**The impact of digital readiness on e-participation (on the example of the cities of Yakutia)**

The effectiveness of e-participation is correlated with a person's consent, desire and intentions [Aljazzaf et al., 2020]. Thus, digital readiness, determined by the level of digital literacy and digital trust, can become one of the factors driving action [Horrigan, 2016].

The digital readiness of the population is a relatively new direction in modern research: it is extensively studied from the point of view of countries' readiness for digitalization, the readiness of business, social sectors of the economy and other areas for new digital technologies. However, all of them are somehow connected with individual digital readiness - a person is always at the head [Ashari Nasution et al., 2021]. It should also be noted that the factors that induce people to use channels of electronic participation are poorly understood [Quintero-Angulo et al., 2020]. Thus, insufficient elaboration of the problem of digital readiness of the population, factors of electronic participation determine the relevance of this study.

The study tested the following hypotheses:

Н1: the higher level of digital readiness of a person, the higher the level of his readiness for electronic interaction with authorities;

H2: a high level of digital readiness contributes to an increase in the frequency of use of digital services by authorities;

H3: a high level of digital readiness has a positive effect on a person's willingness to share information about an issue in a city through social media or websites.

The work carried out an empirical analysis of the data obtained in the course of the survey conducted by the author. The survey was conducted in August 2021 with the participation of residents of nine cities of the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia) in order to assess their digital readiness and the level of their involvement in e-participation. The number of respondents was 342 respondents. To conduct the survey, the Google Forms survey administration program was used, respondents were asked 33 questions regarding Internet access and use, e-participation in urban governance, digital literacy, digital trust and socio-demographic information.

The study assessed digital literacy, digital trust, and e-participation of residents of the surveyed cities. Thus, the assessment of digital literacy showed that 35.8% of respondents have a basic level of digital literacy, an average level is demonstrated by 31.4% of respondents and 32.8% have an advanced level of digital literacy. The average value of Spearman's correlation coefficient for digital trust is 0.79 units, which confirms the high level of digital trust among the respondents. Among the most trusted services among respondents are commercial services (services for booking hotels, renting or buying housing, communicating in social networks or messengers, and searching for vacancies).

To determine the individual and general (regional) level of digital readiness of the population, a digital readiness index was developed. The index value of the cities under study is 2.22 units, which indicates the average level of digital readiness of the residents of Yakutia cities.

Hypotheses H1 and H3 were proved by statistical analysis, hypothesis H2 was rejected. Thus, the study allows us to conclude that a person's digital readiness affects the willingness to interact with authorities in electronic format, but does not affect the frequency of e-participation practices.

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