

## Social identity and conflicts in modern society

### *What will be studied?*

- Theories, methodology and methods of research of social identity and identification processes in modern society,
- Multidimensional relationships of social identity with conflicts at different levels and in different areas of social reality,
- Some historical cases of social conflicts caused by identification processes and ways to resolve them.

### *Why is it interesting / necessary to study?*

Identity is one of the most relevant and controversial phenomena that has attracted the attention of not only scholars but also politicians, journalists and the general public over the past few decades. This is due to the unprecedented scale and depth of transformations leading, on the one hand, to the globalization of social relations, and, on the other, to the emphasis on local and national specifics. Some practices of identity construction often formed a prerequisite for acute and tragic conflicts, wars, ethnic cleansing and genocide. Within the proposed discipline, students will have the opportunity to understand how politics of identity contributes to the emergence of intergroup and interethnic conflicts and how to prevent and resolve identity-related conflicts. This topic is extremely relevant for highly developed Western countries, including the United States and Europe, and for modern Ukraine where in recent years the processes of formation of the modern Ukrainian nation are taking place, strengthening national identity and, at the same time, spreading pro-European orientations and European identity. These changes in identification models and practices are taking place against the background of profound transformations in various spheres of life and military conflict in the east of the country. Immersion in the issue of identity allows us to look in a new way at many familiar things that we encounter in everyday life and in the field of macro-social processes.

### *What can you learn (learning outcomes)?*

Knowledge of the theoretical and methodological foundations of the study of identities and processes of social identification at the interpersonal, intergroup and societal levels, as well as the mechanisms of conflicts related to social identification, their prevention and resolution and the establishment of sustainable peace.

### *How to use the acquired knowledge and skills (competencies)?*

Students will expand their scientific worldview, learn conceptual models, concepts and theories to explain the processes of identification, scientifically sound ways to prevent and resolve conflicts of identity due to belonging to different groups and communities (ethnic, religious, regional, linguistic, cultural, class, class). They will gain competencies to build harmonious relationships with representatives of other social communities on the basis of tolerance, understanding of lifestyle, culture, traditions and values of the Other. At the same time, the study of mechanisms for constructing identities will help debunk artificially created differences, which often result in xenophobia, conflict, war, and genocide.