

**ROLE AND IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS IN
INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS IN THE DIRECTION OF THE PROTECTION OF
HUMAN RIGHTS AND THE RIGHTS TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

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ABSTRACT

International organizations are essential actors that influence international relations in the international system, because their influence in many cases has a positive effect on resolving the problems that are more common in international political relations, driven by the interests of states, and are related to issues of environmental disasters, nuclear danger, climate change, economic development and the protection of human rights.

The text will cover the genesis of international organizations and their influence on the development and changes in international relations, which will positively reflect on the efforts of the countries in terms of environmental protection.

In the context of this, the influence of these organizations on the states in terms of the acceptance of the provisions of international agreements as sources of horizontal legislation in the field of environment is of significant importance.

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Key words: International organizations, human rights, environmental protection, international documents for human rights protection and the right environment.



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Article type:

UDK: 061.2:242.72/.73(100)

Date of received:

August 08, 2018

Date of acceptance:

September 16, 2018

Declaration of interest:

The author reported no conflict of interest related to this article.

INTRODUCTION

In the last decades, the protection of the environment has become the most important, especially after the development of an industry that negatively reflects the climate change. Climate change has, in the past, been causally related to mass industrial production, and now the primacy is assumed by the human factor as a result of population growth and migration movements. Global warming, which is the main cause of climate change, is correlated with people's activities. The effects of global warming are felt everywhere in the world, and what is worrying is the change in the water level as a result of the melting of glaciers and ice in both sexes, which together with the change in temperature has a significant impact on climate change.

Such a situation undoubtedly affects the quality of people's lives regardless of the culture, the country or the territorial integrity of the states. If we ask ourselves which factors can influence the improvement of the quality of life, it is certain that the answers will range from the subjective, that is, from the quality that we possess as individuals, to the economic, sociological and cultural characteristics. However, the fact that the estimate of the quality of life is much more complicated, and if all parameters of our environment are perceived, it can be concluded that it depends above all on where, as well as under what conditions it is living¹. (Marko Antonijevic, Strahinja Starcevic, Slobodan Savic, Sasa Jovanovic, 2013). With this in mind, human health is one of the most essential components of the quality of life, which can in many ways be affected by climate change, which in the next period is likely to be severe. As a consequence, the predictions, from various analyzes, suggest that increased temperatures, which will cause large droughts, water shortages, and thus reduce agricultural products that will be reflected negatively on the food industry in less developed countries.

All this has negative repercussions on the quality of life, which was still an important reason for the urgent approach to implementing all available measures to reduce emissions of pollutants, as well as mitigating the processes and consequences of climate change.

Such scenarios suggest that it is necessary to work on finding measures that will be an antidote to such phenomena, ie finding mechanisms to prevent or slow down further global warming by reducing emissions of harmful gases into the atmosphere and strictly controlled cutting of tropical forests represent a regulator of global warming. Although awareness of the adoption of such measures is more common and accepted by all countries, the main problem is their realization.

Within its powers, the governments of many developed countries have adopted various international and internal regulations as well as signed a number of interstate agreements with the sole aim of protecting the existing composition of the atmosphere. In addition to the numerous international regulations, today there are protection solutions, which include new ways of mitigating climate change² (WWF 2012).

If we start from the theory and approach to the environmental problems of the civil society organizations, it is evident that the modern society and science are in great contradiction considering the fact that the economy, through the development of industrial production, in order to achieve greater profit and capital, expresses a negation precisely in the field of environment.

Most of the population under global environmental problems includes climate change, pollution and the energy crisis, ignoring others such as rapid population growth and consumption per capita.

2. INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS PROTECTION AND THE RIGHT TO HEALTH ENVIRONMENT

Environmental pollution poses a threat to the lives, health and well-being of people and is often the cause of serious violations of the corpus of human rights and freedoms. Natural disasters, as a consequence of climate change, lead to an increase in the percentage of human and economic losses, which is reflected in the increased exposure to risks, which are closely correlated with the inability to enjoy basic human rights.

The right to an adequate standard of living is recognized according to the norms of international and national law. According to Article 11 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, it can be concluded that not only is the right to living standards for a certain person and his family recognized, but with the norms of this international document, a continuous improvement of living conditions is foreseen. The World Health Organization points out the following indicators for measuring health inequalities in the context of the environment: inadequate access to water, substandard conditions for basic hygiene and waste, excessive moisture in family facilities, inability to adequately heat them, inadequate sound and heat insulation, lack of green or recreational areas, passive smoking in the home³ (WHO, 2012).

This right also implies the right to adequate housing, which is of great importance for the enjoyment of economic, social and cultural rights, which only suggests that it can not be regarded as a right that is in correlation with other guaranteed human rights. An even bigger problem, which is evident in developing countries, and associated with this right is housing in informal settlements, where living conditions are inadequate, sometimes worse than substandard living conditions.

For the greater part of human development, the world's population grew much slower. Growth rates began to increase during the 17th and 18th centuries by reducing mortality rates. In the context of this we can say that by 1945, more than ten thousand generations were needed to reach the number of two billion inhabitants of the globe, while today a century is sufficient, the population of two to rise to 6 billion inhabitants. While the world's population at the beginning of the century counted 1.6 billion people, today it has grown to 6.67 billion people, and it is predicted that by 2050 it will reach about 9.2 billion people who will live on the earth. This explosiveness of the birth rate exerts additional pressure on the environment, which in itself indicates that governmental and non-governmental international organizations are rightly talking about the global crisis.⁴ (Mladen črnjar, Kristina Crnjar, 2009)

The United Nations Charter does not contain provisions for the protection of the environment and natural resources, but such provisions can not be found in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948. The same is the case with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966) and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966), although they contain a number of provisions that protect the corpus of human rights and freedoms. However, in international law, it contains a number of bilateral and multilateral environmental protection agreements after the First World War as a result of changes in the global awareness of environmental issues on an international scale.

The provision of the first article of the International Covenant on Economic and Social Rights provides for the right of people to freely secure their economic, social and cultural development, even though this right is predominantly economic in character and can not be directly used. However, the document addresses the protection of the environment by predicting that each country is free to decide on its natural resources and resources.

Awareness of the need to create preconditions and measures for environmental protection began to develop in the 1960s, both nationally and internationally. In Stockholm in 1972, the first global congress for the protection of the environment was held when the United Nations Declaration on the Environment was adopted and known as the Stockholm Declaration, which, despite the anthropocentric approach, nevertheless made a direct link between the environment and human rights⁵ ([www.unep.org / Documents](http://www.unep.org/Documents)).

One of the new challenges to international environmental law, and is closely correlated with climate change, is the threat to ozone upholstery. The Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer (adopted in 1985), together with the Montreal Protocol on Ozone Depleting Substances (1987), is an important instrument for international environmental protection. Although its provisions do not relate directly to environmental

law, the provision of Article 2 provides for an obligation to take measures to protect human health and the environment. In this period comes the full promotion of the concept of sustainable development, which becomes the dominant approach in politics and the right to protect the environment. Of particular importance in this period was the participation of the public in capacity building, ie specialized non-governmental organizations, both internationally and nationally.

In 1992, the United Nations Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development was held in Rio. The legal documents that emerged as a result of this conference encountered divided opinions of the expert public, but in any case they are essential for the development of the right to a healthy environment, the dissemination of environmental information, as well as participation in decision-making and legal protection. The Rio Declaration on Environment and Development as the first principle envisages “the right to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature”, while with the tenth principle it provides access to information, public participation in the decision-making process, and efficient access to judicial protection and administrative proceedings, including damages and access to remedies.

3. LEGAL DOCUMENTS AND PRINCIPLES FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

At the beginning of the creation of the European Community, no discussions were held on environmental issues until 1972, that is, until the holding of the Paris Conference of Heads of State and Government, which was realized in cooperation with the Stockholm Environmental Conference.

It should be noted that it is not easy to determine and evaluate the concrete results of European measures in the field of environmental protection, because the quality of protection is a subjective term that covers a very wide field of action. EU environmental legislation dates back to 1972, when around 250 legislative acts were adopted that primarily concern the limitation of impacts by introducing minimum standards, in particular

waste management, and water and air pollution. The EU is more concerned about the implementation of legislation in member states, with the sole intention of the Union citizens to receive quality protection.

The European Union, with the measures envisaged in the environmental protection policy, aims to promote sustainable development and environmental protection for current and future generations, primarily with preventive activities on the principle of punishment of polluters. This environmental policy of the Union encompasses more than 200 major regulations in the legislation relating to the quality of water and air, the disposal and management of waste, industrial pollution control, chemicals and genetically modified organisms (GMOs), protection against noise and protection of forests. In order to implement this legislation, the governments of member states must allocate a large percentage of funds in their own budgets, as well as a powerful and well-trained administration at the state and local levels.

The Single European Act 1986 and the Treaty of Maastricht provide the Union with explicit powers in the field of environmental protection. With the entry into force of the single European law in 1987, a special section on the environment was introduced in his text. In addition to defining the conditions, this law also determines the objectives of the community and the principles upon which their implementation will be based. For the first time, the objectives and principles of the Union's environmental policy have become mandatory for Member States.

What needs to be stated is that Article 8 of the Treaty on European Union, where the environment is not explicitly mentioned, states that the EU's main objectives are to promote balanced and sustainable economic and social progress. Such an objective can not be achieved without undertaking measures in the field of environmental protection, and in that context, it should be noted that significant provisions on this issue have been introduced in the amendments to certain articles of the Treaty relating to the development of environmental policy in the following areas:

- conservation, protection and improvement of the quality of the environment;
- wise and rational use of natural resources;
- Improving measures taken internationally;
- a gender plan in order to solve problems in the field of environmental protection, both on a regional and global level.

In particular, it has been pointed out that care must be taken on the principle of prevention, the specific characteristics of certain territories and regions, as well as the needs for development of economic and social development.

The cooperation of the Member States is essential for the effectiveness of EU environmental laws, and in this regard, for the strict implementation of environmental protection, in 1997 the Commission recommended the imposition of fines by the European Court of Justice for the countries Articles that do not respect legislation in this area.

In addition to the legislation, the Commission is increasingly paying attention to other measures, such as economic instruments and tax policy instruments, as well as measures in the field of information and education. Since 1990, as one of the Commission's initiatives aimed at introducing energy tax and tax reform, it aims to achieve a redistribution of the tax burden from labor-related factors and the pollution of living resources. The second initiative concerns the environmental responsibility that needs to be set for the protection of the environment. In addition to these initiatives within the framework of the Environmental Policy, the Commission enables financial improvement of the investments in order to improve the environment through regional, structural and cohesion policies, as well as through instruments for financing the environmental protection⁸ (Zdravković dr Dušan, Radukić mr Snežana, 2006).

Regarding the enlargement of membership, the EU environmental legislation raises many challenges for the candidates. The EU's legal heritage is very extensive, complex and costly, and environmental problems are more significant in candidate countries than in member states.

4. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS AND PROTECTION OF THE HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

Many organizations around the world devote their efforts to protect human rights and stop the human rights abuses. Large human rights organizations maintain extensive websites that document misdemeanors and call for action by governments to remedy the damaging consequences. Public support and condemnation of abuses is important to their success, as human rights organizations are most effective when their call for reform is backed by strong public support.

Environmental organizations work around the world in an effort to analyze, monitor and preserve the global environment. These organizations may be non-profit organizations, government departments, funds or non-governmental organizations. In addition, environmental organizations work at different levels in different regions of the world, including international, national, regional or local civic organizations.

There are many intergovernmental and non-governmental international organizations working on issues of protection of human rights and environmental rights, but the text will list some major international environmental organizations that are trying to solve problems for the protection of the environment through program activities protecting habitats, hunting, pollution and global warming.

The United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) was established in June 1972 after the UN Conference on the Environment, also known as the Stockholm Conference. She is responsible for a number of environmental issues related to various UN agencies. Some of these responsibilities include: developing international environmental agreements, fostering environmental science and developing development policies with national governments. UNEP activities cover a wide range of issues related to the atmosphere, marine and terrestrial ecosystems, environmental management and the green economy. It has played a significant role in the development of international environmental conventions, promoting environmental science and

information, and illustrating how they can be implemented in relation to policy, working on policy development and implementation with national governments, regional institutions and not-NGOs. UNEP has also been active in the financing and implementation of environmental development projects. UNEP experts contribute to contracting and policies regarding potential polluters. This program has helped to formulate guidelines and agreements for the protection of international trade in potentially harmful chemicals, transboundary air pollution and contamination on international roads.

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) was established in the 1950s with a mission to promote nature conservation and sustainable use of natural resources around the world. In addition, this focus on this environmental organization focuses on issues such as poverty, gender equality and sustainable business practices, with the aim of more extensive protection of the environment.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change IPCC, operates under the umbrella of the United Nations Organization as an intergovernmental and scientific organization, founded in 1988 by the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Program - UNEP. The organization's intention is to offer the world an impartial, scientific assessment of climate change and its effects. The IPCC reports are based on published literature from non-researchers of this organization

In 1988, under the auspices of the World Meteorological Organization and the United Nations Environment Program, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) was established, the UN Environment Program is also one of several agencies for the implementation of the Global Fund for the Environment Environment (GEF) and the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, which is also a member of the United Nations Development Group.

The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was established in 1991 as a result of the collaboration between 183 countries, civil society organizations, private businesses and international institutes. This organization finances projects for the protection and prevention of climate change, land

degradation, water fund, biodiversity and ozone layer. Currently, this international organization is the largest public financier of these types of projects in the world, with a fund of \$ 12.5 billion, \$ 58 billion for shared funding, and \$ 653.2 million for small grants. With these funds, 3,690 projects were realized in 165 countries.

The Land Management Project (ESGP) started in January 2009 by the International Human Dimension Program on Global Environmental Change, a research project focusing on human impact on global change. This project is a network of 300 active and 2,300 indirectly involved academics from around the world in order to publish scientific research that is the basis for finding measures to regulate global environmental change. With this, researchers hope to better understand the roles and responsibilities of governments, institutions and organizations in global issues and pollution issues.

UNESCO has been established as an international organization operating under UN auspices, and in its wide range of activities regulates issues related to environmental and social policies. The activities of this organization in the field of environmental protection are directed towards the consolidation of existing, implicit or explicit, policies that are relevant to social and environmental issues and concern: a) risk assessment, b) transparency, accountability and visibility, c) evaluation, e) gender equality, e) human rights and f) climate neutrality, which are placed at the center of their agenda. As a specialized agency of the United Nations, UNESCO works with states and societies to strengthen the foundations for lasting peace, to eradicate poverty, and to promote sustainable development and intercultural dialogue.

CONCLUSION

Environmental protection goals concern primarily the protection of people's health and life, the quality of ecosystems, the protection of plant and animal species and cultural goods whose creator is man, preserving the balance and ecological stability of nature, as well as the rational and appropriate use of natural resources. The correlative link between the use of natural resources and the distortion of the ecological balance is evident, for the simple reason that the very act of using natural resources leads to disturbance of the ecological balance. The reason for such a disruption is explained by the fact that natural resources are quantitatively limited and can absorb pollution and offset the harmful effects only to certain limits. For these reasons, the global ecological balance is becoming more important, and hence the need for the application of appropriate instruments operating within the framework of market laws.

From here, essential is the activities of international organizations whose focus is on environmental protection, especially in the implementation of the new development paradigm focused on a model of economic growth that is both environmentally sustainable; technical assistance to governments, and assistance in mobilizing financial resources for climate change projects. Also of no less importance are the measures taken by these organizations in the direction of implementing new development paradigms focused on a model of economic growth that is environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive: green growth.

The creation of a sustainable and long-lasting domestic technical and institutional capacity through programs for the development of sustainable individual and institutional capacities, the soft power, ie the publication of material materials, reports and books that deal with the field of environmental protection are just some of the mechanisms that international organizations use them as tools in their work.

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