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Dear chairman, dear participants of the Forum! Allow me a few words about population policy understanding and its main principles.

From my point of view the cornerstone of the concept of an effective population policy has to be the correct answer to the question what it is and what the common mechanism of its realization is. Efficiency of the population policy considerably depends on adequateness of its theoretical bases and scientifically grounded understanding of the matter of population reproduction. The population policy based on understanding it, as a separate sphere of influence on the population reproduction, has never been effective, as far as the population reproduction is not a separate sphere of people's activity. Non-development of the theory of a population policy is one of the reasons of the situation when they try to activate it basing on the logic of common sense only, although this logic is not enough, since the issue is all about a too much complicated object of the demo-political interest. Scientific-theoretical conclusions, as for reasons of a really effective population policy, haven't made their way through yet. That's why it is often identified with the policy aimed at a decrease or increase of fertility, i.e. limiting the population policy to its narrow sense.

Now we arrived at a conclusion that the object of the demo-theoretical interest does not create a separate sphere of life activity of people. Individuals acquire corresponding social qualities in all the spheres of social life; they are the product of the social life on the whole, but not of its separate "demographic sphere". Therefore, the population policy is not a component of the socioeconomic policy, but its special demographic orientation. Any branch of the socioeconomic policy directly or indirectly influences the demo-process and, in that sense, has a demography aspect in it, there is always one or another demographic matter in it. Demographic problems must be solved through strengthening the demographic orientation and increasing the demographic efficiency in all branch of the policy and in all spheres of social life. In other words, the matter of an effective population policy has to be in "demographization" the socioeconomic policy. This is the most important principle of the population policy. Proceeding from this, a really effective population policy can be only there and then, where and when all the efforts of political activities of the state are directed to the achievement of its aim, when they become instruments in the reaching of definite results in turning the demo-reality to a desirable direction. Introduction of demographic examination of projects, programs and legal acts should become one of the important means of demographization of the political life of all authorities.

A population policy can be effective only if its main activities are aimed at the

demographization of labor sphere in the country as a social core of population reproduction. The most important measure of an effective population policy must be not influencing fertility per se, though it is extremely low, but focusing on formation of such a value of working force that would be sufficient for the reproduction of existing and new labor force. The most important aspect of the financial provisions for population reproduction should be in the structure of salaries, besides the expenditure coverage for the reproduction of functioning labor force, there should be such a part, which is sufficient for support and upbringing of the necessary for family and society number of healthy children.

When forming the population policy, problems of its development cannot be regarded only in the context of eradication of negative phenomena in population reproduction; and its general, global, strategic aim cannot be reduced to overcoming these phenomena only. "Reparatory" functions of the population policy are important and necessary, but not only have they determined its essence. The essence of the population policy is determined by its strategic aim, which fixes a desirable general trend of the socioeconomic development of the society. Progress to the achievement of the strategic aim of the population policy is, at the same time, the most effective movement in the achievement of its most actual current tactical aim, which is in softening the demographic crisis in Ukraine today.

The population policy should be complex, but the overall economic crisis in Ukraine does not allow for systematic solutions of demographic problems. The crisis demands concentration of the extremely limited resources on solving the sharpest and the most urgent problems. Such a problem now in my country is the catastrophic deterioration of the population's health. That's why in such an extraordinary situation, the main direction of the population policy should be preservation and improvement of the population's health as one of the most important priorities of the nation. The precondition of such improvement should be targeting of all branch of policy to creating conditions for decent human life. If the subject of the existing labor force has a decent life, it will have influence not only on the health situation but on the fertility rate as well. And no other "fertility stimulation" will work without it and this stimulation will just not be necessary.

Thank you very much.