

Ukrainian Maydan. Participants' reflection, researchers' reflection, reflection from the exterior position

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Why Reflection and Maydan?

- **MAYDAN: the 22-d of November, 2004 – the January, 2005 (the most mass 23.11 – 8.12 in Kyiv). The movement of Maydans involved all the country, mass actions took place in all 27 regions of Ukraine (during the period of December, 2004 – January, 2005).**
- **Every fifth citizen took part in the mass actions, the total number of participants came to nearly 5 million people. The biggest mass action was held in Kyiv where in the streets simultaneously gathered together about 1,5 million citizens. During the two weeks the number varied within 500-700 thousands of participants.**

Why Reflection and Maydan?

- **MAYDAN:** The events which change a usual life trajectory, transform the homeliness, enthrall with their large scale. All Kyivers were involved into the mass actions: all transactions (city transport, shops, cafes, meetings of friends, even colleges' talks in lunch hours) necessarily included the maydan topic. The new greetings "are you from maydan?", "are you going to maydan?", "what news are heard? (about maydan)", "what is going on? (at maydan)" etc. The new collective experience was created, constructed. There was people integration and confrontation of masses which came out of the limits of the political confrontation which involves the followers of two candidates for the president's post.

Why Reflection and Maydan?

- **The context of investigation is the manifestation of a social position of a scientific researcher who cannot stand apart. This investigation is a reaction to the events, the realization of mission – to fix, to understand the essence, to discover a psychological sense and the mechanisms of a collective experience formation.**

Why Reflection and Maydan?

- **REFLECTION:** The research method is a reflexive interview. The characteristic, the history of creation, the peculiarities in short are the next slide. It is he qualitative method is a directed narrative, ethnographic (the behaviour observation).

Reflexive method

- Thus, we can give a definition to the notion of a reflexive interview — it is an interview which is based on theoretical and methodological grounds of the reflexive psychology (Naydonov, 1993) during this interview the investigation of a subject's reflexive potential and any other object mediated by the subject mechanism is realized.
- The most principal task of the reflexive interview in the RTPW is a guarantee of training participants' self-actualization state as a reaction on the experience of a problem as an objective reflection of a problem of that organization which orders this service for its development through an outside executor.
- That is, when the group reflection has already become a factor of a group subject's transformation in a positive direction, here arises a question of extracting the leaders who are able to master the group creative results and to undertake a responsibility for this.
- The possibility of using the interview without a training reflexive context is equivalent to the task of the mini-reflexive environment creation.

History of the reflexive interview

- A starting point of the reflexive interview creation became a small creative task which in an experimental situation models a real process of a problem solution by a triad of tested persons. The first stage of the reflexive interview creation became a situation of **psychological and pedagogical forming experiment**, where the reflexive interview has two versions: as a modification of a referent group (a personage's interview) and a modification of oneself by means of (a pupil's) age and status limitations overcoming.

History of the reflexive interview

- The technique of a guarantee of the inclusion of reflexive mechanisms into situations of the reflexive interview **in the recruiting structure** (Grigorovska, 2000), provides a candidate's turning to his developed stereotypes indirectly by means of a psychologist's pro-active reflexive position. Objective components of this form are an image of a requester (an employer), requirements to a candidate and conditions of his work (which are informed), fixed technical criteria of a selection (formal and semantic), texts of information and warning concerns with a candidate, a candidate's self-presentation. The reflexive features of an interview are given by such a strategy of an interviewer's behaviour which is focused not simply on the revelation of formal aspects of a characteristic of a candidate's personality, but on the revelation (diagnostics) of his reflexive potential of development.

History of the reflexive interview

- The reflexive interview **in the course of sailing a psychological service** (Naydonov, Kryuchkovenko, 2003) has its place as a constituent part of negotiations. An objective side of a situation of sales are characteristics, advantages of services which are proposed in the correlation with a client's requirement; a semantic (reflexive) component is a reveal of stereotypes and an incompleteness of a reflexive mechanism of a decision making person. It is the negotiations stage, belonging to the act of sailing and having a clarification of a client's requirements as an aim, at which fragments of the reflexive interview are admissible. Their meaning is in a clarification of a clients' stereotypes and in showing a possibility to see the situation from the other side disclosing the other perspectives.

Reflexive method

- Consequently, we can see that the context created in a specific event which is training in a pedagogic situation and a selection of a stuff, obtains the new characteristic of the openness. And every time due to the technology of a video and audio fixation of a discourse the group-reflexive technology was improved and as a result autonomized. It was that became a ground for the possibility to introduce a procedure of public self-investigation of a participant in mass protest actions at Maydan.

A semantic basis of an interview structure at Maydan are the given bellow questions created within the boundaries of a reflexive public self-investigation:

- 1) What NEW appeared in your knowledge, experience and feelings taking into account the context of the events a participant of which you are?
- 2) If you could be plunged in thoughts and feelings of the opposite camp representatives (blue / orange) what NEW appeared in their knowledge, experience, relationships, feelings?
- 3) What do they think about you, what do you want to tell them as to people?
- 4) Your warnings and requests for politicians.
- 5) Your virtual present (toast, wish) to them.
- The interviewer could divagate from the given questions keeping the reflexive trend of the interview as a whole


Reflexive method

- Like in all the other components of the reflexive technology a starting moment of an action is a procedure of obtaining an asked person's Informed consent (in this case – oral). While concluding an agreement a psychologist warned about publishing the obtained data through the Internet, the other mass media and about their use in scientific purposes.

The main idea is

- to investigate how the exact experience of a group subject is created. How the stereotypes are re-interpreted, how they are filled with new emotions, knowledge, relationships. How exactly the identity (its emotional evaluation, the behaviour, the cognitive components) provides an experience of an inspiring – empowerment in mass actions. Whether there were the differences in the emergence of the participants' empowerment from the sides of the followers of different political forces.

The purpose:

- to determine how exactly the re-interpretation process of such a collective experience is realized.
 - The idea of investigation was in creating the communication channels as reflexive micro-environments in which self-investigation could be carried out.
 - The reflection procedure was realized as a proposition to carry out a self-investigation during participation in the event.
 - The second part of the investigation was a discussion of the events in a professional environment.
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The conditions of self-investigation

- **At the first stage an interviewer obtains a recipient's agreement to participate in the investigation. An information consent includes the receiving of an agreement to place a video interview in corpora in the Internet with the purpose of scientific researches.**
- **In the course of an agreement ascertainment a microenvironment for the reflection is created.. The agreement for video interview destroys the anonymity. It is a channel for the self-personification, for the detachment from a mass, a chance to penetrate into the history.**
- **An interview becomes a particular part of the event, expands the range of behaviour in the mass context, the identification and the personification.**

The investigation scheme:

- 1) reflexive interviews were carried out in the area directly during the mass actions in the course of the electoral events which took their name “the orange revolution” (in Kyiv and Donetsk);
- 2) The professional analysis and the discussion of the events by experts (4 expert groups).

Data representation

- **1 PART. THE INVESTIGATION OF MASS ACTIONS**
- **Table of participants' quantity and an interview duration during the mass actions**

Followers	protocols	Duration of all the interviews	Average time (in minutes)	refusals	% refusals	Additional time	Public arrests of an interviewer
Kyiv oranges	254	21:00:23	4:58	17	6,69	0:00:00	0
Kyiv white-blues	54	3:15:53	3:38	8	14,81	0:00:00	0
Donetsk white-blues	72	4:43:16	3:56	13	18,06	0:25:25	4
All	380	28:59:32	4:35				

Colour symbols

- **The action under the white-blue and orange flags. The criterion of the name of the colour – what the followers were guided by when they oriented on the place where the action was held, as such, where their requirement of joint protest could be satisfied. The centre of the white-blue camp was Donetsk, Yanukovich's motherland. And there began to arrive people from other cities and regions waiting for holding of such actions. But it means that the interviewed participants were all the followers of this colour, but it was really a predominant majority of the participants, especially in Donetsk, where the minority was more pressed (even up to physical assault, tents ruining, protesters massacre).**

General characteristic of the action:

- **organizational and self-organizational factors.**
Actions of both colours gather the people who came to stand up for justice, as they understood it.
- **In each of the camps their were organizers but the factor of mass action self-organization was very high.**
- **The paradox was that the camp established for Yanukovich support was organized not by this candidate but by the other political forces (Vitrenko), which used self-organizational protest potential for their own purposes.**

Similarity and difference of the reflexive interviews at different maydans

- The identity in Kyiv – the people 36%, the Ukrainian 14%, the nation 4%, people – 8%, only group indicators in the type of “we” pronouns without the indication of any categories use 18% of the respondents.
- The watershed between we and the others – K: K a kind person from Yu’s side and impudent, insolent from YA’s side
- The criterion of the division differs in K – moral,
- The language in K:
 - Russian-speaking 25%,
 - Ukrainian-speaking 70%,
 - Change one language for another in the course of an interview - 5%
- In Donetsk – people – 4% 8% - the group indicators of “we” the identity which is more political and group – with the leader.
- D: here people are working, there they are striking;
- The criterion of the division differs in D – political and economical.
- The language in D:
 - Russian 95%,
 - Ukrainian 5%,
 - Russ-Ukr 0%,

Similarity and difference of the experience reflection of participants at Ukrainian maydans

- The results of the comparative interview analysis. What new – in emotions, knowledge, experience.

➤ **KIEV**

DONETSK

The emotions (participants' personal reflexion)

- 1. I am oppositely as if very attentive and strained in order all of us not to provoke something. 2. I am afraid, but what if you are taking a photo and this will stay just a dream. 3. I am afraid on the only thing, the division... the division of Ukraine
- I am very glad and happy
- The elated mood
- Joy
- The people became less indifferent, it is really pleasant. The people became less indifferent, it is really pleasant.
- I was very surprised that I really so much support Yanukovich. ; there is a joy that in any case we have a very united people
- The patriotism feeling appeared, which was absent at all.

Knowledge

- I have never waited that such an amount of people can gather simultaneously at the same place and can behave as people, it is also the newest
- I understood that our people is a European one
- Very many people in reality support nobody
- It is not the truth that The West doesn't love The East and The East doesn't love The West.
- But what knowledge? We are waiting for the results and that's it. Everybody has chosen for himself what is good and what is bad
- We became more political
- We now know the names and surnames of all our politicians, all the delegates.
- We just see that Yuschenko really isn't suitable for us
- They have been getting ready for these events for tens, tens of years, understand?

The experience

- 1. The large concentration of the people and that it behaved with dignity. 2. I haven't seen the gathering of so many people in one place and at that there were no any conflicts 1. The second that I understood is that a trouble helps to become friends; 2. I understood that our nation is not the same as it has been before today 3. I understood that we will be winners and that somewhere in Europe Ukraine will really take a honorable place. 1. I have never in my life seen so many people gathered together at once. 2. The youth acts correctly, thinks correctly. There have never been such a thing.
- The fear before the power disappeared, the fear before its strength, we have seen that it is a myth that its strength is our fear and our lack of organization. The people sang the hymn with a proud for ... for their country, for their people. It is very pleasant. My outlook has changed; the new world comes, the new comes..., the new people come, the old ones go away, the new ones come May be for the first time we speak all together about the wonderful things without which there is no another life: the honor, the conscience, the will, the freedom. It is astonishing. One must namely trust his mind That the Ukrainian nation do exists, and that gathering together it is a real force and can win. I have seen that the Ukrainian people is friendly, that they can support each other and go towards its aim by common affords If earlier we thought that we could change nothing, now we already think differently
- All, just it must be based on the law We united, we want something better, we want that it would be good in our country, that we really have a действительно a good president; it has shaken... We got used to one Constitution, to the only laws, and they adopted something what they want. We became closer to the politics at once The observer of mass actions I have learnt to wave with a flag Under the Yanukovich's politics we began to live, began to live well, A feeling, that is a sense in a politic point of view.
- We have broken with my son; He votes for Yuschenko and we have broken with him. All, just it must be based on the law We united, we want something better, we want that it would be good in our country, that we really have a действительно a good president; it has shaken... We got used to one Constitution, to the only laws, and they adopted something what they want. We became closer to the politics at once The observer of mass actions I have learnt to wave with a flag Under the Yanukovich's politics we began to live, began to live well, A feeling, that is a sense in a politic point of view.
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2 PART: THE PROFESSIONAL REFLECTION

The characteristic of groups of the professional analysis of the event and its consequences

I. Round-table discussion 15.12.04 - 65 persons – 3 hours	hot pursuit of maydan: social and psychological reflections	Psychologists, psychotherapists who worked at maydan on the volunteers grounds, journalists
II. Round-table discussion 15.01.05 - 27 persons -2,5 hours	Reasons and consequences of the orange revolution	Sociologists, politologists, psychologists, politicians
III. Interactive session within the international conference 28.02.05 – 22 persons - 4 hours	Problems of the conflictology in Ukraine	psychologists, pedagogues,
IV Interactive session within the international conference 20.05.05 - 35 persons - 5 hours	Psychotherapeutic care for the people in the critical situation	Psychologists, psychotherapists

Characteristic of the subject matter of the event and its consequences analysis

- I. Why exactly these colours;
- Who was at maydan: the people or the crowd;
- By what indexes such events can be predicted;
- The rate of manipulation with the awareness—the participants' self-organization;
- The split – concord in the society;
- Weather there will be a burst of depressions after the participance in mass actions

Characteristic of the subject matter of the event and its consequences analysis

- II. If the revolution was realized and, if so, what exactly the revolution it was?
- By what indexes such events can be predicted;
- What are the consequences of maydan for the current government;
- What must politicians do in order to prove the credit of credibility, given by maydan;
- The perspectives of political parties in the elections to parliament, will maydans be again?

Characteristic of the subject matter of the event and its consequences analysis

- III. The purpose was to discuss the professional instruments of the conflictological expertise and the mediation of conflicts
- The personal reflection was raised to be necessary:
- The narratives about the own feelings and experience, own personal consequences;
- To coordinate the thoughts concerning the determination – whether the conflict at maydan took place The purpose was to discuss the professional instruments of the conflictological expertize and the mediation of conflicts
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Characteristic of the subject matter of the event and its consequences analysis

- The purpose was to discuss the professional instrumental aspects: what techniques of psychotherapy were the most reasonable for the work of the psychological care centre with the participants of the actions
- The personal reflection was raised to be necessary:
- The narratives about the own feelings and experience, own personal consequences;
- The discussion of the ethic problems of using the psychological technologies in political campaigns

The phenomena of self regulation of a collective experience after the revolution (basing on the analysis of the professional reflection):

- **A) during the period of a month and a half there were met the people who were warring a symbolism; but there were such ones who advisedly put off all the coloured symbols immediately after the events at maydan were over. At this time the active communication and discussion of the experience of winter beginning is observed. We think of 6-7 weeks as of such time during which the reflection of the events is realized in the form of an action continuation or a counteraction development, a derivative from the comprehension of the event which is conducted along with an active communication. This is an interactive period of a collective experience reflection.**

The phenomena of self regulation of a collective experience after the revolution (basing on the analysis of the professional reflection):

- B) during the next 3-6 months the period of desired silence, the inner processing of the collective experience is marked. Because of the absence of organizational procedures of the experience inclusion into a direct participants' activity here arises the period of the complication of a public reflection :
 - The feeling of intimacy of the own experience, its significance, the necessity of time for the understanding of the event grandeur, the feeling that it is difficult to choose the right words for expression the opinion, the fear that unsuitable words will damage this intimate feeling.
 - A negative attitude to too active discussion and use of the maydan subject for own personal achievements. The wish to resist the devaluation of the events by “the rewarding of those who were not implicated”.
- This is a latency period of the reflection of a collective experience.

The phenomena of self regulation of a collective experience after the revolution (basing on the analysis of the professional reflection):

- **C) The maintenance of the peculiarities of participants' behavior during the whole period of the mass actions which took place on Kyiv's area (The New Year celebration, the concerts in the open air on the Day of Kyiv etc.) in the memory of maydan feeling. The absence of aggression, changing it for the discomfort because of an inadmissible behaviour, the awareness of the own dignity. This is a prolonged period of the reflection of a collective experience.**

CONCLUSIONS

- **Common in the experience.**
- **Different: DIFFERENT identity**
- **The intergroup cognitive asymmetry influences and interconnects the reflection of collective experience.**
- **The reflection of collective experience continues in the interactive and latency form as well as by way of the change of behaviour norms which make up the prolonged period of the reflection of collective experience.**

THE PROPOSITION:

- in the same format to carry out the investigation of the reflection of maydam events from the exterior side: what new was then – what new is in knowledge, emotions, relationships, experience now.
- Do you agree to carry out the public self-investigation and do you give us the right to use the recording of our discussion for further investigation of the reflection of collective experience?
- Who wants to express his opinion?
- What are your thoughts?

Thanks for your attention

**We are very grateful to you
for your participation in the collective
reflection of the event.**

**Your personal contribution will become
a part of our collective experience.**

