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**HIERARCHY OF CONTEMPORARY PERSONAL MEANINGS IN UKRAINE:  
A PSYCHOLOGICAL ANALYSIS**

**Анотація.** Мета роботи – теоретично обґрунтувати та психологічно проаналізувати ієрархію сучасних смислів особистості в Україні, виявити особливості трансформації ціннісно-сислової сфери в умовах суспільних змін, воєнних викликів і переосмислення життєвих орієнтирів. Методологія дослідження ґрунтується на аксіопсихологічному, екзистенційному та суб'єктно-ціннісному підходах до вивчення смислової сфери особистості. Для реалізації мети розроблено авторську анкету «Ієрархія сучасних смислів особистості», структура якої містить оцінювання суб'єктивної значущості життєвих смислів, ранжування ціннісно-сислових орієнтацій та відкриті запитання рефлексивного характеру. Використано комплекс теоретичних, емпіричних і статистичних методів: аналіз, синтез, узагальнення, анкетування, ранжування, контент-аналіз, методи описової статистики та процентний аналіз. Наукова новизна роботи полягає у здійсненні комплексного психологічного аналізу ієрархії сучасних смислів особистості української молоді в умовах актуальних соціально-історичних трансформацій. Уперше емпірично встановлено тенденцію до переорієнтації смисложиттєвих пріоритетів із матеріально-статусних орієнтирів на екзистенційно-психологічні смисли, пов'язані з психологічним благополуччям, внутрішньою стабільністю, міжособистісною підтримкою та самореалізацією. Виокремлено провідні смислові домінанти, які визначають структуру життєвих орієнтацій сучасної студентської молоді в умовах суспільної нестабільності та воєнних викликів. Висновки. Встановлено, що провідними смисложиттєвими орієнтирами сучасної студентської молоді є психологічне благополуччя, сім'я, емоційна підтримка близьких, внутрішня стабільність, саморозвиток і професійна самореалізація. Водночас матеріальний статус, соціальна престижність і публічна успішність посідають периферійні позиції у структурі життєвих пріоритетів. Контент-аналіз відповідей респондентів підтвердив домінування смислів, пов'язаних із психологічною рівновагою, пошуком внутрішнього сенсу життя, особистісною стійкістю та вірою у майбутнє України. Отримані результати засвідчують динамічність ієрархії сучасних смислів особистості та її чутливість до соціокультурних трансформацій.

**Ключові слова:** внутрішня стабільність, життєві пріоритети, психологічне благополуччя, самореалізація, смисложиттєві орієнтації, студентська молодь, ціннісно-сислова сфера.

**Abstract.** The aim of this study is to theoretically substantiate and psychologically analyze the hierarchy of contemporary meanings of the self in Ukraine, and to identify the characteristics of the transformation of the value-meaning sphere amid social change, military challenges, and a reevaluation of life's guiding principles. The research methodology is based on axiopsychological, existential, and subject-value approaches to the study of the personal sphere of meaning. To achieve this goal, the author developed a questionnaire titled "Hierarchy of Contemporary Meanings of Personality," whose structure includes an

assessment of the subjective significance of life meanings, a ranking of value-semantic orientations, and open-ended reflective questions. A range of theoretical, empirical, and statistical methods was employed: analysis, synthesis, generalization, surveying, ranking, content analysis, descriptive statistics, and percentage analysis. The scientific novelty of the work lies in conducting a comprehensive psychological analysis of the hierarchy of contemporary life meanings among Ukrainian youth in the context of current socio-historical transformations. For the first time, a trend has been empirically established toward a reorientation of life-meaning priorities from material and status-based benchmarks to existential and psychological meanings associated with psychological well-being, inner stability, interpersonal support, and self-actualization. The leading meaning-oriented dominants that determine the structure of life orientations among contemporary students in the context of social instability and military challenges have been identified. Conclusions. It has been established that the leading life-meaningful orientations of contemporary student youth are psychological well-being, family, emotional support from loved ones, inner stability, self-development, and professional self-actualization. At the same time, material status, social prestige, and public success occupy peripheral positions in the structure of life priorities. Content analysis of the respondents' answers confirmed the dominance of meanings related to psychological balance, the search for inner meaning in life, personal resilience, and faith in Ukraine's future. The results obtained demonstrate the dynamism of the hierarchy of contemporary personal meanings and its sensitivity to sociocultural transformations.

**Key words:** inner stability, life priorities, psychological well-being, self-actualization, life-meaning orientations, college students, the sphere of values and meaning.

**Introduction.** Under conditions of profound social transformations, wartime challenges, the digitalization of the life space, and the reconsideration of value orientations, the problem of the semantic organization of personality acquires particular relevance. Changes in social realities lead individuals to reassess their life priorities, ways of self-realization, and existential orientations, thereby actualizing the need to study the hierarchy of contemporary personal meanings as a psychological phenomenon. The semantic sphere serves as a constitutive component of the individual's inner world, determining the direction of personal activity, the characteristics of self-regulation, adaptive potential, and life-construction strategies.

The scientific significance of the problem lies in the necessity to deepen psychological understanding of the transformation of meaning-of-life orientations under conditions of social change, whereas its practical importance is associated with the possibility of applying the obtained results in psychological counseling, psychoeducational activities, psychological support of the individual, and the development of programs aimed at promoting psychological well-being and resilience among the population of Ukraine.

**Analysis of the problem and the essence of the study.** The problem of the semantic organization of personality occupies an important place in contemporary psychological discourse, as it is associated with the study of the internal determinants of human life realization, value orientations, existential self-determination, and psychological resilience. The theoretical and methodological foundations for understanding the phenomenon of meaning were laid in the works of representatives of existential and humanistic psychology. In particular, V. Frankl [5] regarded the search for meaning as a fundamental motivational tendency of the individual. A significant contribution to the development of the problem of meaning-of-life orientations was also made by A. Maslow [8], C. Rogers [9], and other scholars who emphasized the interconnection between the semantic sphere and the processes of self-realization, self-actualization, and personal growth.

In contemporary Ukrainian psychology, the problem of the semantic regulation of human life activity is studied within the frameworks of axiopsychology, the psychology of life creation, and subject-oriented and existential approaches. Particular attention of researchers is devoted to the processes of transformation of the value-semantic sphere of personality under conditions of social instability, wartime challenges, and sociocultural changes. Despite a substantial body of research, issues related to the hierarchization of contemporary personal meanings in the Ukrainian social context, their psychological dynamics, and their influence on the construction of life strategies remain insufficiently explored. This determines the need for further theoretical conceptualization and empirical investigation of the outlined problem.

The aim of the article is to provide a theoretical substantiation and psychological analysis of the hierarchy of contemporary personal meanings in Ukraine, as well as to identify the peculiarities of the

transformation of the value-semantic sphere under conditions of social change, wartime challenges, and the reconsideration of life orientations.

**Theoretical foundations of the study.** The hierarchy of contemporary personal meanings is understood as a multi-level value-semantic system that reflects subjectively significant ways in which an individual interprets their own existence, life prospects, interpersonal relations, and social purpose. The formation of such a hierarchy is determined both by individual psychological characteristics and by the influence of current socio-historical conditions, which stimulate the transformation of existential and axiological priorities.

The theoretical foundation of the study is based on the provisions of existential, humanistic, axiopsychological, and deed-based paradigmatic traditions, within which the semantic sphere of personality is considered a central factor of life realization, self-creation, and spiritual self-determination. The conceptual understanding of the phenomenon of meaning is grounded in the ideas of V. Frankl [5], who defined the search for meaning as a fundamental motivational tendency of the individual and a key condition for maintaining psychological integrity in crisis situations.

A significant contribution to the study is made by the scientific approaches of T. Tytarenko [4], in whose works the life world of the individual is interpreted as a dynamic space of meaning-making, life projection, and construction of life strategies. Methodologically important are also the principles of the deed psychology of A. V. Furman [7], according to which the individual appears as an active subject of meaning-making, capable of reflexive rethinking of their own existence and responsible life-creation.

The axiopsychological dimension of the problem is represented in the works of I. Hulias [1; 2], Z. Karpenko [3], and A. A. Furman [6], where the value-semantic sphere of personality is considered as a spiritual-axiological construct that determines the direction of personal development, the nature of life choices, and the axiopsychological design of life realization. Also relevant for the study are the ideas of humanistic psychology by A. Maslow [8] and C. Rogers [9], in which the semantic organization of personality is associated with processes of self-actualization, self-acceptance, and personal growth.

The combination of the outlined theoretical and methodological approaches provides a foundation for understanding the hierarchy of contemporary personal meanings as a complex multi-level system that is sensitive to sociocultural transformations, wartime challenges, and changes in existential priorities within contemporary Ukrainian society.

**Experimental part.** The empirical analysis was conducted on the basis of Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University. The survey involved 76 students enrolled in the Educational and Professional Program “Practical Psychology,” aged 19–20. The selection of student youth was determined by the fact that adolescence and early adulthood represent a sensitive period for the formation of the value-semantic sphere of personality, active professional self-determination, reconsideration of life priorities, and the construction of an individual life perspective.

The study of the hierarchy of contemporary personal meanings was carried out in compliance with the ethical principles of psychological research, including voluntary participation, informed consent, confidentiality, and anonymity of the obtained data. All respondents were informed about the purpose of the study, the specifics of the research procedures, and the possibility of withdrawing from participation at any stage without negative consequences.

In order to comprehensively examine dominant meaning-of-life orientations of student youth, the features of their value organization, and the subjective significance of current life priorities under conditions of contemporary sociocultural transformations, the author developed the questionnaire “Hierarchy of Contemporary Personal Meanings.” Its design was based on axiopsychological, existential, and subject-value approaches to the study of the personality’s semantic sphere.

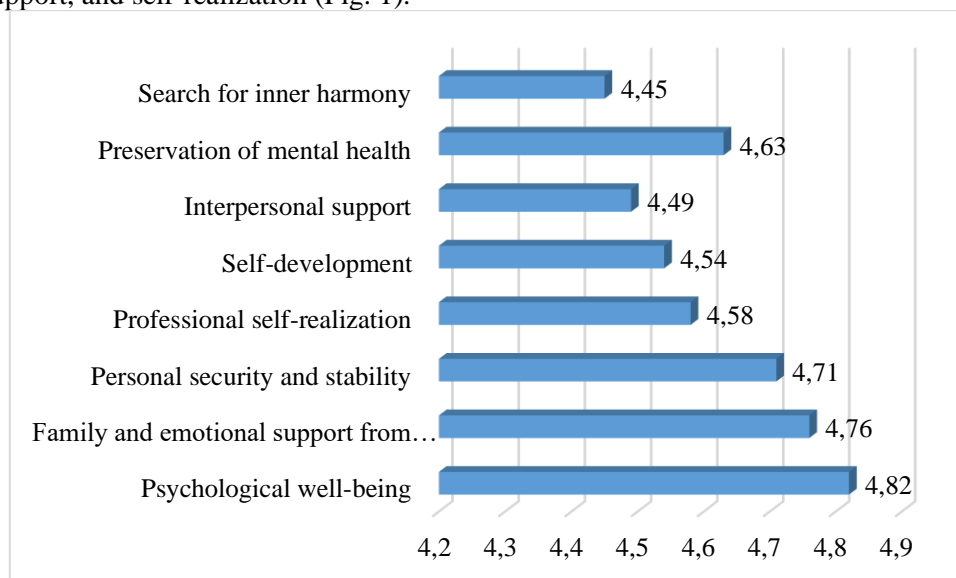
Structurally, the questionnaire consists of three interrelated blocks. The first block is aimed at identifying dominant life meanings and includes a list of basic semantic orientations (security, family, professional self-realization, psychological well-being, material stability, self-development, spirituality, social activity, interpersonal relations, civic responsibility, etc.), the significance of which respondents rated on a subjective importance scale. The second block involved ranking values and meanings according to their degree of personal priority. Respondents arranged the proposed semantic constructs from the most to the least significant, which made it possible to determine both individual and group hierarchies of contemporary personal meanings. The third block contains open-ended reflective questions aimed at identifying individual ways of interpreting life goals, experiencing current social changes, and understanding one’s own life experience. The obtained responses served as the basis for content analysis of semantic categories and thematic dominants.

The mathematical foundation of the questionnaire was based on principles of ordinal scaling and rank analysis. A five-point Likert scale was used to assess the subjective significance of meanings, where values from 1 to 5 reflected the degree of expression of a given semantic orientation, from minimal to maximal importance. The integral indicator of each semantic construct was calculated as the arithmetic mean of respondents' answers.

During the analysis of ranking results, mean rank positions of individual values and meanings were determined: the lower the mean rank, the higher the subjective significance of the corresponding meaning within the life priorities of student youth. Descriptive statistics, percentage analysis, and qualitative psychological interpretation were used to summarize the empirical data.

The methodological design of the study also included a set of general scientific and psychological methods, namely theoretical methods (analysis, synthesis, generalization, and interpretation of scientific approaches to the problem of semantic organization of personality), empirical methods (questionnaire survey, content analysis, and ranking), and methods of quantitative and qualitative data processing (descriptive statistics, percentage analysis, and psychological interpretation of the obtained results). The application of an integrated methodological approach ensured a multidimensional study of the hierarchy of contemporary personal meanings under conditions of current sociocultural transformations. For a more in-depth analysis of the semantic sphere, content analysis of life priorities was used, which made it possible to systematize semantic constructs and identify key thematic categories within the structure of meaning-of-life orientations of student youth. To determine the subjective significance of individual values and meanings, the ranking method was applied, enabling the establishment of the hierarchical organization of respondents' current life priorities.

**Results and Discussion.** The results obtained using the author's questionnaire "Hierarchy of Contemporary Personal Meanings" revealed a pronounced transformation of meaning-of-life orientations among student youth under conditions of contemporary sociocultural and existential instability. The analysis of empirical data identified a tendency toward the reorientation of individual value systems in the direction of safety-related, existential, and self-development meanings, reflecting a growing need for internal psychological support, emotional resilience, and the preservation of a subjective sense of existential wholeness. The observed semantic dynamics indicate a shift in emphasis from externally determined criteria of success toward internally experienced values associated with psycho-emotional well-being, interpersonal support, and self-realization (Fig. 1).



**Fig. 1. Hierarchy of Dominant Meaning-of-Life Priorities of Contemporary Student Youth According to Mean Indicators of Subjective Significance (n = 76)**

The analysis of mean indicators of the subjective significance of individual semantic constructs made it possible to determine that the dominant positions in the hierarchy of contemporary meanings are occupied by psychological well-being ( $M = 4.82$ ), family and emotional support from significant others ( $M = 4.76$ ), personal security and stability ( $M = 4.71$ ), professional self-realization ( $M = 4.58$ ), and self-development ( $M = 4.54$ ). Such a configuration of semantic priorities indicates that, for contemporary

student youth, not only the aspiration for professional success becomes important, but also the need to preserve inner balance, psychological security, and emotional authenticity.

Particular attention should be paid to the fact that the highest ranking indicator was obtained by the meaning of psychological well-being. This provides grounds for interpreting mental health not only as an individually significant value but also as a leading existential resource of personality that ensures the possibility of adaptive functioning, emotional self-regulation, and maintenance of a subjective sense of life perspective. Under conditions of prolonged social tension and uncertainty, psychological well-being emerges as an integrative semantic core around which other life orientations are consolidated.

High indicators on the scale “family and emotional support from significant others” indicate an increased significance of interpersonal relationships as a source of emotional stabilization, acceptance, and psychological resilience. For student youth, the family environment increasingly performs the function of an emotionally secure space within which experiences of trust, support, and semantic belonging are ensured. This is consistent with the principles of humanistic and existential psychology concerning the fundamental role of intersubjective relationships in the process of constructing life meanings.

At the same time, the high level of significance attributed to personal security and stability indicates the actualization of the individual’s basic existential needs. The aspiration for predictability, control over one’s own life, and psychological certainty reflects the profound need of young people to restore a sense of subjective security as a necessary condition for personal development. In this context, safety-related meanings perform compensatory and stabilizing functions, contributing to the maintenance of inner integrity under conditions of destabilized social reality.

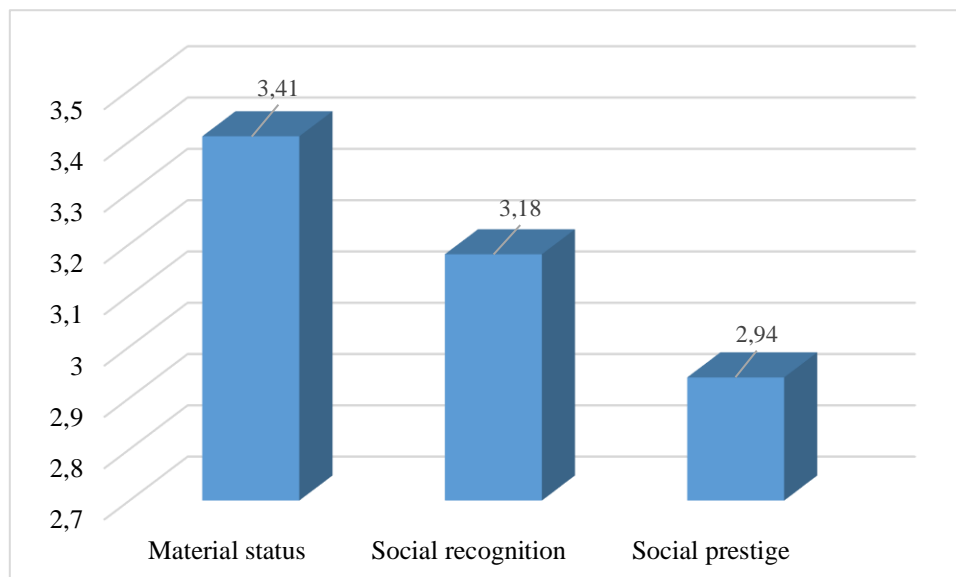
Equally indicative are the high indicators of professional self-realization and self-development, which represent students’ orientation toward active self-creation, expansion of personal potential, and construction of an individual life trajectory. This demonstrates the preservation of the value of professional identity and self-fulfillment even amid crisis-driven social transformations. At the same time, professional self-realization is increasingly interpreted not merely as the achievement of external success, but as a process of attaining inner congruence between personal values, abilities, and life goals.

High indicators were also recorded for meanings associated with interpersonal support ( $M = 4.49$ ), preservation of mental health ( $M = 4.63$ ), and the search for inner harmony ( $M = 4.45$ ). The obtained quantitative data indicate an increase in the subjective significance of those semantic orientations that ensure emotional stability, psychological security, and the experience of the individual’s inner integrity. This provides grounds for asserting that contemporary student youth demonstrate a tendency toward the humanization of their semantic space, within which emotional sensitivity, reflexivity, authenticity, and the capacity for psychological self-preservation acquire particular importance.

Overall, the obtained results confirm that the structure of contemporary life meanings among young people is characterized by the strengthening of the existential-value component oriented toward maintaining psycho-emotional balance, personal resilience, and inner semantic integration. The identified hierarchy of meanings reflects not only the adaptation of youth to conditions of social uncertainty, but also the activation of internal psychological resources aimed at preserving subjective well-being and constructing a life perspective.

In contrast, comparatively lower indicators of significance were found for material status ( $M = 3.41$ ), social recognition ( $M = 3.18$ ), and social prestige ( $M = 2.94$ ), as shown in Fig. 2. Such a distribution of semantic priorities indicates a gradual decline in the dominance of externally determined criteria of success within the structure of life orientations of contemporary student youth. Whereas under conditions of relative social stability material well-being, social prestige, or public recognition often functioned as leading indicators of personal fulfillment, under current socio-historical conditions their subjective significance is noticeably ycrnyed to meanings associated with psychological security, emotional support, and inner balance.

The obtained results provide grounds for identifying a tendency toward the strengthening of internally oriented meanings grounded in the individual’s need to preserve psycho-emotional stability, a sense of inner integrity, and existential certainty. This reflects a distinctive reconsideration by young people of the criteria of life success, in which priority is given not primarily to external attributes of social status, but rather to the ability to maintain psychological well-being, build authentic interpersonal relationships, and preserve inner resilience under conditions of uncertainty.



**Fig. 2. Comparative Indicators of the Significance of Externally Oriented Semantic Constructs in the Structure of Life Priorities of Student Youth (n = 76)**

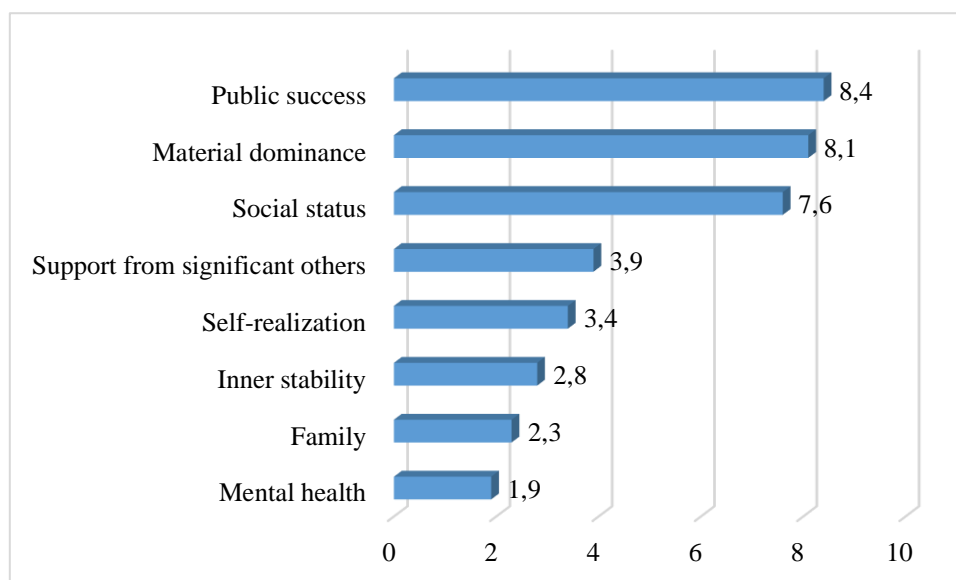
The decrease in the significance of social prestige and public recognition may also indicate a transformation in the mechanisms of self-affirmation among young people. In the contemporary social context, the source of subjective value is increasingly becoming not external evaluation or status position, but the internal experience of personal congruence, meaningfulness of life, and emotional authenticity. Such a tendency points to the strengthening of the reflective component of self-consciousness, an orientation toward self-acceptance, and the predominance of intrapsychic criteria for evaluating one's own life realization.

At the same time, the obtained results may be interpreted as an adaptive response of youth to conditions of social instability and wartime challenges. Under circumstances of prolonged stress, uncertainty about the future, and constant informational tension, basic needs for security, psychological protection, and emotional support become increasingly actualized. Therefore, meanings associated with material success or social prestige recede to the periphery of the semantic structure, yielding priority to more fundamental existential orientations.

Thus, the identified semantic configuration reflects not only a situational shift in value emphases, but also deeper processes of transformation within the life world of contemporary youth, in which psychological resilience, the capacity for inner self-preservation, and the search for personally meaningful forms of life realization acquire central importance.

The results of the ranking of values and meanings confirmed the dominance of existential-personal orientations within the structure of respondents' life priorities (Fig. 3). The identified hierarchy of value-semantic constructs demonstrated the predominance of those life orientations that ensure the maintenance of psychological integrity, emotional balance, and inner congruence of the individual. The lowest mean ranks, indicating the highest level of subjective significance, were obtained by the categories "mental health" (mean rank = 1.9), "family" (2.3), "inner stability" (2.8), "self-realization" (3.4), and "support from significant others" (3.9). Such a configuration of value priorities reflects the actualization of meanings associated with the need for psychological security, the experience of emotional closeness, and the preservation of subjective well-being.

The leading position of the category "mental health" indicates that for contemporary student youth the psycho-emotional state is not only a condition of adaptive functioning, but also a fundamental existential resource that determines the capacity for self-regulation, constructive coping with stressogenic influences, and maintenance of a life perspective. The high significance of family relationships and support from significant others testifies to the strengthening role of interpersonal interaction as a factor of emotional stabilization and a source of the individual's semantic integration. In this context, the close social environment performs the function of a psychological space of security, trust, and acceptance, which acquires particular importance under conditions of social instability.



**Fig. 3. Hierarchy of Value-Semantic Priorities of Student Youth According to the Results of Ranking Life Meanings (n = 76)**

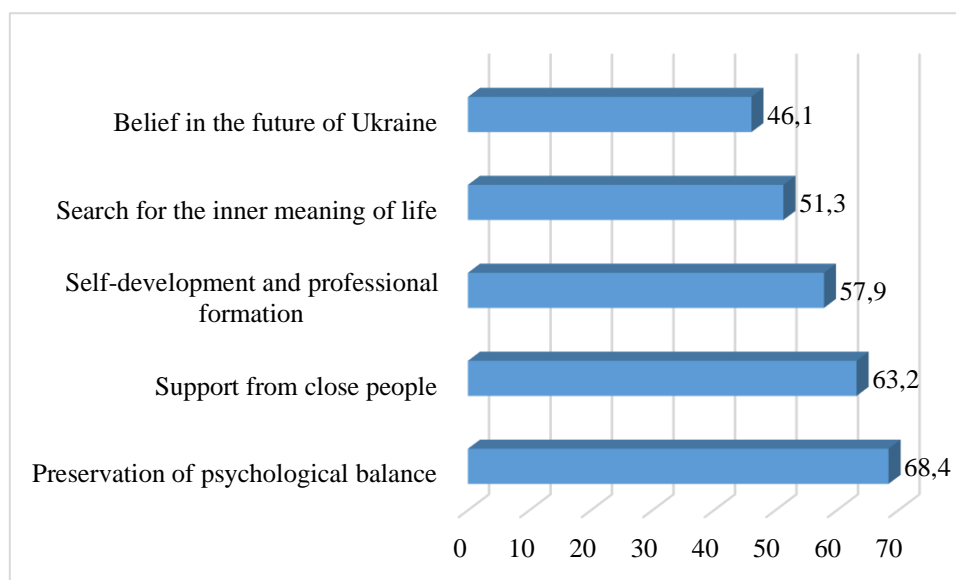
At the same time, the high rank positions of inner stability and self-realization indicate young people's orientation toward preserving personal autonomy, inner congruence, and the aspiration to actualize their own potential. In this context, self-realization appears primarily as a process of authentic self-fulfillment grounded in the harmonization of personal needs, values, and life goals, rather than merely in the achievement of external attributes of success. The identified tendency demonstrates a reorientation of youth from competitive-status models of self-affirmation toward internally determined ways of experiencing personal significance.

In contrast, such categories as "social status" (7.6), "material dominance" (8.1), and "public success" (8.4) occupied peripheral positions in the hierarchy of contemporary meanings among student youth. Such a distribution of rank indicators testifies to a decline in the subjective value of external markers of prestige and social recognition. Under conditions of prolonged social tension, uncertainty about the future, and heightened psychological vulnerability, young people are increasingly less oriented toward status-competitive forms of self-confirmation, giving preference instead to meanings that ensure emotional resilience and inner balance.

The obtained results encourage the interpretation of the contemporary semantic space of student youth as characterized by an intensified humanistic-existential orientation. Within the structure of life orientations, the dominant values are psychological self-preservation, emotional authenticity, interpersonal support, and inner harmonization. This indicates the formation of a new configuration of life meanings in which priority is given not to external success, but to the individual's capacity to maintain psycho-emotional integrity, adaptability, and semantic integration under complex sociocultural conditions.

The content analysis of responses to open-ended questions made it possible to identify several leading thematic categories that represent the respondents' current semantic dominants and reflect the specific features of the transformation of their life world under contemporary social challenges. Through the analysis of verbal representations, not only the substantive structure of dominant life orientations was revealed, but also the emotional-existential emphases through which young people interpret their own experiences, future, and prospects for personal development (Fig. 4).

The most widespread categories were "preservation of psychological balance" (68.4%), "support from close people" (63.2%), "self-development and professional formation" (57.9%), "search for the inner meaning of life" (51.3%), and "belief in the future of Ukraine" (46.1%). The obtained indicators demonstrate that the semantic space of contemporary student youth is clearly oriented toward maintaining psycho-emotional stability, preserving interpersonal closeness, and searching for internal adaptive resources. The dominance of the category of psychological balance indicates the actualization of the need for emotional self-preservation, inner stabilization, and restoration of a subjective sense of control over life circumstances.



**Fig. 4. Leading Thematic Categories of Semantic Dominants Among Student Youth According to the Results of Content Analysis of Open-Ended Responses (n = 76, %)**

The high frequency of references to the theme of support from close people reflects the increasing significance of emotionally rich relationships as a source of psychological support, a sense of security, and semantic belonging. Respondents' answers reveal a tendency to interpret the close social environment as an important factor in overcoming anxiety, uncertainty, and emotional exhaustion. Such an orientation indicates the growing role of intersubjective interaction in the processes of maintaining personal resilience and psycho-emotional adaptation.

The considerable prevalence of the category "self-development and professional formation" indicates the preservation of young people's orientation toward personal growth, realization of their own potential, and construction of professional identity even under conditions of an unstable social environment. At the same time, the professional perspective in respondents' statements was often combined with the need for semantic self-realization, inner congruence, and the search for activities corresponding to individual values and life beliefs.

Particular attention should be paid to the category "search for the inner meaning of life," represented in more than half of the respondents' answers. This indicates an intensification of reflective processes associated with the reconsideration of life goals, value orientations, and one's own place in the world. The substantive content of the responses reveals motives of existential self-determination, aspiration toward inner authenticity, and comprehension of life experience within the context of personal growth.

At the same time, the high frequency of the category "belief in the future of Ukraine" is particularly indicative, reflecting the presence among young people of collectively significant meanings associated with civic identity, the experience of social belonging, and hope for positive social transformations. The presence of such semantic constructs demonstrates that the respondents' individual semantic system integrates not only personal orientations, but also sociocultural and nationally significant values.

A considerable proportion of the responses contained reflections on the experience of uncertainty, the necessity of adapting to change, and the aspiration toward personal resilience. Respondents' statements revealed motives of emotional exhaustion, the search for internal resources for overcoming difficulties, and the need to restore psychological balance. This provides grounds for considering the contemporary semantic space of student youth as a dynamic system within which active reconsideration of life orientations, formation of new existential meanings, and actualization of mechanisms of psychological self-regulation take place.

The qualitative analysis of respondents' semantic statements demonstrated that contemporary student youth tend to interpret life success not only through the achievement of external results, but primarily in relation to the ability to preserve psychological integrity, maintain significant relationships, and realize their own potential under socially unstable conditions. Within the semantic structure of personality, a tendency toward the integration of individual-personal and socio-humanistic values can be observed, indicating the formation of a new configuration of life priorities among Ukrainian youth.

The obtained empirical data provide grounds for asserting that the hierarchy of contemporary personal meanings is characterized by dynamism, sensitivity to the socio-historical context, and a reorientation from material-status priorities toward existential-psychological meanings associated with security, psychological well-being, self-realization, and the value of interpersonal support.

The obtained research results actualize the need to develop practical recommendations aimed at maintaining the mental well-being of student youth, fostering personal resilience, and forming constructive meaning-of-life orientations under conditions of contemporary social challenges: 1. In the process of professional training of student youth, it is advisable to strengthen psychological support aimed at maintaining mental health, developing emotional resilience, and enhancing self-regulation skills. 2. It is important to create conditions within the educational environment that promote the development of reflection, meaning-of-life self-determination, and awareness of students' personal values. 3. It is advisable to implement psycho-developmental programs focused on fostering resilience, inner stability, and constructive stress-coping strategies. 4. In work with student youth, greater emphasis should be placed on interpersonal support, partnership-based interaction, and the creation of a psychologically safe educational environment.

**Conclusions.** The empirically identified features demonstrated a reorientation of the meaning-of-life priorities of student youth toward existential-psychological, safety-related, and self-development meanings. The leading life orientations of the respondents were identified as psychological well-being, family and interpersonal support, inner stability, self-realization, and self-development. The low significance of material-status values indicates a weakening of young people's orientation toward external criteria of success and a strengthening of internally determined meanings. Content analysis of the responses confirmed the actualization of meanings associated with psychological balance, personal resilience, support from close people, and the search for the meaning of life. The hierarchy of contemporary personal meanings is characterized by dynamism and sensitivity to socio-historical conditions, reflecting adaptive processes under circumstances of social instability.

**A promising direction for further scientific inquiry** is seen in the study of the dynamics of meaning-of-life orientations among youth under conditions of prolonged social transformations and wartime challenges.

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