

# THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS OF UNIFIED LOCAL COMMUNITIES' STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT

**Saienko P.O.**

Researcher of the Institute of Economic and Legal Research of the NAS of Ukraine

Determined convincing understanding of the fact that the issue of unified territorial communities' development remains actual in the area of social studies and, above all, their legal and economic aspects.

In the formulation of research problems, given the existing dilemma due to the poor financial condition of the majority of territorial communities, actual are problems of local government's development, empowering territorial communities through their unification, which should be aimed at improving socio-economic system and raising living standards, which is one of the priorities of state policy.

The article explored that nowadays the revival in Ukraine on the constitutional basis of the Municipality Institute with the relevant authorities and self-sufficient local budgets, introduction of the practice of delegation of state powers to local authorities provide a reliable basis for setting European standards of social life and at the same time contribute to the search for new ways to ensure the development of the unified territorial community. Significant changes in the scale and complexity of the environment, where municipalities belong, create uncertainty both for themselves and for economic and social development of the communities where they operate and for the national economy as a whole.

The actual issue is not only the unification of territorial communities, but also the formation of special development strategy. Exploring current trends of Ukrainian economy's development, the author suggests that

without significant local government reform, without the implementation of decentralization, it is not possible to overcome the negative trends in the socio-economic and cultural development of territorial communities and regions, to provide significant increase in the level and quality of life of most of the Ukrainian citizens. The author states that only a paradigm shift in governance, consistent implementation of local government reform, territorial organization of power in Ukraine, improving existing local management systems, expanding the powers of local authorities can contribute to building a new model of local government based on democracy.

The article's goal is a synthesis of theoretical approaches to the essence and content of the development strategy for unified territorial community, based on the analysis of the conceptual apparatus of normative legal and scientific sources and definitions of basic concepts and directions to ensure the development of the territorial community.

The article defines that one of the main goals of the unification of territorial communities is economic efficiency and therefore an important factor in the process should be scientifically substantiated formation of the development strategy for territorial communities. The article states that during the formation of the development strategy for the united territorial community external and internal conditions of the region, availability of resources, opportunities and risks that must be provided should be taken into account.