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To the memory of Olga Balakireva

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TO THE MEMORY OF OLGA BALAKIREVA

It is difficult to write in the past tense about Olga Mykolaivna Balakireva – PhD in Sociology, Head of the Department of Monitoring Studies of Socio-Economic Transformations of the State Organization "Institute for Economics and Forecasting of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine", Honored Worker of Science and Technology of Ukraine, Member of the Board of the Sociological Association of Ukraine, Chairman of the Board of O. Yaremenko Ukrainian Institute of Social Research, Chairman of the Board of the Center "Social Monitoring", and Editor-in-Chief of the journal "Ukrainian Society".

First of all, because she had time everywhere - both to take the most active part in the Institute's academic research, and to conduct a huge number of important and topical field monitoring studies. Olga Mykolaivna always had her own position on all issues, she never allowed anyone close to her to rest on their laurels and sit in one place. Her zest for life and drive encouraged research activities, the search of new knowledge and guidelines for development.

Presently, one can say that Olga Balakireva has created her own brand in sociology. First of all, because the researches conducted under her guidance instantly became bestsellers of Ukrainian news agencies. And also because for twenty years in a row she published the magazine "Ukrainian Society" - and was its heart as the chief editor, inspirer, and permanent contributor. "Ukrainian Society" is now in group "B" in Ukraine's List of Specialized Publications on Sociological and Economic Sciences.

Mathematician by education and sociologist by vocation and practical activities, a person with vast experience of working in public and international organizations, Olga Mykolaivna Balakireva worked in the Department of Monitoring Studies of Socio-Economic Transformations since its creation at the Institute in 2005, and then headed it until early April this year, when a serious illness stopped her rapid progress...

Results of the research of her department started in our journal a topical section on "Monitoring of Socio-Economic Transformations", materials for which Olga Mykolaivna often submitted as an author. Also, she was our unconditional and invaluable reviewer. Such losses are difficult to restore.

She remains in our hearts!

Editorial Board of the journal "Economy and Forecasting"