



**FAKULTA  
HUMANITNÍCH STUDIÍ**  
Univerzita Karlova

**REVIEW REPORT**

of a Member of Thesis Committee to the Doctorate Thesis in Sociology by  
Kiseleva Liudmila Sergeevna on the topic: «Well-Being of Russian People:  
Architectonics, Subjective Perception, and Regional Distinctness», Scientific  
Specialty 22.00.04 – Social Structure, Social Institutions and Processes

**Ing., Inna Čábelková, Ph.D.**

2021 Charles University, Czech Republic, Prague

*33-06-333 of 11.06.2021.*

*Urgency of the topic and scope of research*, presented in the thesis research by Liudmila Kiseleva, is out of question, as at a contemporary stage of system changes in the world and society a human's perception of well-being undergoes significant changes as well. A problem of the Russian people well-being provision is of vital importance, however, its solution requires conceptualization of a well-being phenomenon, definition of well-being factors, realization of mutual dependence of the objective well-being factors and its subjective perception.

The thesis research by L. Kiseleva is focused not only on development of a sociological conception of the Russian population's well-being, based on a thorough theoretical and methodological analysis and nomenclature specification ("well-being", "well-being domains", "well-being dominants" "well-being factors", but also on assessment of the regional peculiar features in prioritizing the population's well-being factors. Taking into account the fact that despite of the achievements of the contemporary science and continuous search of effective solutions of different levels of management, a problem of population well-being provision continues to be a complex social problem, touching upon almost all the population strata, a fairly perspective field of solving this problem is development of effective models and mechanisms of population well-being provision. The author of the thesis research offers a strategic architecture model of socially oriented well-being of the region population, contributing to highlighting of the key points in determination of strategic priorities of the region development and development of population well-being provision fields.

The aim and objectives of the L. Kiseleva's thesis research are urgent and significant for the science and practice of the society functioning analysis, value-based orientations of individuals and groups, models of their behavior.

*A degree of justification of scientific concepts, conclusions, and recommendations, stated in the thesis*: the scientific concepts, conclusions, and recommendations, stated in the thesis, are completely justified, which is confirmed by the data of the analysis of the objective-subjective factors of the Russian regions population well-being, presented in the work, with an account for gender, age, income, social status, level of education, confession, religiousness, marital status of individuals, as well as the results of the analysis of the well-being parameters: life satisfaction and happiness – with the use of neural networks.

Reliability of scientific concepts, conclusions, and recommendations, stated in the thesis, is based on a survey over a considerable number of individuals (a representative selection of 1025 people), scrupulousness of forming the groups, correct statistical processing.

The obtained results have been discussed at the international and Russian conferences, presented in the published works (15 articles in magazines, recommended by the Russian

Federation Higher Attestation Commission for publication of the main results of the thesis research, 4 articles in the editions, indexed by the international bases Web of Science and Scopus).

The material, presented in the thesis, has been obtained and analyzed by the author personally. The presented results are reliable, scientific concepts, conclusions, and recommendations are fairly justified and correspond to the obtained data.

*Novelty of scientific concepts, conclusions, and recommendations, stated in the thesis, and practical significance.*

The author of the thesis has justified an integral conception of well-being sociology, as an independent branch of sociology, aimed to study, how people define and feel well-being. The author's associated term basis, characterizing this branch, has been developed, as well as application tools in order to assess and measure the Russian population well-being. The well-being determinants, well-being factors, well-being dominants, and well-being domains have been identified as well-being attributes of separate social groups of the Russian society.

On the basis of a theoretical and methodological analysis the nature of the "well-being" notion has been determined through a conception of balance between resources of a human and problems (challenges), which he, or she faces with; the types and kinds of well-being have been systematized on the basis of a faceted classification method in fifteen criteria.

The well-being domains, distinguished by the author, made it possible to state and characterize two groups of the population's well-being factors – the regional and universal (dominant) factors. Great importance of health for satisfaction with life and its perception in a positive manner has been identified. It has been found out that the factors with the most adverse effect on the Russian people state of health, in accordance with their subjective assessment, are the way of living, ecology, and low level of material wealth.

The practical significance of the thesis research is, no doubt, in development and approbation of a technique of the population well-being forecast assessment in the neural networks, converting the data of the mixed nature in parameters "life satisfaction" and "happiness" and making it possible to provide a description of well-being of various social groups. The author has developed a model of strategic architecture of socially oriented well-being of the region's population with the help of configurative modeling method. This model contributes to focusing on a mismatch in well-being dominants and the real existing well-being factors in the region under investigation. A notion of socially oriented well-being of the population as a special type of well-being has been detailed, which presupposes the society aiming to the future development, the value of which is determined by the clarity of the perspectives, possession of knowledge about achievement of the goal, ability to forecast the situation development scenarios in the turbulent world.

*Assessment of thesis content.*

The work has been written in a classic style. It consists of the introduction, three chapters, including a literature review, description of the research materials and methods, results of the own research, as well as the conclusion, list of references, and appendices.

The introduction meets the imposed requirements and contains all the required sections: there is a brief justification of urgency, a degree of scientific development of the problem, a statement of the research object, subject, aim, and objectives, a presentation of the research methodological basis, empirical basis of the work, scientific novelty, statements, submitted for defense, theoretical and practical significance of the work, approbation of the research results, and compliance of the thesis to the Passport of the scientific specialty.

In the first chapter «Theoretical and Methodological Basis of People Well-being Research» types and kinds of well-being are systematized, the terminological basis of the research of well-being and its attributes is presented. A study has been performed over the international and the Russian experience of well-being measurement with rating, building of indices, taking into account both the objective statistical factors of social-economic development, and the results of sociological surveys of the population.

The analytical review of the literature has been presented in a sufficient amount. It covers and unfolds the contemporary aspects of the problem under the author's investigation. The main ideas of the scholars have been stated regarding well-being in the inter-disciplinary aspect, as well as the sociological realization of well-being retrospectively, at present, and prospectively. The main theoretical and methodological and discussed categories of the notions within the research framework include viewpoints and statements of different authors, their logical rendering indicates a competent approach of using the contemporary Russian and foreign references, which confirms the L. Kiseleva's ability to analytical work.

The author fairly notes that the contemporary concepts of well-being are formed within the framework of plurality of the theoretical conceptions. The author's choice of the scientific basis of the conception of balance between the resources of a human and the problems (challenges), which he, or she faces with, as a model, which explains the mechanism of formation and maintenance of well-being of a person, is considered justified, because it is this very model is a reflection of a problem of a human well-being provision. A thorough analysis of the literature enabled the author to competently state the aim and objectives of the own thesis research.

In the chapter 2 «Well-being of Population of Russian Federation Regions in Objective Assessments and Subjective Perception» L. Kiseleva analyzes well-being of the people, who live in three Russian regions, first in accordance with the objective parameters, characterizing the level

of their social-economic development, and then, in accordance with the subjective perception of well-being, unfolded through life satisfaction and happiness assessments.

The considered regions and their capital cities vary in natural-climatic, demographic, scientific-technical, economic, geopolitical, cultural-historical peculiar features of the environment, as well as in spatial models of the cities, directions and tempos of urban development, challenges of the present, and opportunities of the future. All the regions under consideration are characterized by high positions in different ratings of social-economic development, have the identical high level of investment attractiveness, high factors of innovative development and digitalization. Meanwhile, analyzing the results of sociological surveys, performed in different techniques in addition to the objective statistical data, the author has found out considerable differences in a number of parameters, characterizing the population's well-being.

By means of a factor analysis the author has managed to state the main factors of the population well-being in the three regions under investigation both as of the population as a whole, and as of the men and women separately. The following factors have been identified as universal (dominating) well-being factors: the economic, social-valueological, ecological, felicitary, and medicine-technological. It has been found out that these factors shall be significant for any region at the 95% level. Nevertheless, some peculiar features regarding the regions under consideration have been also identified.

The use of neural networks for the analysis of the two the most important well-being parameters is of interest: life satisfaction and happiness. A positive relation has been found between a high income and well-being; married status and well-being; high assessment of one's health state and well-being; higher level of education and well-being.

In the third chapter «Strategies of Regional Population Well-being Provision» the author justifies her viewpoint on a socially oriented well-being of the population, as a special type of well-being, which presupposes the society aiming towards the future development, taking into account dynamism of contemporary technological reforms under the conditions of globalization; geopolitical, as well as financial-economic transformations in the world, strengthening of competition, and turbulence of the socio-cultural space in the information epoch, which put the contemporary society in front of inevitability of qualitative transitions to new forms of perception, thinking, interaction, and management of all the processes of living. With the help of configurative modelling method, the author offered a model of strategic architecture of socially oriented well-being of the regional population (Figure 29 of thesis), which includes justification of the architecture drivers, including the regional peculiar features together with the worldwide trends;

strategic architecture of managing the implementation of the strategy of the future, chosen by the region.

The discussion of the results, obtained in the thesis, and the analysis itself of the data of the research have been performed at the appropriate level, characterizing the author in a favorable way, first of all, as a person with a scientific way of thinking, competent in the presented area of research.

There are no principal remarks to the work.

In terms of the thesis content, the following issues are worth some clarification:

1. Why among the well-being models, considered in the item 1.3 (p. 76-78), attempting to explain a mechanism of formation and maintenance of well-being of the individual, there is none eligible for the aims of this thesis research?
2. How the life strategies of the individuals are related to the strategies of the regions development? Is there any connection between the strategic priorities of the regions and factors of the population well-being in the regions under investigation?

Conclusion.

The Doctorate Thesis by Liudmila Sergejevna Kiseleva on the topic: «Well-Being of Russian People: Architectonics, Subjective Perception, and Regional Distinctness» meets the main requirements, stated by the Order No. 6821/1, dated 01.09.2016 «Regarding Procedure of Scientific Degrees Award at Saint-Petersburg State University», the degree seeker Liudmila Sergejevna Kiseleva deserves the award of the Doctoral degree in Sociology in Specialty 22.00.04 – Social structure, social institutions and processes. The items 9 and 11 of the aforementioned procedure have not been violated by the thesis author.

**Ing. Inna Čábelková, Ph.D.**  
Faculty of Humanities  
Charles University, Prague,  
Czech Republic  
inna.cabelkova@fhs.cuni.cz



2.6.2021, Prague