Editorial

Social and health Problems of the contemporary World, Background and Perspectives

The current volume of the Clinical Social Work and Health Intervention Journal is devoted to diverse social and health problems, defining the causes of these problems and finding solutions.

The authors of the contributions are scientists, experts, and scientific and pedagogical staff from universities and research institutes.

In the modern era, we are confronted with an array of social and health challenges that demand urgent attention and innovative solutions.

The COVID-19 pandemic, among other **pandemics and infectious challenges**, was a great challenge for the world. It provoked the social and economic phenomenon of the "coronacrisis", which included widespread illness, death, economic decline, and low business and commercial activity brought about by various measures such as lockdowns, travel restrictions, social distancing, etc. It highlighted the vulnerability of the modern world to infectious diseases in the period of globalization and increased migration (tourism, labor migration, refugees, etc.), and it revealed the inadequate preparedness of healthcare systems for these kinds of challenges.

Inequalities in the availability of healthcare services – People in many countries (above all it's about developing countries and poor countries) face unequal access to healthcare services and resources based on their social status, economic opportunities and geographic location. But one of the most important issues is providing healthcare in military conflict conditions. A relevant example is the Russian military aggression against Ukraine, which provoked a humanitarian crisis, and, in particular, problems for providing healthcare such as: security concerns for medical personnel, limited access to healthcare facilities, shortages of medical supplies, and the vulnerability of internally displaced persons who are particularly susceptible to infectious diseases, malnutrition and trauma-related injuries.

Threats to mental health – Rising levels of stress, depression and other mental disorders pose a significant challenge. Background factors include the current global situation ("turbulence" in international politics, economic problems, etc.), as well as the numerous stressors of modern life.

All of these problems are overlaid on global challenges that have faced the international community: armed conflicts (especially Russian aggression against Ukraine, conflicts in the Middle East, potential conflicts in Latin America and South Asia), consequences of climate change and ecological crises, and humanitarian and migration crises.

Key factors in the success of the modern scientific community in this field are cooperation and the adoption of a multidisciplinary approach that integrates insights from diverse fields including medicine, humanities, sociology, economics, environmental science, etc. Promising areas of research include:

• Implementing fairer healthcare insurance systems, increasing access to medical services, the implementation of international and

cross-border projects (with the involvement of funding from international institutional donors) regarding telemedicine, raising people's awareness of medical and especially psychological support, mental health programs

• Ensuring quality medical services for the displaced population and the population of territories close to the warfare zone (including psychological assistance)

• Global cooperation in combating infections (prevention strategies, vaccination efforts) etc.

The current volume will be interesting to policymakers, civil servants, experts from hospital facilities, university teachers and scientists.

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