty; poverty which disturbs their human and social dignity.

Contemporary society is a society of information technologies as well. In this

sense, this is significant factor of current development. Information technologies should influence ability and preparedness of the public to participate on the realization of public administration functions. There are various possibilities on how to participate in governance. On the other hand, concept of participation stands and falls on well-informed citizen. From what was said, the potential of globalisation processes to accelerate development of society is undisputable. In this sense, we should perceive an enhanced *possibility of citizens to participate on governing public issues through the information technologies*. Some theoreticians conclude that e-participation is a modern way to participate on producing public goods and public services. In this sense, e-participation should be very attractive especially to young generation. According to **A. Thorleifsdottir** and **M. Wimmer** (2006) there are various tools of e-participation, which should be used in the contemporary democratic societies, such as e-consultation, e-panel discussion, discussion forums, e-questioning or online streaming of events. Using the words of **V. Džatková** (2015), regardless of critique, systematic effort related to the implementation of modern e-participation methods should be perceived very positively. The importance of communication technologies should be underlined by following opinion. According to **J. Kůs** (2017), future does not belong to steel, nuclear power plants or petrol-fuelled transport relying on cars, but future is in categories, such as nanofibers, graphene, smart materials, shared economy and living the reality of global net. Based on this prediction, sophistication of e-government and e-participation looks like as unavoidable minimum linked to regulatory capability of public administration.

3.4 Function of providing public goods and public services

Finally, providing of public goods and public services is the fourth basic function of public administration. Changes of our society are not happening within the period of centuries or decades, but our society is changing almost year after year. Current progress of our society should be reflected by public administration organisations. In this sense, requirements of citizens related to quality and quantity of public goods and public services have been growing constantly. Moreover, scope of public administration activities is wider than before.

At the beginning of our consideration, we should perceive the *qualitative aspect of public goods and public services*. In the extreme cases, potential

negative impacts linked to emigration and crowding-out effect need to be considered. This type of flow should be identified especially in the developing or transitioning countries, respectively in the condition of the Slovak Republic as well. The most cases related to this type of movement are realized by young people and most commonly are based on ambition to increase their income and quality of life. We may identify some traditional migration lines, such as migration from Europe to North America or from South America to North America as well as migration from Africa do Europe or North America. On the other hand, we may identify some relatively new ones, such as migration from Central and East Europe to Western Europe and migration waves to Europe in past two years of course. Thus, the whole concept of migration is not new, but it is more intensive and negative consequences are more distinct.

Quality of life is very important indicator when it comes to providing of public goods and public services. Contemporary changes in public administration is closely connected with the increasing of quality in a favour of citizen and in accordance to performance and cost of public administration activities (Hamalová et al., 2014). On the other hand, quality as well as abovementioned justice is a very subjective category. However, *flow of information made it easier to compare wealth and standards of living* in the world. Public administration should reflect requirements of the public and provide quality public goods and public services in adequate quantity. At the same time, public finances are limited and this ambition seems to be difficult to reach. This is the main reason of cooperation with the organisations of private and non-profit sector, which means that a part of responsibility was shifted on the provider.

We may sum up that there are two different types of mentioned cooperation. First, public goods and services are provided by entity from outside of public administration, such as law services, creation of plans or preparation of analysis. Benefits of this cooperation is linked to effectiveness, quickness and public finances savings too. On the other hand, we may identify group of goods and services, which are provided by private or non-profit entity, such as education, health services or social services. Moreover, big and long-term projects, such as building of infrastructure or procuring high-quality technology are often provided by international consortiums.

This function includes one traditional activity, which we may call as a *decision-making process*. The main objective of decision-making process is to achieve established goals and satisfy the roles of public administration (Jakab, 2010). The results of this activities are relatively heterogeneous, such as

decisions, permissions, licences or certificates. Communication technologies and flows of information changed this part of fourth public administration function. Citizens could now get what they need just by using the internet. However, this ambition is very difficult to reach. There are many problems related to suitable functioning of e-government in the conditions of the Slovak Republic. On one hand, there are some limits related to citizens, such as quality of internet connection, computer literacy or hardware and software issues. On the other hand, there are medialized problems caused by public administration, such as security problems, servers' breakdowns or ineffective spending of public finances. However, regardless of mentioned problems and controversies, e-government is still something that needs to be constantly sophisticated. E-government is important factor, which may improve quality and quickness of decision-making process as well as limit some types of corruption. In this sense, good functioning e-government could make our public administration more competitive in comparison to other countries. Moreover, better quality of decision-making process and lower rate of corruption might be very useful for our society. These aspirations related to e-government might stop emigration of young people, but it might be an important factor in decision made by foreign investors too.

The ambition of public administration is to satisfy citizens needs and solve existing problems. However, once again, there are limits caused by current globalisation processes, globalisation flows and global problems, which are more powerful than public administration.

Conclusion

Functions of public administration, as a practical expression of public administration existence, directly affect contemporary society by providing public goods and public services in accordance to public interests. Globalisation processes can through the globalisation flows affect whole society, state as well as public administration. The impact of globalisation processes is obvious in each of four basic functions of public administration – administration function, self-organisation function, regulatory function and function of providing public goods and public services.

The preliminary hypothesis has been proved. Theoretical research confirmed that flows of globalisation are determining features of public administration functions in the conditions of Slovak Republic. Mentioned four

basic functions are influenced differently of course. From what was said, the most influenced functions are regulatory function and the function of providing public goods and public services. However, it does not mean that remaining functions are not transformed by ongoing globalisation processes.

Finally, we may conclude that the main benefit of the paper is based on the finding that contemporary globalisation flows could be significant factor in transformations of the public administration functions. Moreover, globalisation flows could be an important feature, which could influence requirements of citizens and other legal entities. We cannot say that these forces are dominant, but globalisation processes are important factor that should be considered. If public administration could not handle this challenge, the realization of public administration functions would not be in accordance to the interests of citizens and other legal entities. From what was said, relationship between globalisation flows and the realization of public administration functions might be an attractive unexplored field for future research.

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