Patriotic education of young people by means of Internet projects: domestic and foreign experience

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Abstract — Many countries consider the patriotic education of the younger generation as one of the main state tasks. There is a search for new forms, methods and means of the patriotic education of young people. Patriotism is proclaimed a priority value and a leading direction in state policy of studied countries. The traditional means of the patriotic education of young people in Russia and China are singled out. With the widespread use of the Internet environment and mass communications, the sphere of patriotic education of young people is complemented by the introduction of Internet projects. The authors analyse the modern means of patriotic education of the Russian and Chinese youth. Similar means of this process in different countries are detected. The modern possibilities of patriotic education of the Russian and Chinese youth through the use of modern Internet capabilities are discussed in the article. Modern and innovative ways should be used in patriotic education, especially the favourite “toys” of young people: messengers, social networks, the Internet, etc. The authors found that the implementation of patriotic education is determined by individual approaches corresponding to the level of country development. The authors analysed modern Internet projects of the patriotic education of young people that are used in the process of forming civil-patriotic qualities of a young person in Russian and Chinese practice. The experience of the Russian Federation and the People’s Republic of China in using Internet projects for the patriotic education of the young generation represents new guidelines for the moral development of Russian and Chinese youth. Based on the traditions of the past and modern technologies, the development of such projects can become a new means of patriotic education of the younger generation.

Keywords — young people, patriotic education, means of patriotic education, Internet projects for patriotic education of young people

I. INTRODUCTION

Nowadays, civic and patriotic education of a young person is a very topical issue not only for the Russian Federation but also for foreign countries. First of all, this circumstance is connected with social, economic, political and cultural transformations occurring in the world. The content, character, means and methods of patriotic education of young people are determined, first of all, by the economic, social, cultural and historical conditions of social development that have emerged in different countries. The search for new means, ways, approaches and principles fully depends on the level of development of one or other state. It also depends on philosophical, pedagogical, psychological approaches to educational activity, its content, and its requirements of society to the organization of educational activities for youth [1].

Currently, the problem of the patriotic education of the younger generation is becoming particularly relevant and manifests itself in the development of civic responsibility, loyalty to the homeland, and the readiness to defend the interests of the homeland. The term “patriotism” itself (in Greek) means a compatriot, a homeland, or Motherland.

The process of patriotic education among young people can be defined in the manifestation of the following main trends:

1) the development of spiritual values of respect and love for the homeland in young people;
2) the development of interest in national history among young people;
3) focus on the humanistic way of life;
4) the development of new moral ideals associated with the heroic images of the country’s past.
Strict national identity dominates in modern society, where this national devotion is of paramount importance [2]. Significance of the problem of patriotic education of young people is determined by the fact that this direction in education is currently becoming one of the leading directions in state policy. T. Masharova and contributors emphasize the crucial role of patriotic education in the educational policy of the state [3]. G. Ariely notes that increased government policy influences the formation of patriotic feelings and civil evaluation of patriotism [4]; J. Wolak and contributors refer to the fact that a sense of patriotism and national pride of the people are enhanced in the process of political competition [5].

Any state is interested in preserving its historical heritage and transferring it to the younger generation in order to strengthen patriotic consciousness, a sense of loyalty to their homeland, readiness to fulfill civic duty and duties to protect the interests of the homeland. In view of the above, the study of the domestic and foreign experience of the patriotic education of the younger generation is of particular interest.

II. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Each individual country defines individual approaches for the patriotic education of young people, which correspond to the level of society development. The development and maintaining of patriotic feelings began to be carried out purposefully with the development of society, establishment of the institute of state and the first media [6], [7].

According to the approach, formulated by M. Aliyev and D. Dzhandarov, in the current sociocultural situation, patriotic education is discussed as a pedagogical process aimed at educating a citizen, a patriot who is capable of performing civic duty and constitutional duties to protect the interests of one’s homeland. In modern sociocultural conditions, patriotic education of young people is not just a part of the civil culture of a citizen, not just a part of the pedagogical process. First of all, it is “one of the foundations of the spiritual and moral unity of society, the protection of individual rights and freedoms” [8]. In our opinion, the modern Russian Federation and the modern People’s Republic of China are the powers, where development of patriotism is one of the main values of citizens representing the strength and power of multinational countries. In view of the above, the question of introducing new means of patriotic education of Russian and Chinese youth seems interesting to us. The considered countries declared the problem of the development of patriotism at the state level, and this problem is reflected in many government documents. The Russian Federation declares the patriotic education of young people as a direction of state policy at the legislative level in the following legal acts: The Constitution of the Russian Federation; the Order of the Government of the Russian Federation of November 29, 2014 “Fundamentals of the state youth policy in the Russian Federation until 2025”; Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of July 24, 2000 “About Military-Patriotic Youth and Children’s Unions”; Order of the Government of the Russian Federation of May 29, 2015 No. 996-p “Strategy for the development of education in the Russian Federation until 2005”; Resolution of the Government of the Russian Federation of December 30, 2015, by No. 1493 “About the State Program “Patriotic Education of Citizens of the Russian Federation for 2016-2020”. The People’s Republic of China declares the main provisions of patriotic education in the Constitution of the People’s Republic of China, Laws of the People's Republic of China “On Education” and “On Higher Education”, resolutions of the CPC Central Committee “On Moral Education in Primary and Secondary Schools”, “On Implementation of Patriotic Education”, “On strengthening work on the moral education of school students”.

Another direction of the patriotic education of young people, which received support and development at the state level, is the establishment and expansion of a network of state centres for patriotic education of young people both in the Russian Federation and in the People’s Republic of China. State centres’ activities are aimed at implementing activities of a patriotic character and shaping the national spirit of citizens.

Considered countries treat patriotic education of young people as an integral part of the development of a network of public organizations and youth movements. The priority of all levels of education are activities directed to implement civic-patriotic education programs for the Russian and Chinese youth, to carry out local history work, to create conditions for spiritual value educational programs and the education of a humanistic person, to organise the work with pre-conscription youth and to introduce young people to national traditions and public holidays.

Nowadays, the Russian Federation and the People’s Republic of China have accumulated a considerable amount of means for patriotic education (with similar features) of young people. Music education stands out as one of the effective means of forming patriotism among all the means of patriotic education of the Russian young people by a number of authors.

Analysis of the domestic researches by V. Stoyunin, S. Babishin, G. Volkov and N. Nikolaev shows the use of folk pedagogy in the patriotic education of the younger generation.

As the means of patriotic education of the younger generation in modern society, M. Aliyev and co-authors attribute to physical culture and sports as developing such moral-volitional personality traits such as justice, honesty, discipline, decisiveness, tolerance, responsibility and others [8].

In matters of patriotic education of young people, great attention is paid to tourism, state symbolism, socio-cultural activities, museum activities, local history and volunteer activities.

The People’s Republic of China considers patriotism as one of the twelve highest values of socialism. Among the main goals of patriotic education, set by the state, these ones have a special place:

- strengthening the collective spirit;
- the formation of the mass consciousness of the nation;
the contribution to the rational, open, calm, and confident power of the authorities;
-the awareness of the teamwork importance in the implementation of innovations;
-raising of awareness of domestic enterprises on social responsibility [9].

Various means are used in the process of patriotic education of Russian and Chinese youth.

State centres of patriotic education have a particular importance in the patriotic education of the young generation of China. There are already more than 400 state centres in the country and their number is steadily increasing.

The museum activity plays a large role in the patriotic education of Chinese youth, due to organization of memorable events.

Great attention is given to social and cultural activity in the field of patriotic education of young people, both in the Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China [10].

As well as the Russian Federation, the People's Republic of China pays special attention to state symbols and historical reconstructions as part of the process of forming patriotic arrangements.

In recent decades, the importance of traditional sociocultural communications has increased. It is necessary to rethink the socio-cultural reality, to rethink a transition to a qualitatively new level of relations between nations, political and public associations, people and, as a result, to rethink the problems of patriotic education of young people [11].

In this context, particular attention is drawn to the classification of forms of patriotic education of young people. M. Dzhilkishieva [12] emphasizes traditional forms, that have proven themselves in the practice of educating citizens-patriots (lectures, conversations, discussions, excursions, meetings with veterans and soldiers, trips to places of military and labour glory, volunteer clean-up events, local history activities, etc.), and innovative forms of particular interest for modern youth (chat conferences, the Internet, business games, modelling of various situations of civil-patriotic activity, etc.). By means of civil patriotic education, the author considers:

a) specially organized activities (educational and cognitive, educational and practical, independent practices, gaming activities, communication) that contribute to the development of the moral qualities of the person, his patriotic feelings, civil development;

b) informational means, that is the use of video clips for lectures, specific television programs, radio programs, video and film, audio-visual means, and Internet capabilities;

c) exploratory, environmental and historical activities of local history.

Modern and innovative ways should be used in patriotic education, especially the favourite "toys" of young people: messengers, social networks, the Internet, etc. V. Chirkova and L. Chirkova [13] argue that it is necessary to distinguish the virtual reality and real life, and redirect the young people’ craze for computer games in other ways. For example, use the potential of the Internet for the patriotic education of the younger generation. According to S. J. Bennett and co-authors, the civic-patriotic education of “computer-born” students (digital natives) [14] requires the active use of information technology. We consider that in modern conditions the most interesting mean is the use of information tools for patriotic education of young people, in particular, various Internet projects created for the purpose of patriotic education of the younger generation.

The use of Internet technologies allows to make the patriotic activity more visible and open to all, allows to create Internet databases and implement Internet projects, i.e. to increase the mobility of the activity component of patriotic education (including, not least, to increase the coverage of participants in social projects and programs).

The Russian Federation and the People's Republic of China have accumulated a lot of experience in development of Internet projects and patriotic events for young people. The creation of a web resource that includes the cultural and historical database of blockaded Leningrad is an example of the Internet project of patriotic education for Russian youth (http://900doey.ru/map/item/277). The map of Leningrad was taken as the basis for the graphic component [15].

Different areas of the city are marked with their cultural and historical monuments, the historical background is given, and also, a photo gallery is presented. The Internet project contains more than 2,000 text, photo, video and audio materials that characterize the chronology of events taking place in the city from November 30, 1940, to January 14, 1944.

The information portal “Living History” is also one of the youth projects aimed at developing the system of civil-patriotic education of young people (ZhivayalstoriyiRossii.rf). The main goal of the project is the creation of an innovative Internet platform that provides young people with basic national values and with the possibility of wide involvement of various social and age groups. During the existence of the project, the following events were held: training seminars, festivals for disabled people, quest games, the regional stage of “Leader of the 21st Century” - the All-Russian competition among principals and leaders of children and youth public associations. The corresponding group in the social network “VKontakte” has more than 2,200 subscribers.

The annual socially-oriented International Internet Competition in the Memory of the Internet Journalist V. Sukhomlina "Page of family fame" can be considered a positive experience in the use of Internet technologies for patriotic education (http://vif2.ru/). The main idea and the main goal of the competition is the development, creation and introduction to the practice of working with electronic content for young people, which contain objective information about the historical past of our homeland, about the military heroic deed of our people, about the glory and valour of our compatriots in wars and local conflicts. During the existence of the competition, it has become one of the effective sociocultural and information technologies for the patriotic education of young people [16], [17].
In 2007, at the initiative of the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation, “Generalized Database “Memorial” was created. It is a database of defenders of the homeland who were killed, died or went missing during the Great Patriotic War and the post-war period (https://obd-memorial.ru/html/about.htm). At present, the “Generalized Database “Memorial” contains information about more than 20 million people, about soldiers who died or went missing during the Great Patriotic War. As part of this project, a unique information and reference search system with no analogues in the world was created [18], [19].

In the modern sociocultural space of China, patriotic education develops young people interest in the topic of patriotism through Internet resources. With the spread of the Internet, the creation of specialized sites and forums seems to be a very effective mean of patriotic education of Chinese youth. Different events are held in the Internet space for Chinese youth, such as “Month 75 of patriotic films”, “Online volunteer”, “In the memory of those killed in the Nanjing Massacre” that promote respect for history and contribution to the country’s social and economic development [20].

III. CONCLUSION

Thus, the studied experience of introducing Internet projects for the patriotic education of young people represents new guidelines for the moral development of Russian and Chinese young people. The development of such projects, based on the traditions of the past and modern technologies, can become the new means of patriotic education of the younger generation.

Young people are experiencing colossal changes in difficult modern conditions, so the process of patriotic education must be carried out with the use of relevant means and methods of working with young people. The active use of new information and communication technologies, the introduction and expansion of Internet projects will increase the social activity of young people, as well as ensure historical continuity, revive spirituality, and strengthen the national security of the country.

REFERENCES