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Original article

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## YOUTH PATRIOTISM AS A STRATEGIC RESOURCE FOR RUSSIA'S DEVELOPMENT: POTENTIAL, CHALLENGES, RISKS

*This article examines the values and priorities of Russian young citizens. It is based on the results of the 2022 study of the level and nature of patriotism of Russian youth and their involvement in the social and political life of the country (which indicates active patriotism). A number of challenges in the patriotic education have been identified. The paper highlights changes in the social and political space of the country, contributing to the successful formation of patriotic feelings among young people. Despite the fact that majority of the young people actively express their support and love for Russia, considering patriotism as an important national quality, there is a significant proportion of those young people who do not have unconditional love for their homeland. The unpatriotic part of the youth, as a rule, is oriented towards Western liberal values, does not support the domestic and foreign policy of Russia and has a negative image of their country. Their patriotic feelings lack the spiritual and moral component, which is responsible for the willingness to serve the motherland, protect it, and endure difficulties for the good of the country. There is also a shortage of pride in the modern history of Russia, support for the leadership of the state, and active patriotism among young people.*

*The primary task of youth policy should be to strengthen the spiritual and moral component and educate the younger generation not only on the examples of the great achievements of the past, but also on the examples of the latest achievements of the country in various fields, on new ideals and heroes of our time. It is important to create conditions for the growth of youth activity in the socio-political life of the country, to propose social and political projects that consolidate the majority. At the country's top leadership, there is an understanding of the need to change the approaches and content of work with Russian youth, and there have been positive changes in the country that can contribute the formation of patriotic attitudes among young people.*

**Keywords:** *Russian youth, patriotism, youth values, unpatriotic feelings, challenges and tasks of patriotic education, traditional values, involvement in socio-political life, new approaches, Russia of the future*

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