

4. LESSONS LEARNED AND HISTORY OF CONFLICTS

COOPERATION OF EDUCATIONAL AND PUBLIC ORGANIZATIONS FOR IMPROVING SECURITY AND COUNTERING RADICALIZATION. THE CASE STUDY OF TAMBOV STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

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The process of globalization revealed not only broad opportunities, but also revealed a number of problems that led to an aggravation of the geopolitical situation, instability of world economic development, poorly controlled migration processes, against the background of the general complication of international relations. A number of countries faced limited sovereignty and erosion of national-state identity against the backdrop of "migration waves," which led to an increase in nationalist and extremist sentiments, even in the cities of European countries. Undoubtedly, this factor today is a significant threat to national security. The introduction of extremist ideas, against the backdrop of social tension, often occurs through information attacks using the mass media. And the main goal of this impact is the youth, as the most vulnerable part of society with high cognitive activity but weak social experience. The authors argue that educational institutions should pay considerable attention to countering the dissemination of extremist ideas among young people, while using the potential of various public organizations, clubs, volunteer detachments, to involve them in social activities

KEY WORDS

Globalization, extremism, youth, educational environment, public organizations.

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Introduction

World development at the present stage is characterized by increased global competition, tensions in various areas of inter-

state and interregional interactions, rivalry of value orientations and development models. The instability of economic and

political development processes at the global and regional levels contribute to the general complication of international relations. There is a gradual redistribution of influence in favor of new centers of economic growth and political attraction [1].

The process of globalization has created both new opportunities and new threats to development of human civilization and individual countries. Globalization expanded the access to knowledge, experience, culture of other societies, to international capital markets, modern technologies and innovative products. With the increase in migration processes, competitiveness has increased in a number of spheres. The ongoing process of globalization has led to a significant adjustment of the existing world order, a significant restriction of state sovereignty and national interests in a number of countries. The erosion of national identity and identities of smaller countries are the most visible results of the globalization process. At the same time, the most competitive countries receive substantial benefits from this process, while the costs are borne by developing countries. At the present stage, we see the most acute competition in the economic-technological and ideological-information fields. In this regard, the preservation of identity and national-state identity is the main goal of ensuring national security. The main driver of the globalization process is the youth, and modern trends convincingly prove that the strategic advantages will be for those states that can effectively and productively use this powerful innovative development potential. In recent years, a number of negative trends have been reversed and a significant improvement in the social and economic status of the youth in the Russian Federation has been achieved. Mortality among young people decreased, the desire for a healthy lifestyle increased, the

level of youth unemployment decreased, and there was a decrease in crime (including minors). The Russian Federation is one of the world leaders in terms of the number of young specialists who have received higher education. Many youth representatives are among the winners and prize-winners of international sports competitions, creative competitions and Olympics [2].

However, the current geopolitical situation allows us to say that the Russian Federation will continue to develop for a long time under the conditions of economic sanctions and information blackmail on the part of a number of states. In such circumstances, special attention is paid to the multinational and multi-confessional nature of Russia. In the Russian Federation there are more than one hundred nationalities speaking their own languages, and more than seventy religious denominations. This factor is used by organizations that are trying to achieve a radical change in power in Russia. The President in his message on March 1, 2018 noted that "the role and state position in the modern world are determined not only, and not so much by natural resources, production capacities, but primarily by people" [3]. The number of internal and external factors that translate into threats to values, social life and socio-economic security has been growing substantially in recent years. The growth of new technologies and the expansion of the information space, and its accessibility to the population, have enabled destructive information impact on the youth through the mass media. An organized information transfer and centralized distribution of verbal, sound and visual information in the information space has become a significant factor capable of influencing directly national security. Emerging information technologies allow for manipulation, which in conditions of social stratification, can

become a source of increased aggression within the youth environment, spark national and religious intolerance, especially in a multicultural society, as well as create social tensions in the state.

The term "manipulating" (manipulation) comes from the Latin word *manipulare* and in its original meaning denotes (in a positive sense): "manage", "manage competently", "help", etc. In modern understanding, manipulation is a system of methods of ideological and socio-psychological influence with the aim of changing people's thinking and behavior contrary to their interests. There are also definitions based on the understanding of manipulation as a kind of fraud. However, manipulation is never severely violent, it has a so-called voluntary-compulsory character. Some researchers argue that manipulation is an expression of a human's instinctual need for the stability of the world around him/her and the consequent desire to explain everything for himself/herself [4].

Manipulative technologies, as a rule, are used with the help of mass communication means and, above all, the mass media. The importance of knowledge and information in modern society becomes the main instrument of society management, replacing conservative tools in the form of money and state coercion. Information weapons have shifted other types of weapons to the background, bringing the state confrontation into the sphere of intellectual, information and economic confrontation. In the sphere of domestic policy, state-administrative or other coercive force is transformed into informational and psychological impact. The main channels of social communication, through which the manipulator affects the manipulated, are the media [5]. The mass media "selects most of the information and misinformation that the audience uses to assess the socio-

political reality. The attitude to problems and phenomena, even the very approach that is considered a problem or phenomenon, is largely predetermined by those who control communications" [6]. Structural changes have occurred also in the content of military operations in new types of wars. The objectives of military operations are more and more often not the physical destruction of the enemy's armed forces, but demoralization and the imposition of the will on the entire population of the state. In practice, the classical idea of the ancient Chinese strategist Sun Tzu is implemented: "Fighting a hundred times and winning a hundred times is not the best of the best. The best of the best is to conquer the enemy's army without fighting" [7].

Opportunities for cross-border circulation of information are increasingly being used to achieve geopolitical, military-political, as well as terrorist, extremist, criminal and other unlawful goals, contrary to international law, to the detriment of international security and strategic stability. Today, information wars represent the most dangerous form of struggle carried out by violent means with the aim of achieving strategic goals. In the struggle for geopolitical influence and economic resources, rivals of Russia with the help of modern information technologies introduce information viruses into the mass consciousness [8]. The use of the means of providing information and psychological influence aimed at destabilizing the domestic political and social situation in various regions of the world has dramatically increased in recent years. Actions in the information sphere aimed at the undermining sovereignty and violating the territorial integrity of other states by the special services of individual states are more and more common. Religious, ethnic, human rights and other organizations are involved in this activity, as well as sepa-

rate groups of citizens, or even individuals are, while the opportunities of information technologies are widely used. There is a tendency to increase the volume of materials containing a prejudiced assessment of the state policy of the Russian Federation in the foreign mass media. Russian mass media is often exposed to outright discrimination abroad, Russian journalists are hampered in carrying out their professional activities. The informational impact on the population of Russia, primarily on the young people, has been increasing in order to erode traditional Russian spiritual and moral values [9].

The absence of generally accepted international norms and rules for the conduct of states regulating information confrontation creates a legal vacuum. Today, the international community faces a choice of ways to form a legal regime for the use of information and communication technologies by the states in the military-political sphere. The use of information and communication technologies for military and political purposes becomes an integral part of the state policy of technologically developed countries. Special attention is paid to the youth, who constitutes not only the main mobilization resource of the society, the basis for future reproduction and development, but also the main engine for the growth of the innovative economy of our country. Creating right conditions for social and economic development of the country makes special demands not only for education and professional qualification, but also for shaping adequate worldview of the youth. Young people are not a self-developing system, their life is conditioned by existing socio-economic and political conditions. A young man accordingly carries the past, the present and the future [10].

The current situation is complicated by the psychological characteristics of the modern youth: maximalism, propensity to generalizations, hypertrophied impressionability, skepticism towards authorities and traditions, distrust of power structures. The desire to radically change the environment and one's inner world is combined with the growing responsibility that young people assume and the simultaneous rejection of the imposed values on the part of the older generation. Modern youth is actively educated as a result of their activities in the Internet space. The abundance of different, sometimes diametrically opposite points of view in the Internet, does not contribute to the formation of a holistic view of Russian youth about worthy prospects for the development of the Russian state [11]. All this leads to an emotionally aggressive inadequate response to sources of problems, which are often understood as authorities, social strata, certain races and nationalities.

According to psychologists, teenage violence is characterized by unjustified cruelty, a high degree of aggressiveness, and masiveness. It is influenced by factors such as accumulated aggression, the propensity to imitate, the impossibility of promoting their socio-political interests and implementing life plans within the framework of formal law, as well as the loss of orientations of sociocultural identity. As a result, such tragedies as the attack of a teenager against pupils and teachers in Ulan-Ude, the attack of teenagers against the teacher and pupils at school in Perm, the fight of teenagers with the use of weapons in the Sosnovsky district of the Chelyabinsk region, and other cases occur. At the same time, there is a direct or indirect link between adolescents who committed these crimes and Internet communities, reflecting the values of teenage subcultures that oppose the macrocosm.

The susceptibility of young people, especially teenagers, to negative information and the possibility of destructive psychological impact on this age group, led to the adoption of a set of measures for the prevention and counteraction of social deviations, including the ideology of terrorism, in the youth environment. For this purpose, on the basis of the Tambov State University named after G.R. Derzhavin, the Center for Social Deviation Studies was established. The Center conducts a comprehensive study of this problem through the interaction of specialists in various professions, including lawyers, psychologists and educators. This Center has been functioning since 2016 and is an example of a non-standard, but, as the results show, an effective approach of the educational institution to the issue of countering the spread of the ideology of terrorism in the educational environment.

The main tasks of the Center include monitoring of the student community for deviant behavior and the spread of extremist and terrorist ideologies and conducting scientific research on topical problems of counteraction, including the prevention of identified social deviations, with the prospect of introducing the results of scientific research into the formation of learning and educational processes. The Center is responsible for the organization of the educational complex, the definition of the content of its work in the field of the prevention of social deviations and other offenses and crimes, taking into account the Russian and foreign experience. Among the tasks of the Center there is the training of university staff to work with applicants and students to identify and prevent social deviations.

The implementation of the set tasks has translated into several areas of the Center's work. First of all, it was necessary to identify a potentially dangerous group of adoles-

cents with possible social deviations. It is clear that a simple survey or questionnaire will not provide the necessary information due to the social desirability of respondents' answers. Therefore, as the main method of obtaining initial data, monitoring of social networks of students was conducted. The monitoring was used for the analysis of text entries in the social media. Photos, audio recordings were analyzed, as well as the activity in groups on social media. Monitoring focused also on subjects of conversations, and reposts from the communities were investigated. It allowed identification of circles of communication in social networks, interests, hobbies and horizons. It was also possible to observe a degree of influence on the hobbies of students by Internet friends. This determined the hobbies and interests of a teenager for a given period. Then, according to the monitoring materials, the social health passport of the training group has been drawn up, as well as the individual social passport of a problem student. That allowed specifying the plan for educational work for the group curator, the deputy for educational work, and conveyed the necessary information to student's parents. This document allows, for example, when changing a teacher, curator or class teacher, to have already prepared information for each student, to trace the history of preferences, the results of pedagogical influence on identified social deviations and to assess the level of the student's social health in the process of training in an educational organization. This document can be an effective means of preventing crime among minors.

The drawing up of a psychological portrait of a problem student according to social networks was an important aspect of further work with the possible social deviations revealed during the monitoring. Psychological analysis of the student's online

activity allows identifying such characteristics as the communicative task of the author, his/her possible intentions, belonging to groups and subcultures relevant to him/her, attitudes towards social institutions and the state as a whole, relations with the opposite sex, and leisure. Among the individual psychological characteristics, such an analysis makes it possible to draw conclusions about the teenager's outlook, his/her interests, value judgments, the features of the cognitive, emotional, motivational, needful spheres, the direction of the personality, and the possible sociotype. Of course, the results obtained through monitoring should be verified in the course of a direct interaction with the student, including the use of standardized psychological techniques, if there is such an opportunity.

The next stage of the Center's work is to transfer the information received to the teachers (the group's curator, the deputy for educational work) in order to develop a set of educational measures, taking into account the individual characteristics of the trainee's personality and the specifics of the identified social deviations. The advantages of individual pedagogical work are obvious, this concerns, first of all, the targeting of a specific student and the specificity of the measures of psychological and pedagogical influence. In parallel with the individual pedagogical work with the problem student, it is also important to carry out preventive activities in this training group in accordance with the identified social deviations to neutralize the possible negative impact on the part of the problem learner.

Great importance in the work of the Center is also attached to the increase of information literacy in the sphere of detection and prevention of social deviations among the teaching staff of the university and other organizations. For this purpose, a training

program was developed and implemented to prevent and stop the spread of the ideology of religious and political extremism and terrorism in the educational environment of the university for the teaching staff of educational institutions of higher professional education. The implementation of the program implied not only the formation of theoretical knowledge about the current state of the problem of terrorism and social violence among students, but also the ability to identify signs of social deviations among learners from indirect manifestations, such as specific clothing symbols, special slang, etc. Great importance was also attached to the organization of work within the student environment, the construction of work with parents of students to detect and prevent offenses of a nationalistic and extremist orientation.

However, identification and prevention, although being important stages of the work, in our opinion, are not criteria for the effectiveness of working with young people to prevent the spread of extremism in this environment. From our point of view, it is the involvement of students in social and useful activities, in the form of participation on a permanent basis in various public organizations, clubs and volunteer groups, which constitutes a trustworthy indicator of the social health of a young person. In this regard, a separate aspect of the center's work is to create conditions for activities of various public organizations, clubs and volunteer groups in the student environment. The number of such organizations in the Tambov region is at the level of several hundred in various fields of activity. In the sphere of ensuring security, special attention is paid to attracting paramilitary (pro-defense) public organizations and law enforcement agencies to work with the young people. The state program "Development of Civil Society Institutions" for 2014-2020

in Russia has been actively executed in the Tambov region in accordance with the decree of the administration of the Tambov region approved on October 28, 2013, No. 1206. The main tasks of this state program that are implemented in the Tambov region include, among others, promotion and development of civil society institutions, as well as increasing civic activity of the population of the Tambov region. The plan aims also at strengthening the unity of the people inhabiting the Tambov region. It should also be noted that the plan calls for the formation of institutional and infrastructural conditions for the development of socially-oriented non-profit organizations that provide high-quality social services to the population of the region. Efforts related to the development of civil society institutions include also plans for creation of favorable conditions for the development of innovative potential, opportunities for successful socialization and effective self-realization of young people in the interests of social and economic development of the Tambov region. One of priorities is the development and improvement of the system of patriotic education of citizens. Existing plans for development of civil society institutions in the Tambov region envisage also assistance in strengthening of the civil unity and harmonization of interethnic relations.

In the law of the Tambov region "On the state youth policy of the Tambov region" dated April 27, 2007, it is stated that the main direction of the implementation of the state youth policy in the bodies of state power and local self-government of the region is the creation of consultative and advisory bodies. One of the oldest public-state organizations in the spheres of pre-conscription training of citizens, military-patriotic education, development of mass military-applied, aviation and technical sports is the regional branch of DOSAAF

(Volunteer Society for Cooperation with the Army, Aviation, and Navy) of the Tambov region. Its main tasks include, among others, education of members of the society in the spirit of constant readiness to defend the interests of the Motherland and love of the Armed Forces. DOSAAF conducts activities aimed at propagation of military knowledge, traditions of the Russian people and their Armed Forces among the population, and preparing young people for military service in accordance with the requirements for universal military service. It must be noted that an important part of DOSAAF activities is directly linked to contribution to civil defense and participation in the preparation for the national economy of personnel of mass technical professions, of military practical importance (tractor drivers, radio operators, motorists, electricians, motorcyclists, etc.). The organization is also active in the field of popularization of aircraft, helicopter, glider, parachute, automobile, motorcycle, radio, underwater, water-motor, rifle, modeling and other military-technical sports in the country.

One of the most important areas of activity of this organization is the preparation of the pre-conscription youth in military registration professions for service in the armed forces of Russia. A military occupational specialty code (MOS code) is an indication of the military specialty of an active or in-reserve soldier of the Armed Forces of Russia and other troops and formations. Information about the MOS is indicated in a military identity card. The list of specialties and the need for quantity is annually specified by the Ministry of Defense. The prospective specialties necessary for the Ministry of Defense and the program for their training are determined in accordance with the methodological recommendations for conducting military records.

Methodological recommendations on the conduct of military registration in organizations are approved by the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation. These recommendations are developed in accordance with the Constitution of the Russian Federation, Federal Laws N 61-FL „On Defense”, 1997 N 31-FL “On Mobilization Preparation and Mobilization in the Russian Federation”, 1998 N 53-FL „On Military Duty and Military service”, the Decree of the Government of the Russian Federation from November 27, 2006, No. 719 “On approval of the Regulation on military registration”. The purpose of this study is to assist the leaders, other officials of state authorities, executive authorities of the constituent entities of the Russian Federation, local authorities and organizations to maintain military records. Annually, more than one thousand conscripts from the Tambov region in various military specialty professions are trained by DOSAAF for service in the armed forces. The organization actively participates in conducting competitions in shooting, parachuting, hand-to-hand combat and other sports, skills of which are in demand in military service. The idea of patriotism, the idea of serving our own country today is again very much in demand by the Russian society. The majority of young people willingly join the army. Last year, we marked an unprecedentedly high competition for military higher education institutions and pre-university educational organizations of the Ministry of Defense. The analysis of military-patriotic work carried out on behalf of the President of the Russian Federation in the country showed a significant growth of military-patriotic associations and clubs. Their number has now exceeded five and a half thousand, according to Nikolai Pankov, the State Secretary and Deputy Minister of Defense of Russia [12]. In the Tambov

region, there is a fairly large number of military-patriotic clubs that carry out pre-conscription training of young people for military service. Usually the number of participants of such clubs is from thirty to one hundred people. Clubs are often formed on the basis of training for service in a specific military service. So in the Tambov region, the clubs „Yuniy Desantnik” (Young Paratrooper), whose members, in the process of persistent studies, prepare themselves for service in the airborne troops, are very popular. Often, there are arrangements between such clubs and military units, as a result of which, the members of clubs serve in these units, and the servicemen of these units provide assistance to these clubs, including carrying out a certain part of the training of adolescents. An example of the activities of the military-sports center „Volk”(Wolf) at the youth center of the city of Tambov is typical.

The center began its work in 2008 on the basis of the military unit. The main task of the center is to prepare young people for service in the armed forces of Russia. At the moment Military Sports Center „Volk” offers the most versatile training in military applications in Tambov. Over the years of the center’s work, more than one thousand five hundred students after the graduation joined the armed forces, some of them continued in contract service. It should be specially noted that the instructors who trained young people in the club had been themselves trained here. After completing military service they came back to the center and are now preparing the next generation of youth. Young people are the largest social and economic source of social development, an effective vehicle for social innovation and the subject of the transfer of social and cultural values to future generations [13]. Since May 28, 2016 in the Tambov region a regional branch of the All-Rus-

sian military-patriotic „Unarmia” movement has been functioning. The main areas of “Unarmia” work is the spiritual, moral, social, intellectual, physical and sports development of young people. This organization coordinates and accumulates the activities of public organizations and military-patriotic clubs in the region. In the Tambov region, at the present stage, the Young People’s Movement is headed by the employees of the Tambov State University named after G.R. Derzhavin. And now in the region there are 146 detachments of the “Unarmia” with the total number of members more than two thousand and four hundred people. The largest detachment in the region is the unit of the Tambov State University named after G.R. Derzhavin. The training program for the young soldiers includes sections of the initial military training, since the main role of the young soldiers is the training for service in the armed forces and readiness to defend their homeland. The organization’s tasks include not only carrying out military-tactical, patriotic and social measures, but also interaction with regional authorities in order to increase the effectiveness of military-patriotic work. One of the new directions of the organization was the strengthening of attention to the programs for arranging summer vacations for students and school children. In 2018, in the territory of the region there were six camps on a rotating basis with the participation of more than one thousand children of the region. The program provides for the conduct of classes by active military personnel of the military units of the Tambov garrison. During the camp, the boys learnt the skills necessary in the future to protect the Motherland. More prepared youth participate in field challenges such as three day marches, the length of which is about 70 kilometers across a rough terrain. This year, three field challenges with a total

number of more than two hundred participants are planned. Since the current year, parachute jumps of young military men have been resumed in the framework of amphibious training. In 2018 more than fifty children of the Tambov region jumped. The patronage of the armed forces over the young soldiers movement is actively manifested in carrying out joint activities using the material and technical base of the armed forces. So in the period from November 2017 to April 2018 sixty four students and schoolchildren visited military units within the framework of open days and courage lessons. The total number of adolescents in the Tambov region involved in these activities increased to about six thousand. The security of the homeland begins with the safety of its home, therefore, in the framework of training, the potential for solving the problem of the armed forces in the activity of youth associations of law enforcement in the Tambov region is interesting. The most massive and effective unit in this area is the student national team “Derzhava” of Tambov State University named after G.R. Derzhavin. The volunteer public order squad “The student unit of law and order protection ‘Derzhava’” was established in January 2013 on the basis of the Tambov State University named after G.R. Derzhavin. With the adoption of No. 44-FL “On the participation of citizens in the protection of public order” (dated April 2, 2014), the unit was registered in the regional register of people’s order squad and public associations of law enforcement direction No. 001, having received the name of the people’s squad “Student unit of law enforcement ‘Derzhava’” [14]. The objectives of creating units are to assist law enforcement agencies of the Tambov Region in ensuring the protection of public order and public safety; prevention of socially dangerous forms of citizens’ behavior and

implementation of socially significant activities. Currently, the squad has more than two hundred fifty employees and is the most numerous people's squad in the Tambov region. Members of a voluntary public order squad inform law enforcement agencies of violations of law and order, participate in public order activities in the conduct of sports, cultural and entertainment and other public events. They also participate in the work of coordination, advisory, expert and advisory bodies on matters of public order. The subdivision carries out its work jointly with various law enforcement agencies and security agencies of the Tambov region. "Derzhava" deals with protection of public order and provision of public safety during mass and sports events in the Tambov region such as: City Day, Victory Day, Olympic torch relay, presidential elections. The main activities of the "Derzhava" include conducting social actions, military-patriotic education, as well as the development of socially significant projects and programs. Employees of "Derzhava" together with law enforcement bodies participate in operational measures to detain offenders. So, with their participation in the Tambov region, illegal sales outlets of narcotic drugs were liquidated. Together with the regional department of the Federal Security Service of Russia, buildings and premises are checked for explosive devices, and preventive measures are taken in conjunction with the Ministry of Internal Affairs in the Tambov region to prevent offenses. On a permanent basis, employees are involved as witnesses in the conduct of operational and investigative activities. Involvement of a student in the public activity often begins with direct communication with a representative of a public organization as a result of planned meetings of students with interesting people. The public is quite active and willingly communicates

with young people. In our programs for working with young people, we necessarily take into account the fact that no one can convey an event more emotionally than its immediate participant. So the emotional story about the Islamic state militants in the Syrian Arab Republic, in a subsequent poll of the students, revealed an increase in the negative perception of the abbreviation ISIS itself. These surveys led us to the idea of accumulating the most effectively influencing classes with teenagers and preparing them in the format of an electronic manual for assistants in the educational work of educational institutions. And also the production of social plays on stories and with the participation of representatives of public organizations of military and law enforcement orientation. At the present stage, the most effective classes are identified according to the formed plan for educational work. In our study, specialists from the Institute of Pedagogy and Psychology of Tambov State University are involved. By the summer of 2019, we are waiting for the results of this scientific work and the first social videos, based on the results. Thus, it is necessary to emphasize once again such principles of work on the prevention of social deviations in the educational environment, conducted by the TSU named after G.R. Derzhavin together with public organizations of the region, as a complex, interdisciplinary nature, involving interaction of different specialists. At the same time an individual approach to the implementation of measures of psychological and pedagogical influence is required; step-by-step and cyclical activities to identify, counteract, prevent and correct social deviations that contribute to countering the spread of extremist ideas among young people.

Among the perspectives of work in this direction, one can point to an analysis of the latest scientific approaches to this problem and the introduction of the most productive of them, in whole or in part. Preventing social deviations in education environment requires clarification of the methodological principles of applied research, and further development of diagnostic and corrective tools. Then, approbation of methods and techniques of work on a wider sample is needed in order to expand the scope of the target audience, to improve information, psychological and educational literacy, and others. Education of the younger generation is not only the responsibility of parents, but of the entire society. Inclusion of socially active citizens in educational work, people with a great life experience in the presence of scientific and pedagogical support, from our point of view, will bring the greatest effect in the current situation, thereby allowing to raise the level of comprehensive security, not only of the educational institution, but also of the region.

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