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THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION OF COMMUNICATIVE SPACES OF CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL AND REHABILITATION CENTERS

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Abstract: The article provides an in-depth analysis of the theoretical foundations that precede the process of organizing communicative spaces within the children's educational and rehabilitation centre for social adaptation – an institution whose goal is to create optimal conditions for enhanced socialization of children with special psychological needs and their further integration into society. The definition of signs of children's communicative space is considered and the significance of spatial composition in the process of socialization of children is determined. The article considers key aspects of the problem – medical and architectural and determines possible factors influencing the process of expanding the network of institutions of the corresponding direction on the territory of Ukraine.

Key words: communicative space, social adaptation, communication, child, medicine, socialization.

Problem statement

The relevance of the problem of socialization of children with special needs is confirmed by the disappointing dynamics of the incidence of certain diseases in children – autism, Down syndrome and post-traumatic stress disorder (hereinafter referred to as PTSD). Usually, children with these problems are left out due to the stereotypical thinking of modern society, manifestations of bullying or aggression, but every child, regardless of the characteristics of the body or psychological state, deserves a happy childhood, freedom of professional activity and respect for their personality.

The process of socialization of special children requires not only an optimal social climate but also a favourable architectural space, which significantly affects the effectiveness of social interaction between users of the space. The architectural aspect is an important component in the process of effective social adaptation since the space and architectural tools form the environment for socialization. Failure to take into account the needs of special children in the context of architectural space can slow down or make the process of social adaptation impossible.

Analysis of recent research and publications

Features of the architecture of Rehabilitation Centers for people with special psychological needs are covered in the works of T. Sean Alkvist, M. Mustafa, T. V. Rusevich, L. R. Hnatyuk, Yu. A. Semerun. Analysis of the medical spectrum of certain diseases, search for effective methods of diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation are described in the works of M. Pinkus, M. Plakhtii (2018), E. V. Poroshyna (2015), N. P. Veselova (2017), S. Esterbrook, A. Nesterova, R. Aisina, T. Suslova, L. Rybchenko (2014), K. Halepa (2013). Architectural practice and theory are in search of effective innovative solutions for creating space, but a stable connection with the medical component of the problem is needed, in particular, taking into account the specifics of the medical nature. In the process of medical treatment and rehabilitation, the architectural factor should be taken into account, since a favourable environment can organize an effective process of treatment, rehabilitation, and provide full-fledged communication.

Objective of the article

The purpose of the article is to confirm the weight of the communicative space as a determining lever in the process of social adaptation of children with special psychological needs and specify the theoretical basis for further determining functional spatial and planning decisions.

Results and discussions

For a more correct understanding of the spatial and architectural needs of special children, it is important to analyze the problem at the level of medical and architectural aspects. The medical aspect reveals the essence of the disease as a concept, the specifics of certain diseases and their manifestations and influence of diseases on life processes.

Autism is a persistent developmental disorder that affects the child's communicative and adaptive abilities and processes. The autistic disorder causes interruptions in speech development, communication deficits, and a number of psychological behavioural features that complicate the socialization process (refusal of nonverbal contact, lack of interest, rejection of changes, etc.) (Plakhtii M., 2018). Down syndrome is characterized as a congenital genetic disorder that can lead to speech delay, decreased intelligence, impaired physical functioning of the body, etc. (Deren, 2015; Poroshyna, 2015). PTSD is a set of certain psychological disorders due to a traumatic situation, which later provoke problems at the physiological (sleep disorders, tremors, stress), social (isolation, absent-mindedness, panic attacks), emotional and behavioural levels (Veselova, 2017; Khalepa, 2013).

An architectural space that correctly takes into account the medical features of diseases has a positive effect on the treatment and rehabilitation process. Since rehabilitation of educational processes in the context of the studied diseases is considered in the context of communication, children's communication space can be considered a tool for ensuring socialization.

M. Plakhtii and Y. Kuralova describe the use of environmental resources (subject and spatial elements) as measures with high correctional and developmental potential (Plakhtii, 2018). Thanks to the application

of the concept of children's communication space, it is possible to create an effective environment for improving the social, adaptive and communication skills of children, taking into account their capabilities and characteristics of the body.

In the course of the research, the key features of children's communication space are identified, which significantly affect the process of social adaptation (graphically illustrated in Fig. 1):

- communication – ensuring healthy, high-quality and useful communication of the child with other subjects (children, parents, specialists, nature, society)
- recreation – space promotes wellness and connection with nature;
- accessibility – freedom of movement, inclusion and no barriers;
- openness – the ability to freely perceive and learn about the world around you.

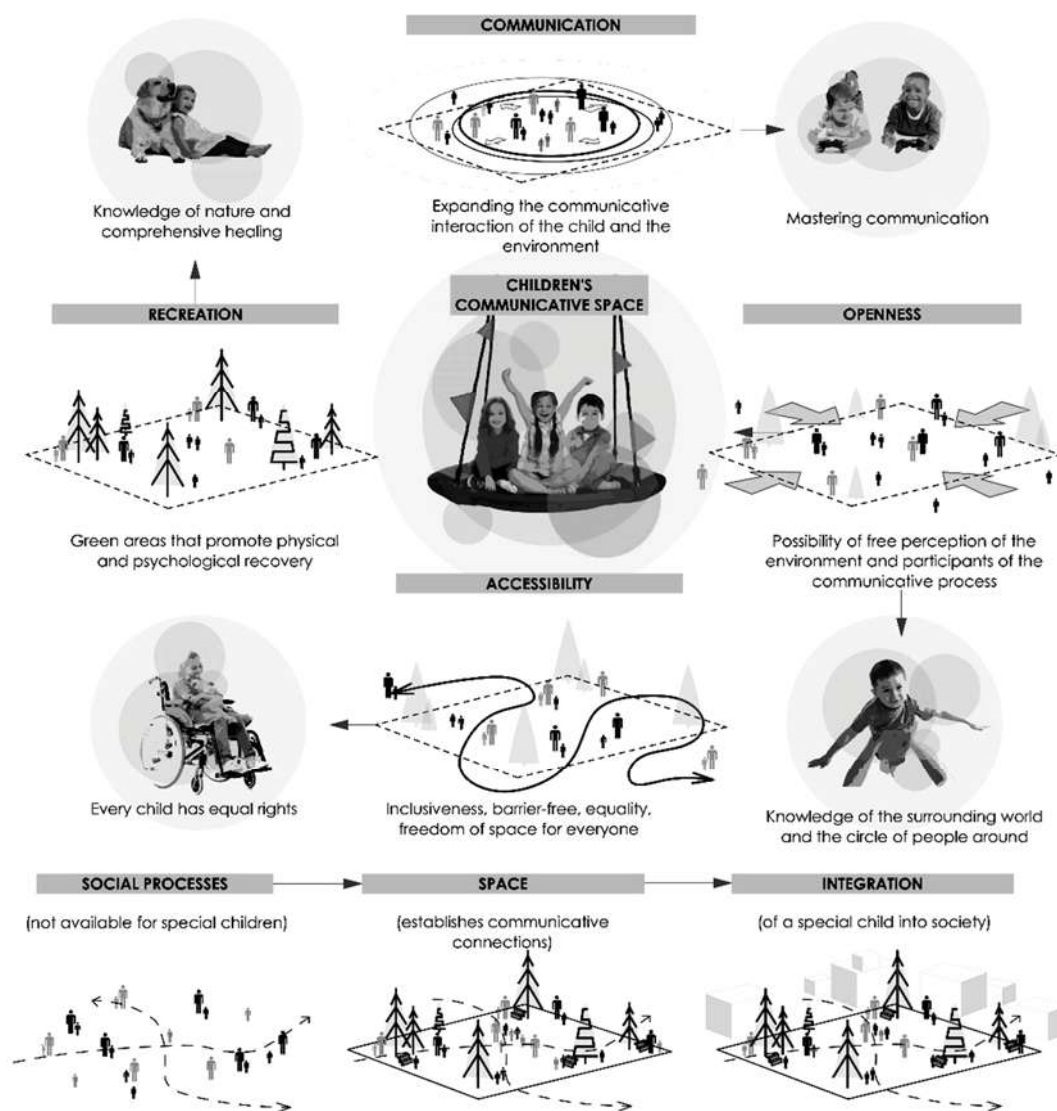


Fig. 1. Definition of features of the communicative space and their impact on social adaptation

M. Plakhtii and Y. Kuralova describe the use of environmental resources (subject and spatial elements) as measures with high correctional and developmental potential (Plakhtii, 2018). Fig. 2 graphically reflects the connection of space with the process of social integration – space and its elements help to create communicative connections, establish social processes and provide a favourable basis for full-fledged social integration of special children.

So, the communicative space is an important component of the socialization process. Taking into account medical signs by the space helps to optimize the functional spatial structure and enhance the positive effect of socialization.

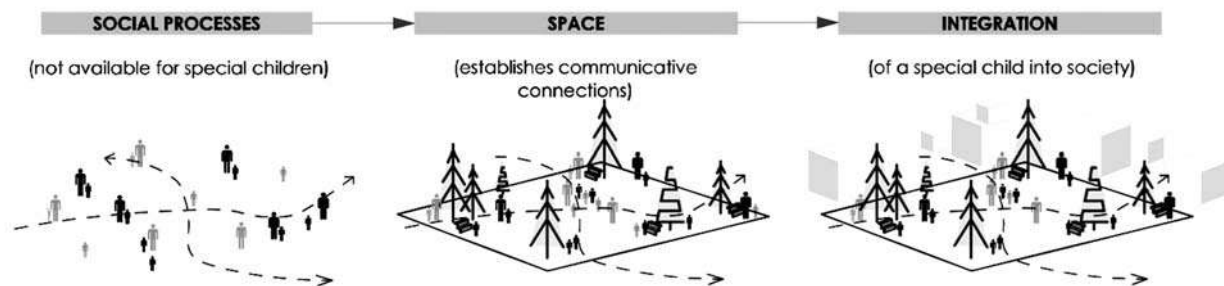


Fig. 2. Graphical representation of the importance of space for social integration

Since Ukraine adopts the cultural, social and educational experience of European countries, the issue of socialization and integration of children with special psychological needs is quite important. There is a need to develop a network of appropriate rehabilitation and educational institutions, provide them with innovative technologies, methods, and material equipment (Rybchenko, 2014; Moiseienko, 2014).

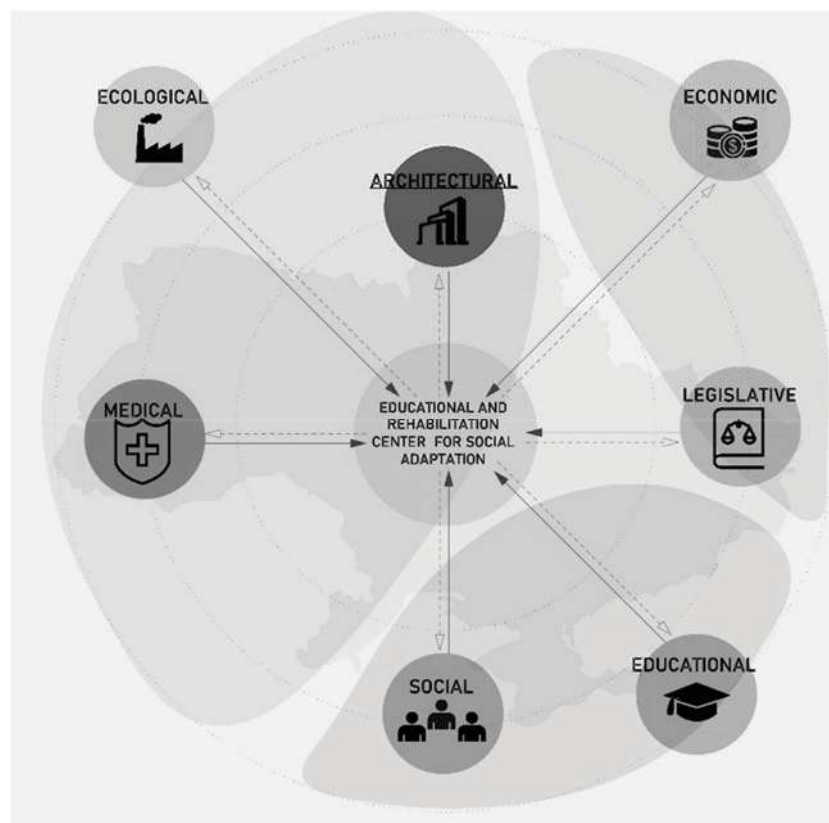


Fig. 3. Factors influencing the process of expanding the network of social adaptation institutions in Ukraine

As part of the study factors influencing the process of expanding the network of social adaptation institutions in Ukraine were derived:

- **architectural** – introduction of models of communication spaces in social adaptation centres will help to influence the adaptability of modern public spaces and increase socialization;

- **medical** – negative statistical indicators indicate the need to expand the network of social adaptation centres;
- **economic** – low socialization reduces the chances of a special child to find employment, and professional training measures in social adaptation centres increase them;
- **legislative** – implementation of equality concepts and support for social adaptation centres will help make them more accessible;
- **educational program** – inclusive education will help ensure proper educational training of children;
- **social** – the centre for social adaptation involves all representatives of society in communicative interaction in order to humanize it;
- **ecological** – health and recreational measures are needed in times of unfavourable environmental situations.

The analysis of the medical aspect, in particular the study of the characteristic manifestations of these diseases in a psychological context, proves that it is the psychological component that affects the desire or unwillingness of society representatives to join communication with special children. The use of communication space as a unifying link will help to deepen communication between special children and other children, thereby contributing to a healthy, fair, barrier-free society.

The social aspect of the study confirms the fact that special children have a high creative potential, a tendency to have interesting ideas and show a desire to develop their personalities. A perfect communicative space for social adaptation will help special children realize themselves as full-fledged people and join social processes, taking into account the concept of equality that is being implemented all over the world today.

Thus, the architectural aspect is tangential to the medical and social aspects and is designed to create an effective supportive environment for ensuring effective communication, socialization and integration of special children.

Conclusions

Based on a systematic analysis of literature sources, the main aspects of the study are outlined: medical and architectural. The medical aspect includes the study of the specifics of diseases, analysis of their physiological and physical manifestations, methods of diagnosis, treatment and rehabilitation. The architectural aspect analyzes the spatial needs of a special child that should be taken into account in medical processes. The interconnection of these aspects guarantees positive dynamics since a perfect space contributes to the high-quality execution of processes. The definition of signs of children's communicative space (communication, openness, recreation, accessibility) which are decisive for the process of socialization and social adaptation of special children is considered; the relationship between space and social processes as mutually conditioned components is given. The article also studies factors influencing the process of expanding the network of social adaptation institutions in Ukraine.

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ТЕОРЕТИЧНІ ОСНОВИ ОРГАНІЗАЦІЇ КОМУНІКАТИВНИХ ПРОСТОРІВ ДИТЯЧИХ ОСВІТНЬО-РЕАБІЛІТАЦІЙНИХ ЦЕНТРІВ

Анотація. Проведено глибинний аналіз теоретичних засад, що передують процесу організації комунікативних просторів у межах дитячого освітньо-реабілітаційного центру соціальної адаптації – закладу, метою діяльності якого є створення оптимальних умов для посиленої соціалізації дітей з особливими психологічними потребами (зокрема дітей, що страждають аутизмом, синдромом Дауна та посттравматичним стресовим розладом) і їх подальшої інтеграції в суспільство. У дослідженні проведено дефініцію ознак дитячого комунікативного простору та визначено значущість просторової композиції в процесі соціалізації дітей. Розглянуто ключові аспекти проблеми – медичний та архітектурний, виведено ймовірні фактори впливу на процес розширення мережі закладів відповідного спрямування на території України.

Комунікативний простір розглядають як спосіб нестандартного процесу реабілітації, соціалізації та психологічного розвантаження, оскільки здорова і якісна комунікація дитини (з однолітками, батьками, лікарем, педагогом, природою тощо) становить основу для адаптації дитини до навколишнього світу.

Проведене в межах статті дослідження підтверджує важливість аналізу архітектурного аспекту в контексті медицини, психології та соціології, що допоможе поглянути на потреби особливих дітей крізь призму архітектури і просторових рішень. Створення просторового середовища для дітей із урахуванням медичної специфіки їхніх захворювань, психологічних та соціальних особливостей розвитку допоможе забезпечити ефективний процес соціалізації та сприяти подальшій інтеграції особливих дітей у суспільний ритм.

Ключові слова: комунікативний простір, соціальна адаптація, дитячий, комунікація, дитина, медицина, соціалізація.