Lagutin O. V.

ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC OPINION OF THE RESIDENTS OF ST. PETERSBURG ABOUT THE SITUATION IN UKRAINE

The political crisis that occurred in Ukraine in February of this year, influenced by a vector of development of Russian foreign policy. The result of the geopolitical confrontation between the West and Russia depends on the level of population support of the policy decisions that were taken in the Kremlin. The data of public opinion polls show the level of consolidation of the people and the political elite facing a serious challenge to civilization. The study determined the level of awareness and interest in events in Ukraine among the citizens of St. Petersburg. Citizens of St. Petersburg responded to questions about the prospects of Ukraine's territorial integrity and what the political forces came to power in Kiev. Respondents also predicted the results of the referendum on the status of Crimea and Sevastopol, decided on the question: «what it means for us the Ukrainian people».

Keywords: public opinion, Ukraine, Crimea, Sevastopol, Russia.

Lagutin Oleg V. — Ph.D. in Political Sciences, Associate Professor, St. Petersburg State University, 7/9, Universitetskaya nab., St. Petersburg, 199034, Russian Federation.