



XXI Century Alternative Population Policies: Context of Modern Civilization Humanitarian Values And Malthusian Ideas of Growth Limits Concept

**Bika B. Dzhamalova^{1*}, Irina V. Leusenko², Rashad A. Kurbanov³, Asiya M. Belyalova⁴,
Ramin A. Gurbanov⁵, Maxim N. Kazakov⁶, Olga V. Popova⁷, Galina V. Sorokovykh⁸**

¹ North-Caucasian Institute (Branch), All-Russian State University of Justice (RPA of the Ministry of Justice of Russia), Makhachkala, Russia

² Rostov Institute (Branch), All-Russian State University of Justice (RPA of the Ministry of Justice of Russia), Rostov on Don, Russia

³ Department of Legal Basis of the Economic Activity, Institute of Legislation and Comparative Law under the Government of the Russian Federation, Moscow, Russia

⁴ International Cooperation Department, Institute of Legislation and Comparative Law under the Government of the Russian Federation, Moscow, Russia

⁵ Department of Civil Legal Disciplines, Plekhanov Russian University of Economics, Moscow, Russia

⁶ Department of Constitutional and Administrative Law, Novosibirsk Military Institute named after Army General I.K. Yakovlev Troops of the National Guard of the Russian Federation, Novosibirsk, Russia

⁷ Department of Legal Regulation of Economic Activity, Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation, Moscow, Russia

⁸ Department of French Language and Linguistics, Moscow City University (MGPU), Moscow, Russia

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Abstract

The relevance of the study is determined by the search for approaches to solving the demographic problem, as the grounds for the development of society, focused on the preservation of the biosphere and man. For the first time, based on the materials of this study, the substantiation of population policies' humanitarian priorities in the structure of ecological values of modern civilization is made as an independent scientific area. In the process of implementing the leading research method – monitoring the priorities of demographic strategies in the structure of environmental values, the advantages of the humanitarian nature of these processes are established and the scientific and practical inconsistency of growth limits concept in relation to the population of developing countries is proved. Based on the results of the study, for the first time an attempt was made to theoretically substantiate the humanitarian priorities of population policies aimed at overcoming the trends of growth limits concept. In this regard, the study established and disclosed the evolutionary nature of population policies in the modern world; geopolitical trends of the concept of growth limits are defined. Based on the results of the study, the model of humanitarian priorities of population policies is substantiated and their effectiveness in the development of environmental values' structure is proved. The materials of the article are of theoretical and practical importance for the design of innovative approaches to improving the quality of demography.

Keywords: alternative approaches, humanitarian priorities, population policies, geopolitical trends, the quality of the population life, the concept of limits to growth, Malthusian utopia, monitoring, ecological system

Corresponding author: Bika B. Dzhamalova, North-Caucasian Institute (Branch), All-Russian State University of Justice (RPA of the Ministry of Justice of Russia), Makhachkala, Russia. E-mail: bika.dzhamalova.85@mail.ru.

1 Introduction

1.1 Relevance of the Research Problem

The study found that the increase in the environmental crisis in the middle of the twentieth century marked the beginning of the demographic transformation, manifested in the suspension of population growth, reducing the development of industry and consumption of developing countries. In 1974, as part of the activities of the *Rome club* based on the development of M. Mesarovic and E. Pestel (1974) survival strategies of these countries are approved, presented in the concept of limits of growth. The results of the development of the UN study group on the protection of the human environment continued the activities of the *Rome club* and served as the basis for the development adopted in Rio de Janeiro in 1992 *Agenda 21* (11, 12). The document contains more than 2500 recommendations and annexes on the content of methods to overcome inefficient consumption patterns; to combat poverty caused by high fertility in developing countries; to protect the atmosphere, oceans, biodiversity; and to develop efficient agriculture. It is no coincidence that the *agenda for the 21st century* does not contain guidelines for the inalienable sovereignty of peoples over their natural and nature resources, which were the basic values of the UN in the 60s and 70s. On the *agenda of the XXI century* - artificial population reduction in Asia, Africa, the USSR, and in the future - the transfer of territories and resources in these countries under the control of transnational corporations (1, 3). In the UN documents (committees on population and raw materials), the entire population of the Earth is divided into the main (provided by raw materials, 1 billion.), semi-basic (about 1 billion.) and the auxiliary population, which is considered unprofitable in the conditions of industrialization, because it does not pay back the funds invested in it for production and for life, is the main reason for the contamination of the environment with waste and the expansion of the global environmental crisis (7). These documents implicitly emphasize that demography and the inexorable logic of its development will place a heavy burden on the present and future of the planet. It is projected that by 2050, the Earth will have 8 billion people, more than two thirds of the world's population born today will grow in the twenty poorest countries, and the poor will disrupt the happy life of the *metropolis* population (1, 3). It is proved by studies of independent and authoritative experts: the billion that inhabits the *first world* consumes 75% of resources and emits 75% of waste into the environment. The remaining 4 billion consume and emit three times less, that is, one poor person produces a load on the Earth on average 10 times less than a *Westerner*. With regard to the greenhouse effect, the contribution of one resident of the United States is equal to the contribution of the 1450 residents of India. That is, India with its 600 million inhabitants is like 2% of the United States (7, 14). The established methodological violations and inaccuracies determine the need for theoretical substantiation of humanitarian priorities of population policies aimed at overcoming the geopolitical trends of the concept of growth limits. In this regard, the study establishes and reveals the evolutionary nature of population policies in the modern

world; geopolitical trends of the concept of growth limits are determined. Based on the results of the study, the humanitarian priorities of population policies are justified and their effectiveness in the development of the structure of environmental values is proved. The materials of the article are of theoretical and practical importance for the design of innovative models to improve the quality of demography.

2 Literature Review

The study of basic scientific concepts and approaches to the formation of modern concepts and models of population policies of the XXI century, which influenced the emergence of a number of works on this phenomenon, allows us to define it as a basic methodological principle of ecology (4, 6, 7, 8, 10, 18). At the beginning of the 21st century, the development of population policies acquires a tendentious and politicized expression aimed at solving crisis problems caused by real situations and transformations of regional environmental processes (7, 18). It is established that the results of solving the crisis environmental problems on a global scale are different inequality, determined by the influence of developed countries on developing countries (1, 4, 10). Under the guise of Malthusian values of the concept of growth limits, the ruling elites of developed countries consolidate the system of unfair distribution of the planet's resources to maintain a high level of their own consumption (2, 7, 9, 14). In today's conditions, independent communities of scientists and specialists defend the humanitarian priorities of population policies in the structure of environmental values, based on equality and equivalence of all life, as well as on the limitation of human rights and needs in the social and natural environment (18, 15, 8, 6). The results of these activities effectively counter geopolitical trends of the concept of growth limits as the theory of superiority of developed countries' population over the peoples of developing countries. Criteria of effectiveness of population policies' humanitarian priorities are not only the contingency of demographic processes in the environment, but also the orientation of the humanitarian priorities for the autonomy of interacting components, their cooperativity and polyphony (17). The studies of a group of scientists devoted to non-trivial approaches to solving topical demographic problems are of particular interest: adaptive mechanisms of eugenics in solving modern problems of demography, transhumanism as a prognostic function of demography (4, 6, 8). In the course of the study, despite the significant bibliography and the active interest of modern specialists in the problem of demography, many topical issues that require correct, scientifically based solutions remain open in its study. Among the unsolved problems as an independent scientific direction focused on overcoming Malthusian misconceptions of the concept of growth limits, a special position is taken by the theoretical substantiation of humanitarian priorities of population policies in the structure of ecological values of modern civilization (13). The study of these aspects is the purpose of this study.

3 Results and Discussion

3.1 The Evolutionary Nature of Population Policies in the Modern World

It is established that the French scientist A. Guillard introduced the term demography in 1855. According to its definition, demography explores the patterns of development of the structure, location and dynamics of the population, develops a theory, policy, forecast of its number. In addition, demography studies fertility, marriage, divorce, mortality, educational level, social class structure, racial, linguistic, national composition of the population, its migration, urbanization (5). This definition, which has become a classic, retains its importance to date. Little has changed in the structure of demographic factors, except for modern resources that fill the factors with new semantic content. Even the direction of modern theories of European schools retains its original meaning: the recognition of the determinism of all processes of population development by biological or geographical factors. It is proved that the greatest commitment in the middle of the XIX, and in the early XX centuries in most studies is Malthusianism, according to which all the disasters of the people are explained by its unbridled reproduction, and not by the action of geopolitical factors. The study found that the growing danger of the global environmental crisis in the middle of the twentieth century served as the basis for the revitalization of the management of demographic processes in developing countries. The priority values of these ambiguous processes are the struggle of developed countries for the territories and resources of developing countries under the guise of assistance to eliminate excessive pollution or fight poverty (1). Applicable models of developed countries' effects to developing countries with the aim of expanding the external territories are established to the present:

- *Messianic model* is a mythical simulacrum of veiled higher powers' activities aimed at the implementation of the alleged welfare;

- *The model of implementation of national superiority idea*, clearly represented by ethnic and religious wars against *extra people* who legally own their own state territories and natural resources;

- *Globalization-based model*. Among the significant essential features of globalization are: the increasing of countries and peoples interdependence in all spheres of the world market of Finance, goods and services, or the world economy; the establishment of a global information space that ensures the implementation of any activities in real time (16). Modern business goes beyond the national state through the creation of transnational corporations that negate the political opportunities of individual States on the world stage. There is a formation of theoretical approaches that justify the fundamental inability of non-Western societies to exist in the mainstream of world development, which inevitably leads to their chronic backwardness and dropping out of the world economy;

- *Model of integration of ideas of geopolitics and geo-Economics*. It manifests itself in the economic dominance of highly developed countries over underdeveloped ones. Developing economies are perceived by the leading countries as an object of possible impact, the

purpose of which is to protect their own economic interests. In this respect, the modern doctrine of globalization is no different from the classical concept of colonialism;

- *Model of polarization of economic entities*. The formation of the world market, the global economy in their modern form created a situation in which the levers of the world economy, primarily financial and scientific and technological, are concentrated in the hands of the most developed countries, led by the United States, while the industries that provide production with the least added value, environmentally harmful and resource-intensive, is in the zone of developing countries. With such a division of labor, developing countries are doomed to lag forever;

- *Geopolitical model*. It means a *new world order* in which strong countries with long democratic traditions consider it possible to lead weak States in democratic matters. At this stage, the myth of the world government is popular, which, according to its apologists, is able to take control and solve all the global problems of our time. Therefore, if national sovereignty and borders act as an obstacle to the financial and economic expansion of developed economies, the world government has the right to act as an instrument that politically completes the actual economic domination of developed countries (1, 4, 7, 14, 15).

3.2 Geopolitical Trends of the Concept of Growth Limits

It is established that modeling of transition of developed countries from strategies of unlimited progress to strategies of limits of growth for the first time begins in laboratories of Massachusetts Institute of technology. In 1970, the *club of Rome* commissioned a team of scientists from the Institute to conduct a two-year study on the causes and long-term effects of population growth, industrial capital, food production, resource consumption and environmental pollution (7). In 1972, as the results of this study they published the book *Limits of growth* (11). The authority of the Institute and the club of Rome, a powerful advertising campaign made the book a sensation. Director of Rome club A. Peccei in the Preface to the book notes the main advantage of the study: "the Definition of growth trends in the conditions of the ultimate in its scale of the planet. The next generations of humanity will reach the limits of demographic and environmental expansion, which will lead the system as a whole to an uncontrolled crisis and collapse. The challenge is to identify the disastrous consequences of existing trends and to stimulate policy changes that would help to avoid them. It is necessary to take measures to ensure the rationalization of the entire production system and the re-dislocation of industry within the planet" (1). It is proved that despite the Rome club's tendentious, politicized evaluation of the study results of D.H. Meadows, D.L. Meadows, and J. Randers (1994) and his staff, the importance of this work lies primarily in determining the patterns of development of population policies. For the first time simulations on the computer was carried out that showed, in the absence of socio – political changes in the world and keeping it in the techno – economic trends of rapid natural resource depletion would cause in the next century (around 2030) the industry and agriculture growth's slowdown, which would result in a sharp drop in population, which would entail a demographic

disaster. Assuming that advances in science and technology will provide unlimited resources (as the second scenario of the model's analysis anticipated); the disaster comes from excessive pollution. Assuming that the society will be able to solve the problem of nature protection (the third scenario of the model), population growth and production output will continue until the reserves of arable land are exhausted, and then, as in all previous scenarios, there is a collapse. Disaster is inevitable in all scenarios, because dangerous trends grow exponentially imperceptibly, constantly, inevitably. The experimenters came to reasonable conclusions and formulated cardinal recommendations to overcome the threat of environmental disaster: the stability of the planet's population with constant investment in production. This state of *global equilibrium* will not mean stagnation, because human activities that do not require a large expenditure of irreplaceable resources will not lead to environmental degradation (science, art, education, sports), can progress indefinitely. However, the government of developed countries will not be able to adhere such recommendations because of the established stereotypes of rampant growth of material production and consumption. So far, we can assume the limits of growth in certain directions, but not in absolute limits. The challenge is to anticipate the dangers of growth in any direction and to choose ways for development flexible reorientation to achieve the goals as fully as possible. It is proved that the established trends have not received proper distribution among the influential entities of developed countries. Moreover, the identified trends were transformed in such a way that the *switchman* of all crisis processes was the population of developing countries, "randomly multiplying, unable to dispose of territories, resources, in need of external management due to their own underdevelopment" (14). The very concept of limits of growth after tendentious and politicized transformations, committed by the Rome club, in the scientific community has not received a decent recognition, although the rational core of population policies' development based on environmental values, proven by D. Meadows group with the help of computer modeling, is of interest and awaits its researchers.

3.3 The Effectiveness of Humanitarian Priorities of Population Policies in the Structure of Environmental Values

The study found that at the beginning of the 21st century in developing countries, in contrast to the countries of the *Golden billion* with the help of modern forms of interaction of the Shanghai cooperation organization's world community, a stable structure of population policies' humanitarian priorities is formed, aimed at strengthening national sovereignty, progressive development of economies and production, to protect the population from the manifestations of genocide and terror. This innovative structure covers all the fundamental areas of life activity of the population in developing countries and represents:

1. Social and economic strategies:
 - Overcoming poverty;
 - Improving consumption structure;
 - The health improvement of the population;
 - Birth control;

- Regulation of demography quality;
- Monitoring of the achievements in the development of the population.

2. Strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources for human development:

- Environmental protection;
- Air protection;
- Fight against deforestation;
- Conservation of biological diversity;
- Control of pollution in the environment and the use of biotechnology;
- control of radioactive waste;
- Control over the reduction of resource consumption.

3. Strategies to strengthen the role of major population groups in solving everyday problems, including the role of women, children and youth, farmers, businesses, municipalities, workers in various fields and communities:

- Economic growth and equity — an integrated approach to stimulate long-term economic growth;
- Social development — meeting people's needs in the workplace, food, education, energy, health care, water and sanitation;
- Preservation of cultural and social diversity and respect for human rights;
- Ensuring that all members of society are able to participate in decisions that affect their future.

4. Strategies of fruitful development of science, advanced technologies, education, international organizations, financial mechanisms.

The efficiency of this structure's use in the implementation in individual countries and regions as a model of environmental management, protection of ecosystems and the environment, poverty alleviation and the implementation of the functions of *controlled crisis* is proved.

4 Conclusion

The results of the study confirm the theoretical and practical significance of comparative characteristics' study of population policies' humanitarian priorities in the structure of ecological values of modern civilization and Malthusian ideas of the concept of growth's limits. The continuous monitoring of the subjects of the research process established the advantages of population policies' humanitarian priorities and proved the inconsistency of geopolitical trends of the concept of growth's limits (75% of respondents by the aggregate responses are convinced of the need to use the humanitarian priorities of population policies in the structure of environmental values of modern civilization; about 60% of respondents by the aggregate responses deny Malthusianism as inhuman, untenable, harmful); 59% of respondents deny the concept of limits of growth, identifying it with Malthusianism as an aggressive ideology of the apologists of the *Golden billion*). For the first time, based on the results of the study the theoretical substantiation of population policies' humanitarian priorities is made in the structure of ecological values of modern civilization as an independent scientific direction, focused on overcoming the geopolitical ideas of the

concept of growth's limits. In this regard, the study established and disclosed the evolutionary nature of demographic strategies in the modern world; geopolitical trends of the concept of growth's limits are defined. Based on the results of the study, the structure of population policies' humanitarian priorities is justified and their effectiveness in the development of environmental values is proved. The study does not exhaust all aspects of the problem. The primary task of further research is to substantiate the theoretical and methodical approach to the design and implementation of innovative models to improve the quality of demography in a multipolar geopolitical space.

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